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Sidell Gibson Architects



Architectural Journalist of the Year

Entries: 09 (12) Sponsor: Sidell Gibson Architects

Architectural Critic of the Year

Entries: 07 (07) Sponsor: BYL Group Plc

Construction Journalist of the Year

Entries: 10 (10) Sponsor: Association for Consulting and Engineering

News Reporter of the Year

Entries: 18 (18) Sponsor: hbg/nuttall/Royal Barn Group

Feature Writer of the Year

Entries: 11 (18) Sponsor: Chartered Institute of Building

Business/Financial Journalist of the Year

Entries: 09 (03) Sponsor: Arlington Securities

Commercial Property Journalist of the Year

Entries: 10 (16) Sponsor: Dunlop Haywards

Housing Journalist of the Year

Entries: 07 (05) Sponsor: Gleeson Regeneration

Residential Property Writer of the Year

Entries: 04 (07) Sponsor: International Building Press

Young Journalist of the Year

Entries: 06 (07) Sponsor: The Building Centre Group

Magazine of the Year (weekly)

Entries: 05 (07) Sponsor: Marley Eternit

Magazine of the Year (non-weekly)

Entries: 09 (06) Sponsor: S&P Architects

IBP Journalist of the Year

Sponsor: International Building Press

Website 2006

Entries: 06 (N/A) Sponsor: Axos

Figures in brackets: Entries in 2005

For further information and Awards archive: www.ibp.org.uk

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Printed by [tandygroup](http://tandygroup.com)
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AWARDS 2006

New Web Award leads the way



The launch of the Website of the Year Award 2006 heralds another step change for ibp. While embracing the multi faceted technology, which changes almost on a daily basis, IBP is also acknowledging the creative and editorial decisions faced by magazines and newspapers rapidly moving into this fast track method of supplementing their news pages and communicating direct with their readers.

This new Award required a new way of judging. Entrants were viewed over a period of weeks and the judges* met online to consider the sites various merits. Websites were considered from a variety of perspectives including quality of writing for the web, design and layout, technical competence and accessibility.

Chairman of the on-line judges, Richard Anderson commented: "the decision was a difficult one with the top two sites running neck and neck until the final online meeting.

neck and neck until the final online meeting.

"The eventual winner, the Building magazine website was considered a stimulating and visually exciting site with consistently well written and interesting content. Regularly updated and breaking news gives the site the look and feel of a proper news site. In the judging panels unanimous view the citation should be: 'A mature technologically advanced site with good use of CSS and clear navigation'.

"The CIOB website ran such a close second that the judges decided it should be Highly Commended. It is a clean and sober site appropriate for a professional organisation. The writing is authoritative and clear, worthy of the Plain English Crystal kite mark which the site boasts. Well organised material and a straightforward well-structured design make the site a pleasure to navigate. Very fast loading, the site was felt to be 'leagues ahead' technically.

"The third nomination was the Architects' Journal ajplus site which had lots of in-depth content and good use of images. The site displayed a clean layout and good functionality and was well labelled making it user friendly and easy to navigate".

*On-line website judges: Susie Harwood, deputy editor, Revolution magazine, Richard Anderson, chief executive, Anderson Fraser Partnership, David Worth, director Axos & Richard Gray, founder, Parabola eBusiness Solutions.

IBP National Journalism Awards 2006

The results in full

The overall level of entries remained at previous years' levels but the quality was even higher this year, in the judge's opinion, with some outstanding submissions. It was pleasing to see new names among the established writers, many bringing exciting new views and innovative ideas. All the finalists are worthy of their nominations and the winners are deserving of their Awards. The judges hope that the standards that they have set this year will be an inspiration to other journalists.

ARCHITECTURAL JOURNALIST

This category is getting better year on year said the judges and this year was a joy. Ellis Woodman of Building Design distinguished himself as being streets ahead of the best which was a unanimous view of the judges.

