

The International Association of Construction, Design and Property Press

Bulletin

December 2011



For details and information about the IBP National Journalism Awards winners click on the categories below

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WELCOME TO THIS YEAR'S IBP INTERACTIVE BULLETIN. CLICK ON THE LINKS OR USE THE BUTTONS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE TO NAVIGATE THROUGH.

**"INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING AT ITS VERY BEST"
WINS IBP JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR
FOR DAVID HATCHER OF PROPERTY WEEK**

"A bad time for property can bring out the best property journalism and this year's entries included a good variety of critical, investigative, revelatory and brave articles that showed the press is not scared to bite the hand that feeds it. Content is only part of the formula however, stylish writing, which can mean keeping it simple rather than embellishing the copy, is equally important and journalists of all ages shouldn't forget this."

This year's Journalist of the Year Award goes to the winner of the Commercial Property Writer of the Year category: David Hatcher of **Property Week**.

[Click here to find out about the winner.](#)

[Click here to see a slideshow of the judging panel deliberating over the submissions.](#)



“The best entry from the winners of each individual journalist category is considered for the coveted IBP Journalist of the Year Award, sponsored by Resolution Property.”

JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR 2011

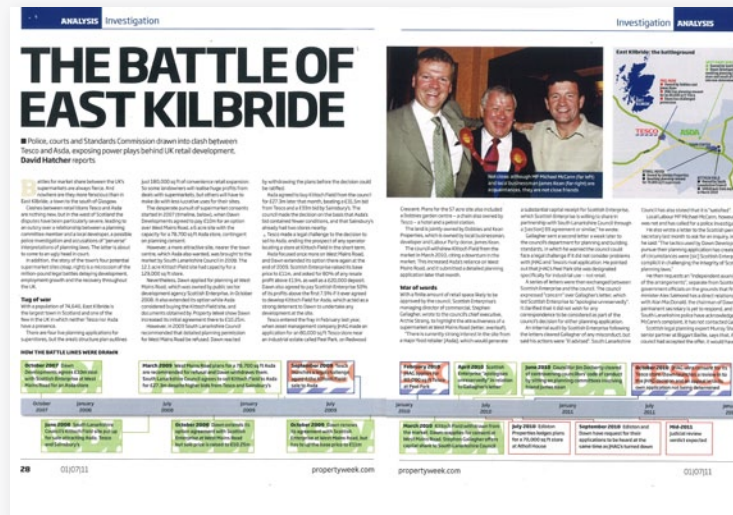
This award, for the best of the best, demonstrates that the building press can accommodate the highest standards in journalism.

WINNER: David Hatcher,
writing for Property Week

The judges described his article exposing the intrigues of the planning process in a Scottish provincial town as a “treat”.

“He explained how a battle between supermarkets has become entwined with local politics, police investigations, court hearings and the Standards Commission in East Kilbride; and pulled no punches naming names and detailing documents.”

“It would have been easy to choose a softer subject; it might have been tempting to give all parties the benefit of the doubt. David Hatcher did neither: his was investigative reporting at its very best,” said the impressed judges.



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ARCHITECTURE WRITER OF THE YEAR 2011

This was a very evenly matched group, with entries largely dominated with the subject of Zaha Hadid and the Olympics. So the judges were able to compare different takes on the Glasgow Transport Museum and the Stratford site. This reflects the growing shortage of subject matter as the rate of building slows. However, the judges believed that the quality of the entries were of a very high standard, which made the separation between the winner and the rest of the field unusually tight.

WINNER: Rory Olcayto,
writing for the *Architect's Journal*

The judges were enthused by the variety of pieces he submitted, from the **"Beijing state of mind"** for the launch of a non architectural magazine: Port Magazine to **"A Hint of the New"** a domestic staircase by Atmos Studio's that, the article announces: heralds the coming of a new modernist expression. Rory also tackled Zaha's Glasgow Riverside Museum. **"Each of his submissions were very readable and revealed interesting insights into three subjects,"** said the judges. They also noted that he regularly delivers strong articles for his magazine.

