

News Release

22 March 2018

Mount Stewart to Host BBC Radio 4's Gardeners' Question Time Summer Garden Party

BBC Radio 4's Gardeners' Question Time is coming to the shores of Strangford Lough on the 9th June 2018 to hold their annual Summer Garden Party in the beautiful surrounds of Mount Stewart. Voted one of the top 10 Garden's in the World, Mount Stewart will provide the perfect backdrop to host the gurus of gardening, including Matthew Wilson, Christine Walkden, Bob Flowerdew, Bunny Guinness, James Wong, Pippa Greenwood, Matt Biggs, and Gardeners' Question Time chairmen Eric Robson and Peter Gibbs.

The full programme of activities as well as how to take part in the recordings will be announced shortly and tickets will be available by visiting Mount Stewart's website from Sunday 1st April 2018. <https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/mount-stewart>

Neil Porteous, Head of Gardens at Mount Stewart said; "We are very excited that BBC Radio 4's Gardeners' Question Time have chosen to come to Mount Stewart as the venue of their Summer Garden Party. The first time it has been hosted by the National Trust and the first time it will take place in Northern Ireland."

Paul Stewart, Head Gardener at Mount Stewart said; ""

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors

For further media information and images contact Hannah.mccloy@nationaltrust.org.uk

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About Mount Stewart

Located on the shores of Strangford Lough in County Down, Mount Stewart is one of Northern Ireland's most loved historical houses Cared for by the National Trust, the 19th-century house has recently undergone a three year £8 million restoration programme, making it a must-see attraction on the island of Ireland.

Voted as one of the top ten gardens in the world, Mount Stewart reflects a rich tapestry of design and planting artistry bearing the hallmark of its creator. Edith, Lady Londonderry's passion for bold planting schemes coupled with the mild climate of Strangford Lough allows rare and tender plants from across the globe to thrive in this celebrated garden. Each of the formal gardens exudes a distinct character and appeal.

Further afield visitors can enjoy the beautifully landscaped and informal grounds surrounding the picturesque lake walk. Or for a different view, stroll around miles of new walking trails and discover a landscape lost in time.

About the National Trust

The National Trust is a conservation charity founded in 1895 by three people who saw the importance of our nation's heritage and open spaces, and wanted to preserve them for everyone to enjoy. More than 120 years later, these values are still at the heart of everything the charity does.

Entirely independent of Government, the National Trust looks after more than 250,000 hectares of countryside, 778 miles of coastline and hundreds of special places across England, Wales and Northern Ireland.

More than 24 million people visit every year, and together with 5 million members and over 65,000 volunteers, they help to support the charity in its work to care for special places for ever, for everyone.

For more information and ideas for great seasonal days out go to:

www.nationaltrust.org.uk