They made special comment of his Shanghai London piece. They said that the importance of the article is that its outcome could and should lead to a better process for a delivery and as a result better architectural and urbanistic outcomes for London's tall buildings.

They also praised Justin McGuirk and Kieran Long, both writing for Icon, for delicious anecdote and witty turn of phrase and the kind of delightful detachment that can only emerge if you have got an office based in Epping.

NOMINATIONS: Kieran Long - Icon
Justin McGuirk - Icon
Ellis Woodman - Building Design (Winner)



ARCHITECTURAL CRITIC

Overall the quality was getting on towards outstanding said the judges. They believe there is an amazing resource of architectural critical talent in this country which is world class.

The winner, Ellis Woodman of Building Design, showed sheer energy, style and ability to contextualise with the particular buildings he was talking about. The one that stood out was the Richard Rogers' Welsh Assembly building because of his ability to write absolutely honest, edgy critique which came through in his exploration of the damage of the procurement route on the architectural outcome.

Kieran Long, Icon, is always lively and perspicuous. His range and depth of reference are formidable. He has the gift of making sense of buildings.

Isabel Allen, Architects' Journal, writes incisively about a wide range of topics, bringing a welcome sharpness to her review of the proposed extension to Tate Modern. Not just an editor but a gutsy and mature critic on a wide range of important issues.

NOMINATIONS: Isabel Allen - Architects' Journal
Kieran Long - Icon
Ellis Woodman - Building Design (Winner)



CONSTRUCTION JOURNALIST

The quality of the entries was extremely good and the judges felt it demonstrated and contributed to the increasing high standard of reporting in the construction press.

They said that over the years there has been a continual improvement in the quality of the construction press and this pushed it up a further notch.

There was a clear consensus among the judges of the winner Thomas Lane, Building, who covered topical, sensitive and challenging issues of the day and his article on the nuclear issue was extremely well put together and informative. By the end of the article they really felt they had some idea of how the energy industry works and an insight into nuclear power and an understanding of the real balance of options facing society and the energy industry.

Mark Hansford, New Civil Engineer, demonstrated an ability to cover different topics using a consistent high standard of techniques; while Alasdair Reisner achieved high standards on the three topics he chose for his entry, demonstrating an ability to comment and reflect the results of his detailed research.

NOMINATIONS: Mark Hansford - New Civil Engineer
Thomas Lane - Building (Winner)
Alasdair Reisner - Construction News



NEWS REPORTER

The quality was consistently good across the entries. What made this category stand out was that all the stories had been well researched and although of significance to the wider economy had a strong relevance to the readership.

The winner Andrew Mylius of New Civil Engineer, was extremely consistent in the quality of the three stories submitted. He has an ability to vary the subject matter and he stood out as being the only one who backs up his news reports with in-depth facts making them strong news mini-features.

His best story was about the proposed Thames Water desalination plant where he saw the potential for a bigger story involving not just technical aspects of the plant but political issues on both a local and national level - and all in a period of summer drought.

Richard Waite, Architects' Journal has a strong news sense and a positive approach to his work. His entry clearly showed that he has the ability to create a different angle on what could, at first glance, be a mundane story.

Russ Lynch writes with ease on a variety of major issues that effect the civil engineering sector - demonstrating in his work the ability to dig out a huge news story, when there appears to be nothing on offer.

NOMINATIONS: Russ Lynch - Construction News
Andrew Mylius - New Civil Engineer (Winner)
Richard Waite - Architects' Journal



FEATURE WRITER

The judges felt that there was a good broad range of subjects and coverage from this year's entries. They praised the winner, Thomas Lane's highly topical articles on sustainability.

They were absolutely worth reading, thought provoking and showed a consistently high standard throughout.

The judges were particularly impressed with the interview with scientist, James Lovelock, and his environmental doomsday scenario suggesting that it is too late to save the planet and that the UK should batten down the hatches and protect itself against the inevitable.

