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Architectural Journalist of the Year

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Sidell Gibson Architects

Architectural Critic of the Year

Sponsor: Sheppard Robson -
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Construction Journalist of the Year

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Feature Writer of the Year

Sponsor: Chartered Institute of Building



Business/Financial Journalist of the Year

Sponsor: Goodman



Commercial Property Writer of the Year

Sponsor: Erinaceous Group plc



Housing Journalist of the Year

Sponsor: Kier Residential



Environmental Journalist of the Year

Sponsor: URS Corporation Ltd



Young Journalist of the Year

Sponsor: The Building Centre Group



Magazine of the Year (Weekly)

Sponsor: Marley Eternit



Magazine of the Year (Non-weekly)

Sponsor: Gifford



IBP Journalist of the Year

Sponsor: International Building Press



Website of the Year

Sponsor: International Building Press



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Seated left to right: Victoria Thornton, Founder Director, Open House; Clive Branson, Editor, Commercial Property Register; John Slaughter, Director, External Affairs, HBF; Lee Mallett, Consultant, Regeneration & Communication; John Keenan, Editor, Meetings & Incentive Travel; Roger Wilsher, Managing Director, Aspect Media. **Standing left to right:** John Yadoo, Partner, Pryme Consulting; Gerald Bowey, Chief Executive, IBP Services; Peter Day, BBC Business Programme; Peter Roper, Freelance Journalist; David Lawson, Freelance Journalist; Michael Rose, Chairman, The Building Centre; Frank Duffy, Founder, DEGW; Matt Yeoman, Partner, Buckley Gray Yeoman; Mindy Wilson, Manufacturing Campaign Leader, Enterprise Insight; David Taylor, Editor, London Property Review; Peter Murray, Director, NLA; Andrew Sawers, Editor, Financial Director; Chris Warman, Freelance Journalist and Chris Marsh, Faculty, Built Environment, Westminster University.

Not in the photograph: Rex Pengilly, Construction and Property Consultant; Michael Day, Partner, Integra Property Services; John Grigsby, Freelance Property Writer; Richard Anderson, Chief Executive, Anderson Fraser Partnership; David Worth, Director, Axos Internet and Debbie Legall, Web Manager and Freelance Journalist.



ibp international building press

THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
CONSTRUCTION, DESIGN AND PROPERTY PRESS

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IBP AWARDS FT

The Financial Times Jim Pickard walked away with the Feature Writer of the Year and overall IBP Journalist of the Year Awards at the presentation dinner in London.



Pickard showed a new approach in his three pieces, which won him Feature Writer category, by taking what at first glance seemed to be an old story, Canary Wharf, and making it relevant and interesting by providing insights into the leading personalities.

Commenting chairman of the judging panel said: "the overall IBP Journalist of the Year provided a nail biting climax to the final judging session, leaving the top three individual category winners with only a point between each of them.

"However, Pickard's approach to leading issues and personalities involved with Canary Wharf, the St Paul's neighbourhood of Bristol and the battle for sales territory between the traditional estate agent and the internet, showed journalism at its cracking best and proves that Fleet Street is not dead but still were the real stories are. ■

Wind of change refreshes awards

The IBP National Journalism Awards have seen another step change this year. Five new judges, John Keenan, editor, Meetings & Incentive Travel; Andrew Sawers, editor, Financial Director; David Taylor, editor London Property Review and Matt Yeoman, partner, Buckley Gray Yeoman, joined the panel of twenty five judges (see outside back cover for full list) to supplement the broad spread of knowledge provided by both journalists and industry personnel.

This year has seen somewhat of a migration of journalists from our sector, some moving onto bigger and better things, while others may have been pushed 'cuckoo style' from the nest. The net effect has been that the overall level of entries has remained high but has created a 'strange distortion' in the entries into some of the categories.

This particularly impacted on the architectural and construction categories, dissipated by the non appearance, in the Awards, of Architects' Journal, Construction News and New Civil Engineer, under circumstances beyond any ones control, due to the make over re-launch programme for these titles. We look forward to welcoming them back next year.