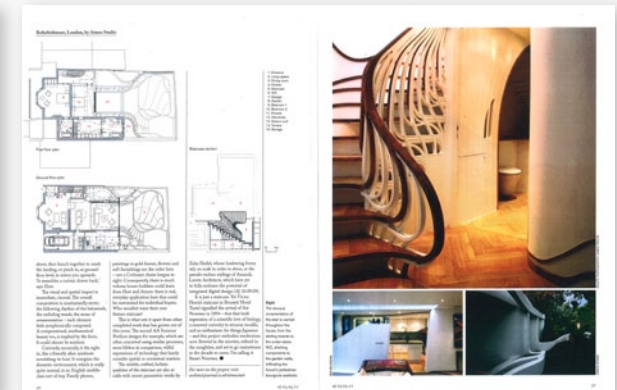
Steve Parnell of the *Architect's Journal* was short-listed for what the judges described as "a lively series of pieces including an excellent and devastating review of Patrick Schumacher's book, ***The Autopsies of Architecture***, as well as a sharp description of Zaha Hadid's Glasgow Riverside Museum of Transport."

Also short-listed was **Eleanor Young** of *RIBA Journal*. The judges applauded her **"informative and colourful interview with Zaha Hadid"** and her article on the infrastructure of the Olympic Park.

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SUSTAINABLE CONSTRUCTION JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR 2011

The judges stressed that this was a challenging category as the focus has moved towards sustainability. But the shortlisted entries managed to thoroughly address this complex and developing issue.

WINNER: Stephen Cousins,
writing for Construction Manager

"His thorough and accessible explanations of key issues in sustainable construction made him the winner" said the judges.

Jack Sidders of *Construction News* was shortlisted. The judges were impressed with his ability to **"deliver scoops"** clearly demonstrating his **"high calibre network of contacts"**.

Jan-Carlos Kucharek also of *Construction Manager* was shortlisted for what the judges described as **"his consistent excellent technical writing style across his three articles"**.



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NEWS REPORTER OF THE YEAR 2011

This category produced a group of impressive entries that clearly reflect the confusion the economic crisis has led us into and whether recovery is taking place. While corporate and political difficulties have often been usefully by-passed by ordinary people using social media, helping journalists to uncover issues that would otherwise remain hidden. This has proved fertile ground for stories and the judges hope the “**excellent work**” will continue next year.

WINNER: Mike Phillips,
writing for Property Week

The judges exclaimed, “Mike provided two really good solid scoops and one fascinating and timely interview. His stories about how lease structures underpin the property investment market, and how legal or political interference in those structures can undermine an important component of the economy, got to the heart of how the property market operates. And his timely interview of Robert Tchenguiz just after his arrest was a very entertaining read.”

In short listing **Ed Hammond** of the *Financial Times*, the judges noted his “good solid news reporting, revealing corporate failures and the inner workings of the market, which often wants to hide bad news, but which the rest of us need to know about”.

Will Hurst of *Building Design* was also shortlisted for his tenacious investigation that started locally, but turned into a global thriller. And like in all good thrillers, the tension kept mounting, in a cautionary tale of corporate hubris that involved hiring the UK’s most despised, failed banker and irking employees on three continents. Pip. Pip!



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FEATURE WRITER OF THE YEAR 2011

The judges were much impressed by this year's entries that covered a broad range of styles and subjects with writers looking **"outside the box"** for subjects. This made selecting a winner extremely difficult and there was very little difference in marks between the top three entries.

WINNER: Emily Wright,
writing for Building

"Her excellent articles had a real impact and she showed a deep understanding of her subjects, while her writing presented the material in a very lively and incisive manner. A worthy winner," the judges enthused.

James McLachlan of onoffice was shortlisted for his ability to "pack information into features that were highly entertaining and backed up with excellent photographs. His article 'the glass box' was particularly good," the judges commented.

Property Week's Christine Eade was shortlisted for her "solid, well written highly consistent work". One judge said, "Christine clearly enjoys what she does and she has a way of inspiring her interviewees to divulge some fascinating facts."



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BUSINESS/FINANCIAL JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR 2011

"The troubled financial sector, at home and abroad, gave writers in this category meat on which to feast," one judge noted. The result was a wide range of depth and colour amongst entries; nevertheless the judge's choice of a winner was unanimous.

WINNER: James Whitmore,
writing for Property Week

"James returned from Dubai with a highly readable and revelatory interview with Amanda Staveley. His second submission on Southern Cross demonstrated that he can analyse a complex financial situation that became a national concern. And his writing was packed with content, stylishly penned and had genuine impact on readers," one judge exclaimed.

The judges shortlisted **Mike Phillips** of *Property Week* for his detailed article on the complex network that linked Anglo Irish Bank, Dublin's developers and the country's politicians which led to not only the collapse of the property sector but a change of government and an international financial rescue.