Mark Leftly, also of Building, ran Lane a close second, the judge's felt that there was no more than a cigarette paper between the two. They especially liked his piece on the Athens Olympics and the lessons that can be learned for 2012. Clear Barrett of Property Week continues to write good pieces with a firm grasp of her subjects.

NOMINATIONS: Claer Barrett - Property Week
Thomas Lane - Building (Winner)
Mark Leftly - Building



BUSINESS/FINANCIAL JOURNALIST

The judges were impressed at the considerable increase in the number of entries and pleased at the overall standard. There were a number of exceptional entries and among them some outstanding articles including, winner, Daniel Thomas's, Property Week, detailed analysis of financial dealings at The Ark building in Hammersmith.

The judges were impressed at Sinead Cruise's, also Property Week, exposure of scams in the seedier side of the property world, while James Whitmore, marking three Property Week nominations in this category, continues to demonstrate his ability to be one of the first writers to tackle the tricky subjects of property derivatives when even few in the industry understand it - never mind the press.

Jenny Davey writing for the Times has yet another year of consistently providing her readers with scoops. She has set her own high standard.

NOMINATIONS: Sinead Cruise - Property Week
Jenny Davey - writing for The Times
Daniel Thomas - Property Week (Winner)
James Whitmore - Property Week



COMMERCIAL PROPERTY WRITER

The judges were impressed at both the overall standard and range of subjects covered. Within the choice, the judges were especially taken with Clear Barrett of Property Week who not only took on property grandee Gerald Ronson but produced an interesting article on that quirky corner of London property - the Inns of Court. However, the piece that especially delighted the judges was a brave but successful attempt at a witty piece on reasons why not to be a property developer.

Lucy Barnard's, Estates Gazette, choice of articles ranged from an investigative piece on buy-to-let valuations to a view from the grass roots of the government: abandoning the House Improvement Packs and an interview with Eddie Shah on his property investments. She chooses different subjects, writes well and provides insight.

Anne Goldie, Property Week, provides fresh and innovative journalism that took original subjects and different angles on property - from looking at footballer's real estate investments to a look at some unusual alterations to the traditional offices that would have graced the pages of the Sunday colour supplements.

NOMINATIONS: Lucy Barnard - Estates Gazette
Claer Barrett - Property Week (Winner)
Anne Goldie - Property Week



HOUSING JOURNALIST

Mark Shepherd of Property Week put forward three wide-ranging topics. They particularly liked his ecological piece about the threatened Dartford Warbler which was subsequently picked up by The Independent.

David Blackman, Building, gained the judge's attention particularly with his enjoyable depiction of Harlow, illustrated with sepia tone photographs; while Jo Smit, Regeneration, put in an interesting range of strong topics. "What went right" when discussing government was a challenging piece for any journalist but Jo met the challenge.

NOMINATIONS: David Blackman - Building
Mark Shepherd - Property Week (Winner)
Jo Smit - Regeneration/Building



RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY WRITER

Gwyn Roberts of Property Week stood out a mile for all the judges as by far and away the best of the entries. They praised the quality of writing, research, range of subjects and felt that he was streets ahead of the rest. They particularly liked his piece on Vincent Tchenguiz which really grasped what the tycoon is all about. The judges were particularly impressed with Mira Bar Hillel's, Evening Standard, article: 'The Standard Bearer' a good piece of sustained investigative journalism. While the judge's recognised the consistent quality of Chris Browne's, the Observer, three pieces.

NOMINATIONS: **Mira Bar Hillel** - Evening Standard
Chris Browne - Observer
Gwyn Roberts - Property Week (Winner)



YOUNG JOURNALIST

The judges felt there was a standard of maturity with the articles, many of which could have been submitted in the other categories and would have held their own. A number of the articles demonstrated an ability to stimulate the readers and provided a high standard of investigative and brave journalism. Overall, said the judges, the young journalists got themselves around and bravely tackled some very challenging and topical issues.