It was pleasing to see entries this year from Contract Journal and Estates Gazette and we very much hope that the fact that they were not short listed in the magazine section does not deter them from entering again in 2008.

IBP decided to re-introduce, with the support of the URS Corporation, the Environmental category this year, (it was dropped in 2002, after several years, as it had fallen out of fashion), to specifically focus on the sustainable issues currently grabbing the news headlines in both the national and business magazines.

Commenting the judges in this category said they were impressed with the quality of the submissions, which were strong on factual bases and evidence, sometimes on topics that are not easy to make exciting, well written and dealing effectively with often technical issues.

The second year of the Web Award again proved an exciting meeting of the judge's minds online, with the judge's finding all this year's entries worthy candidates. Interesting and seriously focused on their magazines readerships they showed a good understanding of the need to write and design specifically for the screen.

In 2008 three more judges will be retiring and IBP will be bringing on some 'new' faces to replace them. I would like to take this opportunity to thank this year's judges and all the past judge's for their consistent and dedicated hard work in arriving at their decisions. Not always popular or easy but conscientiously arrived at.

IBP is still talking seriously to interested parties about the introduction of the International Journalist of the Year Award category and hopes to make some further progress towards this goal in 2008.

Full results and judge's comments inside. ■

Gerald Bowey

Chief Executive, IBP Services

more than just a network...

IBP NATIONAL JOURNALISM AWARDS 2007

THE RESULTS IN FULL

The overall level of entries this year has remained high, however, there has been a ‘strange distortion’ of levels of entry due to the movement of journalists within individual publications or publishing groups and, in some cases, out of the sector all together.

This has had the effect of massive increases, in IBP terms, of entries into some categories, like the Young Journalist and the Non Weekly Magazine, while in others, particularly in architecture and construction there has been a drop in entries this year, from some of the more established names. Were the judges have remarked on this blip we have left the comment in as we believe that it impacts positively of the outcome of the judging process and the need for journalists’ to enter these categories in 2008. ■

ARCHITECTURAL JOURNALIST

In the **ARCHITECTURAL JOURNALIST** category the judges had some difficulty in reaching its final decision. They felt that all the entries reflected a high degree of professionalism but two of the entries were particularly outstanding. In the end it was decided to make the Award for a remarkable piece of old school journalism with a powerful description of the impact of war on a city and its people, illustrated by the writer’s own photographs.

That piece was written by Justin McGuirk of Icon magazine, who, in the judges’ eyes wrote a compelling piece about war torn Beirut. Also, he undertook an insightful interview with Lord Rogers which was covered in greater depth than the usual interview and provided a vivid profile of Rogers as a political force.

Andrew Mead writing for Architects’ Journal was praised by the judges for his longstanding contribution to the coverage of contemporary architecture. The judges said that he consistently turns in well written and authoritative pieces which, taken together, constitute a unique oeuvre.

The other nominated entry was Martin Spring of Building. The judges commented that Spring continues to produce highly professional coverage in Building Magazine. They admired the clarity of his positive assessment of the Manchester Law Courts.

NOMINATIONS: Andrew Mead, Architects’ Journal
Justin McGuirk, Icon (Winner)
Martin Spring, Building

ARCHITECTURAL CRITIC

The judges were surprised by a smaller number of entries than usual for the **ARCHITECTURAL CRITIC** category. Nevertheless, these entries demonstrated once again the uniquely high quality of architectural criticism in the UK. A wide range of international buildings were covered in a variety of different styles and presentational modes. “On the evidence of this sample, critical writing on architecture is alive and well,” concluded the judges.

The winner this year was Ellis Woodman of Building Design whose three pieces stood out for his brilliant choice of buildings, the depth of his analysis, the range of his references, his clever turns of phrase and, above all, disturbing revelations about the role of architecture in modern society. Woodman’s outstanding piece was the “Return of the Saint”, a retrospective critique of Le Corbusier’s lately completed, redundant church south of St Etienne.