Kat Baker, also of *Property Week* was also shortlisted for her pieces on the proliferation of bookmaker's shops opening in Deptford High Street. **"While her article on the Czech over-supply of property demonstrated her range,"** one judge said.



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COMMERCIAL PROPERTY WRITER OF THE YEAR 2011

The judges were faced with impressive news stories and features, in this category, that stood out for their stylish writing. They were encouraged to see journalists leaving the office to see and feel at first hand what they are writing about and to conduct well researched interviews and a high standard of investigative journalism that required persistence and patience.

WINNER: David Hatcher,
writing for Property Week

The judges praised his detailed expose of dirty dealing and intrigue over planning applications in East Kilbride. Describing it as **“investigative journalism at its best.”** The judges also particularly like his analysis of the collapse of Halliwell's the Manchester solicitors, that revealed how property deals were key to the failure and exposed the partner's roles. His story about opposition to the HS2 High-speed rail link will run and run, even if the trains don't!

Property Week's Nick Johnstone was shortlisted for his article on Battersea Power Station. The judges praised the fact he had found something new to say about a subject that every journalist has probably written about. Including finding former fans of the development who now favour demolition.

Hardeep Sandher, another *Property Week* journalist, was shortlisted by the judges for her excellent expose of surveyors' use of unpaid interns that included colourful examples. They also liked her stylish interview and “tell all” about the future of Paul Raymond's empire and her piece where she persuaded Lord Coe to discuss the property aspects of the Olympics.



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HOUSING/RESIDENTIAL JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR 2011

The judges were thrilled with the very high quality of entrants this year, which demonstrated a broad mix of styles.

WINNER: Will Hurst,
writing for Building Design

"Will is a strong, captivating journalist bringing about real change in this strong, competitive category. It was his work on Kickstart and Southwark planning stories that gave him the edge on the final decision," the judges commented.

Nick Duxbury of *Inside Housing* was Highly Commended for what the judges described as a "lively writing style" and "investigative hard work". "There was hardly a breath between second place and the winner," one judge said.

While **Oliver Wainwright** also writing for *Building Design* was shortlisted for his impressive analysis of One Hyde Park and his consistently good writing.



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YOUNG JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR 2011

The judges felt that the entrants of this category were of an encouragingly high quality, with lively and well research submissions.

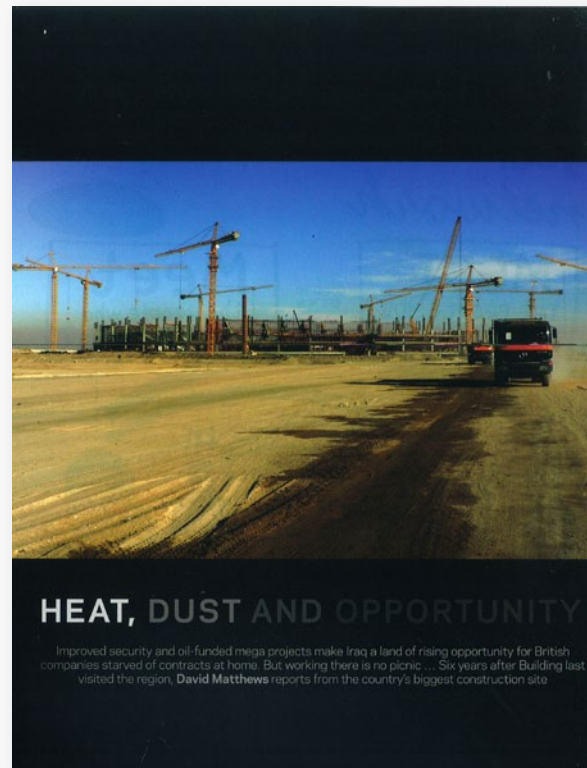
WINNER: David Matthews,
writing for Building

"We particularly liked his well written piece about construction in Iraq, but believed that his range of articles was thorough, mature and good on detail," said the judges.

Merlin Fulcher of the *Architect's Journal* was shortlisted for his work on three stories, which were subsequently followed up by other magazines. The judges noted that, "his exclusive, stating that there were still projects available to architects on the Olympic site must have been welcome news to his readers."

While *Inside Housing's* **Rhiannon Bury** was shortlisted as well. "Rhiannon's three articles were the result of sound research and delving into statistics, which demonstrated yet again the best of good old fashioned journalism," one judge commented.

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MULTI-MEDIA JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR 2011

“Working across platforms is a challenge that journalists entering this category are responding to with energy and evident relish, which is pleasing to see,” the judges commented.