The winner was Sarah Richardson of Building. It was a close run decision for the top three entries but the thing that swung it was that in one article submitted by Sarah - The Wembley Stadium fiasco - she broke a story that was subsequently taken up by national and international press including The Times, Sun, Telegraph and the French Press Agency among many others - That's what journalism is all about.

Emily Wright, also writing for Building, came a very close second because of the overall quality of her writing and especially her insight into Dragons Den 'dragon' Duncan Bannatyne - he is not an easy person to interview but she really got under his skin. She adopted the skills of a more experienced and mature journalist - one definitely to watch for the future.

Jon Young, New Civil Engineer, shows amazing promise as a young journalist with an enthusiastic approach to his subjects.

NOMINATIONS: **Sarah Richardson** - Building (Winner)
Emily Wright - Building
Jon Young - New Civil Engineer



MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR (WEEKLY)

The winner was Building Design which, said the judges, had shifted its identity more than any of its competition since 2005 and was able to deal expertly with the big issues of the moment - really getting behind the stories and not just reporting the news.

Throughout the news and features sections Building Design showed that it wants to analyse every subject and its overall approach is consistently excellent. It now has real bite.

Property Week came a close second with its consistently good stories that were well presented with a really good mix of news and features and fantastic photography. The judges also made special comment on the colour coding of each section that makes it easily accessible to the reader.

Building has made some significant changes in its style and content to attract a younger readership, and it is working; overall it has become more 'people' focused.

NOMINATIONS: Building
Building Design (Winner)
Property Week



MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR (NON-WEEKLY)

The winner Icon, once again was of a very high standard with an outstanding issue on London. However, the overall presentation and style is also of a high calibre being very well designed and very different from other magazines.

Architectural Review, which came a close second, for the second year running, provides a consistently high standard but still manages to improve on its coverage year on year.

The judges made special mention of Planning for London which they described as an essential read for property professionals but also an extremely informative one for laymen.

NOMINATIONS: Architectural Review
Icon (Winner)
Planning In London



IBP JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR

Many journalists have written about the proposition of tall buildings planned for London's skyline but Ellis Woodman, writing for Building Design, provided an additional insight to the topic. He writes stylishly and knowledgeably and provides an understanding of his subject that both influences the profession and informs the reader.

Ellis Woodman, Building Design



Seated left to right:

Clive Branson, Editor, Commercial Property Register; Lee Mallett, Consultant, Regeneration & Communication; Victoria Thornton, Founder Director, Open House; Richard Northedge, City & Business Journalist; Peter Harris, Chairman, Art & Works Awards; John Slaughter, Director, External Affairs, Home Builders Federation; Dr Frank Duffy CBE PPRIBA, Founder Director, DEGW; Standing: Gerald Bowey, Chief Executive, ibp Services; Chris Warman, Freelance Journalist, The Times (Special Features); John Yadoo, Partner, Pryme Consulting; Rex Pengilly, Construction & Property Consultant; Peter Roper, Editor, Today's Specifier; Michael Day, Partner, Integra Property Services; Paul Hyett PPRIBA, Chairman, Ryder HKS; Chris Marsh, Faculty, Built Environment, Westminster University; Michael Rose CBE Hon FRIBA, Chairman, The Building Centre Group; Peter Murray Hon FRIBA, Director, New London Architecture Gallery at The Building Centre and Richard Aylwin, Managing Director, Aylwin Communications. (Not in the photograph: Robin Adams, Freelance Journalist; Peter Day, Correspondent, BBC 'In Business' Programme; John Grigsby, Freelance Property Writer; David Lawson, Freelance Journalist; Adrienne Margolis, Editor, London Property Review; Dr Scott Steedman, Editor-in-Chief, Royal Academy of Engineering Journal and Mindy Wilson, Manufacturing Campaign Leader, Enterprise Insight).