Also nominated for this category was Peter Kelly of Blueprint magazine. The judges liked his personal viewpoint as much as his choice of topics. They concluded that his articles combine a certain sharpness with balance as well as generous coverage with occasional gently lethal comments. The third nomination in this category was Rob Gregory of Architectural Review. The judges said that his writing is succinct, well informed and sensitive. His articles are well researched, well written and gently critical where necessary.

NOMINATIONS: Peter Kelly, Blueprint
Rob Gregory, Architectural Review
Ellis Woodman, Building Design (Winner)

CONSTRUCTION JOURNALIST

A smaller number of entries than usual this year was also apparent with the **CONSTRUCTION JOURNALIST** category but nevertheless showed a high quality. The winner was Martin Spring of Building which made technically competent, interesting and informative reading.

The other nominations were Thomas Lane of Building whose highly commended and sparkling style made him a close second and David Hayward writing for Construction News and New Civil Engineer who showed a strong technical grasp of his subject matter.

NOMINATIONS: David Hayward, writing for Construction News/NCE
Thomas Lane, Building
Martin Spring, Building (Winner)

NEWS REPORTER

In the **NEWS REPORTER** category, the judges were really impressed at how much of “Fleet Street’s” job the reporters in this category are doing for it. They said that the building press continues to set the agenda and to bring the sector alive, not only for its own readers, but also for everyone - particularly in the issues surrounding the environmental agenda.

Dazzling praise was heaped on the winner Angela Monaghan of Building by the judges who said “this newshound was consistently ahead of a very big pack of Fleet Street’s finest, who were all presumably interested in the same stories. She got the scoop on them and wrote her stories in a stylish, clear and concise style whose stories were of interest to the man and woman in the street. The mark of a true news reporter”, said the judges and they felt this was a remarkable achievement given the resources of the national press.

The judges felt that Laura Chesters of Property Week, one of the two short listed nominees, is a news reporter who consistently discovered what the biggest players in her market place were up to and was regularly ahead of the competition. She reported with great style and impact which is acknowledged by how frequently they were followed up in the national business press.

The other nomination, Deirdre Hipwell also from Property Week was praised for her story on Maquarie Bank shelving its search for a new London HQ and, as a result of the credit crunch, was right on the money in August and demonstrated only two clearly how the crunch was spreading throughout the property sector.

NOMINATIONS: Laura Chesters, Property Week
Deirdre Hipwell, Property Week
Angela Monaghan, Building (Winner)

FEATURE WRITER

The overall standard was higher than ever in the **FEATURE WRITER** category with a number of fine contributions. The articles by the winner, Jim Pickard of the Financial Times, were outstanding and showed a new approach. Pickard took an old story, Canary Wharf, and made it relevant and interesting by providing insights into the leading personalities.

The other nominations included Christine Eade, Property Week, who continues to provide well crafted articles and a choice of interesting subjects, while Mark Leftley’s investigative piece on Construction Training College in Building magazine continues to demonstrate a keen eye for the real detail behind the story.

NOMINATIONS: Christine Eade, Property Week
Mark Leftley, Building
Jim Pickard, Financial Times (Winner)
Katie Puckett, Building

BUSINESS/FINANCIAL JOURNALIST

In the **BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL JOURNALIST** category the judges thought the entries were of a very high standard and solved the difficulty of satisfying their own readership and also outside readers. They felt that there was a pleasing variety of subject matter, approach and style, though there is always room for more background information.

The winner was Sinead Cruise formerly of Property Week (Now Reuters Real Estate) who submitted a combination of news stories with feature articles that provided an outstanding portfolio. “She got the sub-prime market threat right, and the variety of her approach shows her versatility”, said the judges.

Property Week dominated this category with the short listed nominations going to Laura Chesters and James Whitmore, both journalists from this publication. The judges said that Chester’s Oriental City story had great impact, and they praised Whitmore’s great experience and professionalism which showed that he is a master of his craft. “He is readable, but never wastes a word” said the judges. “His interviews bring out the character of his subjects.”