WINNER: Nick Whitten,
writing for the Estates Gazette

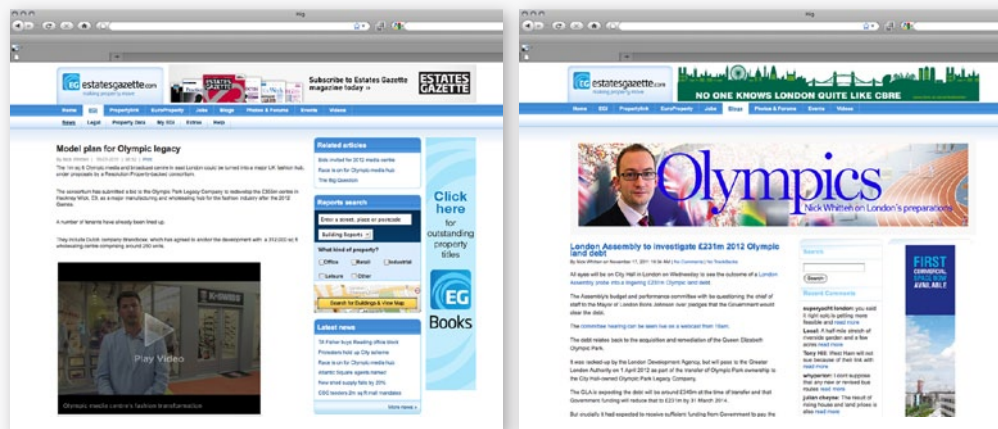
He was praised by the judges for making the Olympics “his own patch, following it in print, online, in a blog and works alongside video; and for breaking an important story on the legacy plans for the Olympic village.”

In short listing *Property Week's Hardeep Sandher*, the judges were impressed by her “fantastically energetic and able approach particularly in grasping the opportunities offered by an iPad application.”

Daniel Cunningham, *Estates Gazette* was also shortlisted. “Daniel has a very broad multiple media approach. He incorporates not just blogging and using video but also Flickr, Twitter and podcasts,” one judge exclaimed.

While **Nathan Cross**, another *Estates Gazette* journalist, was shortlisted for what the judges called “dogged good old fashion journalism albeit in a new medium.”

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MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR – WEEKLY 2011

The judges stressed that in these difficult financial times publishers are having to spread challenged resources over a very wide range of traditional and new media. But clearly they must recognise that whatever the medium there is no substitute for high quality, independent journalism, untainted by a commercial interest. The judges were pleased to see an understanding of this and were struck by the fact that the winner still promotes *joie de vivre* about the sector it covers.

WINNER: *Building Design*

The magazine brings “architecture and news together in an accessible way, with excellent writing, strong editorial lines, and a new format,” said the judges. “The editorial team clearly knows the value of its content and attacks stories in a confident way that creates a general vibrancy and engages with its audience,” one judge exclaimed.

Construction News was also shortlisted by the judges who praised it for “continuing to go from strength to strength with its editorial and design techniques”. They were also impressed with the magazine’s “ability to relate to different contractors across the whole supply chain.”

Covering a sector in flux is never easy – in short listing *Inside Housing* the judges applauded it for being on top of the issues that affect its audience, while recognising the need for change.



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MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR – NON WEEKLY 2011

The judges noted that the entries in this year's Magazine of the Year (Non Weekly) category covered a diverse range of subjects and all have seen recent transformations.

WINNER: *Architectural Review*

The judges enthused, “Architectural Review stands out as a well designed magazine that focuses on its readership. It is a truly international publication. The articles are authoritative and well written, supported by good photographs and graphics.”

onoffice was shortlisted by the judges who said the magazine “fills an important gap that no other publication can, with interesting articles, based around the interior design of offices rather than the architecture of the building itself.”

Also short-listed was *Planning for London*. The judges applauded it for its “good, consistent content that meets the need of its readers”. One judge said, “It gets better year after year, the design is simple yet effective, while the content is very impressive”.



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WEBSITE OF THE YEAR 2011

In this category the judges were most impressed with websites that responded to and engaged with their readers, while demonstrating instances of original thinking. They believed that generally all the websites entered are responding well to the fast changing online environment.

