

IBP BULLETIN

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION PRESS (UK BRANCH)

Award Winners Named

Environment Secretary Michael Heseltine handed out £1,500 worth of prizes during a packed reception to mark the IBP 1980 Journalism Awards last month.

More than 50 entries had been received for the five award categories and the assessors noted the high quality and variety of submissions received.

Double award winner in 1979 Building news editor Mira Bar-Hillel was again voted top news reporter while the same journal's architectural editor Martin Spring won this year's building journalist prize.

The full list of prizewinners and commendations were as follows:

Architectural Journalist of the Year - Deyan Sudjic, formerly features editor of Building Design and currently deputy editor of Design. His prize was awarded, said the assessors, for work which was highly readable and which would make architecture "the subject of liveliest interest to anybody" with well-argued opinions and all the necessary facts smoothly presented.

Building Journalist of the Year was Martin Spring, Architectural editor of Building. His articles showed the "ability to handle well a variety of subject matter in a readable, well-informed and effective manner, with informative, interesting and generally well-argued treatment of technical subject matter." Commended in this category was Brian Waters, architect and contributor to architectural and construction journals.

Civil Engineering Journalist of the Year was named as Mike Winney, former technical editor of Construction News, currently features editor of NCE. His entries were described as technically sound, well-balanced, readable and informative and included "an excellent, carefully considered piece on the Thames Barrier."

NCE also picked up two commendations in this category - one for northern editor David Hayward, and one for staff writer Anne Charnock.

News Reporter of the Year - Mira Bar-Hillel news editor of Building for the only entry in the category to combine impact, style and news value as well as evidence of research and follow-up. The qualities were especially evident in an item which revealed the names and aims of bidders for the Surrey Docks redevelopment.

Young Writer of the Year - Patrick Donovan staff writer on Civil Engineering for very well-researched entries on civil engineering marketing opportunities in Central Africa and China and on fire problems.

Commended in this category were Neal Morris for three "consistent, interesting and enjoyable stories," Neal is a news reporter on BD, and Tim Anderson, also a BD news reporter, for the "best single story submitted" on Stansted Airport.

Each of the winners collected a cheque for £300.

Commenting on the standard of entries in each category, the assessors felt that the architectural entries were of high quality although most displayed minor faults, the building entries likewise all had qualities of merit while the civil engineering prize was only awarded after lengthy discussion. The news reporter entries were said generally to be of a very high standard while, for the young writer, the number of entrants, five, was disappointing and most came from one publication.

Announcing the prizewinners, IBP chairman David Crawford said he hoped this did not indicate that fewer journals were bothering to recruit and train young writers in the field.