NOMINATIONS: Laura Chesters, Property Week
Sinead Cruise, Property Week (Winner)
James Whitmore, Property Week

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY WRITER

In the **COMMERCIAL PROPERTY WRITER**, category the judges felt that the entries displayed a consistently high standard and a wide range of subject matter and approach. Several articles showed the impact of the property industry on local communities, displaying a refreshing humanity in approach. A number of outstanding pieces emerged as a shining light for these awards out of a high standard throughout.

The winner was Claer Barrett of Property Week whose story of the lone surveyor in Afghanistan was quite outstanding, adventurous, ambitious and brave. And they gave it the highest accolade by saying, “it could have taken its place in a national colour magazine. The reaction to the article in the reader’s letters column and the fact that it was turned into a radio programme says it all.” Her article on maternity leave is important for the industry, and her article on surveyors’ cautionary tales reveals a sense of humour and a wide range of expertise.

The short listed nominees were Lucy Scott of Estates Gazette and Sean McAllister of Property Week. McAllister showed enterprise and adventure in entering the seedy world of lap dancing and casinos and the dangerous world of UXBs. All were very readable and the casino story of Atlantic City and Blackpool provides a timely warning of relying on casino income for regeneration.

The judges said that Scott is a good writer who uses quotes not just for show but as an integral part of the story to drive the narrative forward. Her mix of an interview, investigation, into the De Walden Estate’s Harley Street portfolio, and look at the O2 development show off her talents to good effect.

NOMINATIONS: Claer Barrett, Property Week (Winner)
Sean McAllister, Property Week
Lucy Scott, Estates Gazette

HOUSING JOURNALIST

The judges were please to note a significant improvement in the overall standard of submissions in the **HOUSING JOURNALIST** category this year. They felt that those entrants who showed a capacity to research and incorporate a strong evidential base - rather than relying on limited interviews - stood out, together with those who addressed serious issues while at the same time producing effective and entertaining pieces.

The winner was David Blackman a freelancer who regularly writes for Building magazine among others. He was the clear winner and the judges were impressed with the quality of the content, which raised valid issues and questions. His writing style held the readers’ attention, indeed drew in the reader to consider the views expressed. A good combination of serious and human interest, the judges agreed that the quality and impact of his work continued to develop and improve.

The other nominations were Claer Barrett of Property Week and Stuart MacDonald of Building. The judges noted the quality of Barrett’s content that included sound research and they were particularly taken with the expose article of building faults at Birmingham’s Beetham Tower project which were not satisfactorily answered by the developer and rightly picked up by other papers. “Leaving questions ‘hanging’ is a creditable approach,” they said.

MacDonald showed effective use of material in his submissions - making an interesting piece about Yvette Cooper which deserved strong credit as did his article on faulty photo-voltaic tiles, picked up by the national press.

NOMINATIONS: Claer Barrett, Property Week
David Blackman, Regenerate (Winner)
Stuart MacDonald, Building/Regenerate

ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNALIST

The Judges were impressed with the quality of the submissions for the **ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNALIST** award which is a new category this year and they hope to see more entries in future. The entries were strong on factual bases and evidence, sometimes on topics that are not easy to make exciting and were generally well written dealing effectively with often technical issues.

The winner was Thomas Lane of Building Magazine. The judges were impressed by a real wordsmith who could also utilise humour without losing the underlying seriousness of the issues. The content throughout was strong with a good explanation of technical issues without getting embroiled in difficult detail. “He was strong on style and impact throughout” concluded the judges.

The other nominations were Mark Jansen of Property Week and Vikki Miller of Building Magazine. The judges recognised the quality of Jansen’s pieces, not least describing Property Week’s efforts to go carbon neutral. He showed a readable style and reasoned content - there was much to commend his copy. Of Miller’s submissions, the judges said that they encourage entrants from younger journalists and her contribution rightly reached the shortlist. “Good style and reasonably effective impact are to be commended,” they added.

NOMINATIONS: Mark Jansen, Property Week
Thomas Lane, Building (Winner)
Vikki Miller, Building

YOUNG JOURNALIST

The judges were encouraged by the large number of entries in the **YOUNG JOURNALIST** category. “Even more so the entries received were of a high standard making the judging process challenging.”