WINNER: *Inside Housing*

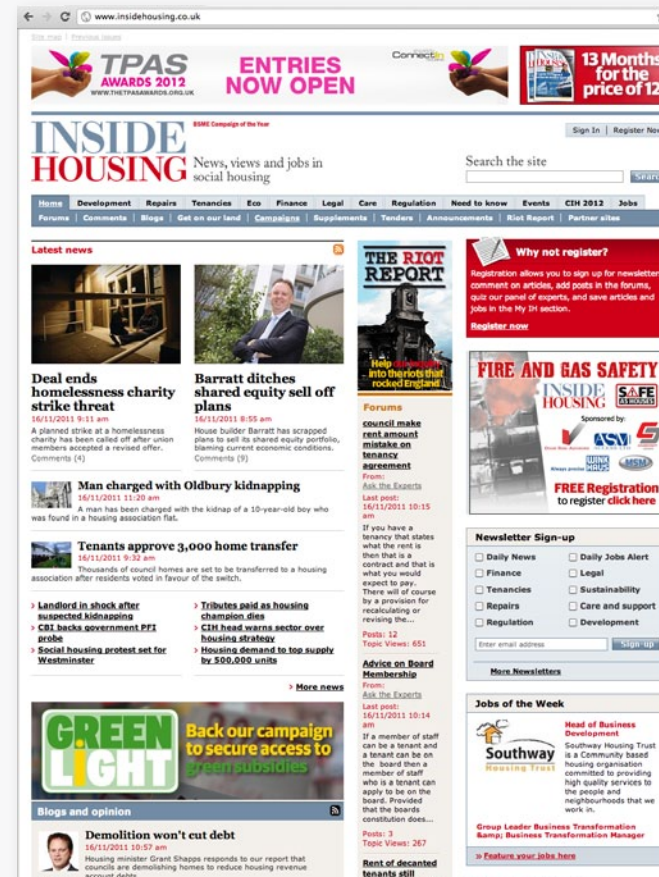
"Its well designed site offers plenty of reader engagement and the fact it is very responsive to its reader requirements which had underlain a recent rethink was the reason for our choice," the judges said.

*AJ Buildings Library was **Highly Commended** by the judges, who called it a "valuable, new and unique resource aimed at architects" and a "great compliment to the existing website".*

Property Week was shortlisted for what the judges believed was a "fantastic scope and breadth of content and continuous exploration of new formats including the superb iPad App".

BD Online also made the shortlist for its "high quality journalism" and "really readable design".

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Peter Murray, Chairman of the Architecture Writer category seeks clarification.



Freelance Journalist, **David Lawson**, sees the humour in an article reviewed at the judging.



Polly Simpson concentrates on a re-read of the News category entries.



*Gerald Bowey gives guidance on a technical point to BSME Award winning editor **Dickon Ross**.*



*Housing category judge, **John Slaughter**, HBF, takes another look at his scores from the first round of reading the entries.*



The debate on the short list for the Sustainable Construction category reaches a conclusion.



***Michael Day**, Integra Property Services, considers the arguments in the Commercial Property category.*



***Clive Branson**, editor, Commercial Property Register, sums up the final choices for the Feature Writer Award.*



Only half way through the final judging session – and the Judges are still smiling!

Left to right: [Richard Aylwin](#) (co-organiser of the judging), Managing Director, Aylwin Communications; [Ruth Slavid](#), Architectural Writer and Editor; [Peter Murray](#), Chairman, NLA; [Matt Yeoman](#), Buckley Gray Yeoman; [David Taylor](#), Editor, New London Quarterly; [John Slaughter](#), Director, External Affairs, HBF; [Dickon Ross](#), Editor-in-Chief, Engineering & Technology; [Alasdair Reisner](#), Head of Industry Affairs, CECA; [Richard Northedge](#), Freelance Financial & City Journalist; [Michael Day](#), Partner Integra Property Services; [Frank Duffy](#), Founder, DEGW; [Roger Wilsher](#), Managing Director, Abstract Associates; [Polly Simpson](#), Director, Embolden; [Michael Rose](#), Chairman, The Building Centre; [Debbie Kamofsky](#), Partner, Anderson Fraser; [Lee Mallett](#), Consultant, Regeneration & Communication; [David Lawson](#), Freelance Journalist and [Gerald Bowey](#), CEO IBP Services. **Seated:** [John Yadoo](#), Partner, Pryme Consulting; [Clive Branson](#), Editor, Commercial Property Register; [Peter Harris](#), Chairman, Art & Work Awards and [Peter Roper](#), Freelance Editor & Journalist. **Not in picture:** [Peter Day](#), Correspondent, BBC 'In Business' Programme; [Chris Pateman](#), Managing Director, BMF; [Dominic Ponsford](#), Editor, Press Gazette.