

Jimmy to chair Gardening Scotland

The Gardening Scotland event, which takes place in the grounds of the Royal Highland Centre in Edinburgh from 3-5 June, will have a new Chairman to lead the organisation towards the 2016 event.



Jimmy Gilchrist, who runs family business GP Plantscape Ltd, based in Lanark, takes over from longstanding Chairman Donald Wemyss.

Scotland's national gardening event has long been about gardens and not just gardening, offering ideas and inspiration for anyone who would like to better embrace their outdoor space and not simply those who are already knowledgeable gardeners. However, new Chairman Jimmy Gilchrist is determined that the event continues to evolve for the benefit of a wider audience.

 Speaking of his appointment, Jimmy said:

“Donald has provided me with a very sound footing and his knowledge and contacts within the sector have developed Gardening Scotland into a superb event.

“I am now passionate about pushing the boundaries and maximising opportunities to ensure that everyone feels welcomed into Gardening Scotland and that by providing a day of entertainment, education, information and inspiration, the event can change the way people see their gardens. Gardening Scotland will evolve alongside the needs and demands of the public and hopefully enthuse many more people about their gardens along the way.

Outgoing Chairman, Donald Wemyss, who steps down after 6 years as Chairman and 13 years on the Gardening Scotland Board, said: "During my years at the helm, Gardening Scotland evolved from a pure flower show to an event which promises fun for all the family and I'm proud of how I have contributed to that. I am excited to see Jimmy further develop the show and enhance its appeal to a wider range of age groups, a great diversity of garden user and a wider geography than just Edinburgh.

"The synergy we have managed to develop between Gardening Scotland and, for example, the food sector, really demonstrates how the event offers a superb day out for all the family, and the fact that much of the show has now been 'weather proofed' also means that whatever the sky throws at us, the show will go on!

"I am proud to be handing the Gardening Scotland ship over to Jimmy on an even keel and am excited to see how he further develops the show, particularly given his strong commercial skills."