The winner was Jon Young writing for New Civil Engineer. The judges said that he had the ability to find stories in seemingly mundane subjects and turn them into interesting reading. Adventurousness and determination are qualities that show through in his articles.

The judges said that nominated writer David Doyle of Property Week demonstrated that he has the versatility to write about weighty subjects and that the other nomination, Dan Stewart of Building, showed in his articles that he is a promising young writer with a good punchy style.

NOMINATIONS: David Doyle, Property Week
Dan Stewart, Building
Jon Young, writing for New Civil Engineer (Winner)

MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR (NON-WEEKLY)

The winner of the **MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR (NON-WEEKLY)** category was Planning In London. The judges said they were pleased by the increased number of entries with a wider spread from subscription magazines to commercially supported magazines.

Planning in London stood out with the breadth of its coverage and expert quality of content particularly as it appears that funds are limited.

Commenting on the other nominations the judges said that Icon continues to impress with its sheer style and position in the market place as being ‘different’ to other titles.

While Architectural Review, which has made the final nominations three years in a row, impressed the judges with its consistent high standard and international perspective.

NOMINATIONS: Architectural Review
Icon magazine
Planning In London (Winner)

MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR (WEEKLY)

In judging the **MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR (WEEKLY)** category the judges said that what came across loud and clear in this category was the extent to which all the magazines entered are setting the agenda - much more so than the industry bodies they frequently write about. The excellent news journalism and particularly the increased and highly successful commitment to campaigning journalism is also filling a substantial vacuum left by the national press which is focusing for business reasons on an increasingly broad and popular audience. The enhanced “substance” and authority of magazines in our sector is truly impressive. The judges were sorry not to see Architects’ Journal and Construction News - now under new editorship - among the entrants and insist on seeing them back next year.

The judges gave a huge accolade to Building Magazine. “absolutely the best comeback in our business. This is a magazine that could hold its own, not just in this industry, but on any news rack, anywhere in the world.” said the judges. “And it’s not as though the competition weren’t trying hard!”

Its rounded character, an incredibly attractive redesign, variety of content, its stylish approach to news and features, its humour, its recognition that small things are just as important as big - the whole package has been refurbished and is almost impossible to fault. It remains the gold standard for journalism in the built environment, and indeed in any kind of journalism..

The short listed nominees were Building Design and Property Week. The judges commented that Building Design continues to forge ahead following its well-deserved win in this category last year. “Were interested in how BD had extended its lively brand - one of the liveliest in the sector - to its website and how this is delivering a really interesting overall package for readers,” concluded the judges.

Property Week, a previous winner in this category, is still setting the pace in the property sector. Its combination of a tabloid feel in a magazine format matches the character of its market place while the increased resources it has attracted have been deployed to great effect. “It is a very strong contender” said the judges.

NOMINATIONS: Building (Winner)
Building Design
Property Week

WEBSITE OF THE YEAR

In the **WEBSITE OF THE YEAR** category the judges found all this year’s entries worthy candidates, all were interesting and seriously focused on their audiences and showed a good understanding of the need to write and design specifically for the screen, integrating images with short and pithy paragraphs. Many have gone to some lengths to increase usability and accessibility for a variety of readers.

The winner was www.building.co.uk this ambitious site has had a total makeover which has improved an already excellent site. It shows that websites are moving ever closer to providing the kind of flexible and interesting coverage previously the preserve of newspapers.

The copy is engaging and demonstrated what good web writing was all about. News items are clearly written and include eye-catching titles with succinct summaries which achieve the aim of grabbing the reader’s attention.

The site has a modern, clean design with a flexible 5 column grid that uses the full web page to good effect. The Home page is sectioned into taster panels with the latest news as the main focus. Packed with items, the site is nevertheless easy to navigate via good image and heading links.

The design draws the reader in with the sheer variety of content types and features on offer. One judge commented: “I found this fresh and busy site a delight to look at. The Home page is so full of life - one feels spoilt.”

NOMINATIONS: www.building.co.uk (Winner)
www.BDONLINE.CO.UK
www.nce.co.uk