

The International Association of Construction, Design and Property Press

Bulletin

December 2012



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.

JOURNALISM AT ITS BEST

“This years Award entries have reflected the continuing move, detected last year, from the generic categories to the highly prized News, Features and Business Awards. Nevertheless entries overall were up on 2011 and a number of new faces appeared in the long list and nominations. By definition the winners in each category are good and judges commented on the overall high standard of articles.

While the articles covered a diverse range of issues and were aimed at different readerships, the qualities required in good journalism ran through all the pieces offering a good mix of investigative reporting to colourful features and breaking news stories – but they all had one thing in common – journalism at its best. All those that entered should take heart from the fact that each year it gets more and more difficult to decide the nominations. We thank all those journalists that entered this year.”

Gerald Bowey, Awards Chairman

[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.”

IBP JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR 2012

By definition the winners of the individual categories are good, for in choosing an overall winner, the judges were reviewing and selecting “the best of the best” and thoroughly enjoyed the high standard before them.

WINNER: Rhiannon Bury,
writing for Inside Housing

Although the articles covered a diverse range of issues and were aimed at different readerships, the qualities required in good journalism ran through all the pieces. They ranged from investigative reporting to colourful feature writing and breaking news stories, but all showed built environment publishing at its best.

Rhiannon Bury, Inside Housing, the winner of the IBP Journalist of the Year Award produced a classic piece of investigative journalism, applying hard work and intelligent thinking to ask what happened to the £200 million given by the government to local councils in new homes services. It was an example to stress how to peruse this sort of story, eliciting information, checking facts and obtaining reactions. It was a job well done, the judges said.



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ARCHITECTURE WRITER OF THE YEAR 2012

The judges said it was interesting to note that submissions this year came purely from architectural titles, perhaps reflecting the diminishing space allocated to architectural matters in the national press. Nevertheless, it was a strong category, with varied and lively approaches and points of view.

WINNER: Oliver Wainwright,
writing for Building Design

William Curtis of *Architectural Review* was short-listed. The judges were "impressed with William's courage and no non-sense approach to famous architects and their reputations."

In short listing *Architects' Journal's Rory Olcayto*, the judges felt that Rory's submissions were fresh and original both in topic and method. They also said "his personality shone through his writing immensely."

Also short-listed was *Steve Parnell* of *Building Design*. The judges were impressed by the way Steve's articles "dealt effortlessly with complex issues, rooted in significance, and non London-centric contexts."

But the Architecture Writer of the Year Award went to *Oliver Wainwright* of *Building Design*. The judges felt that his submissions displayed an "authoritative grasp of some well-judged subjects, with a perceptive, balanced approach". They also noted he used a lively writing style that presented well-paced arguments which allowed his subjects speak but left the reader in no doubt about his position.

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Society of British Interior Design



SUSTAINABLE WRITER OF THE YEAR 2012

The entries covered a vast spectrum of topics and a range of approaches on this topic; as a result the entries demonstrated the complexity of the sustainability agenda. They highlighted the fact that **“sustainability”** is not clearly enough defined and covers a multitude of interpretations and explored the impact that political priorities have on sustainability agendas.

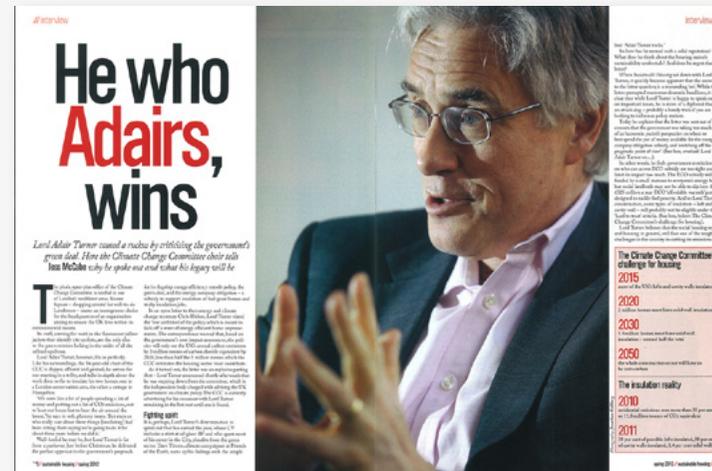
WINNER: Jess McCabe,
writing for Inside Housing

In short listing **Vern Pitt** of *Building*, the judges noted that his articles **“demonstrated the ability to handle both hard news and features led coverage”**. The judges also particularly liked his writing style which they felt makes the articles easier to read.

Nick Duxbury of *Inside Housing* was also shortlisted. The judges liked the way that he investigated key weaknesses in what appeared to be **“progressive government policy on sustainability in the form of solar panels”**, which was highly relevant to readers. *Inside Housing* claimed that its campaign appeared to be responsible for changing government policy.

However, the winner of this year’s Sustainable Writer of the Year Award goes to **Jess McCabe** of *Inside Housing*. The judges were impressed by her great writing style with an in-depth knowledge of the sustainability agenda and how it affects the social housing market. Commenting the judges said **“Her case study on plans for a model village in Derwenthorpe, Yorkshire, brought out a key problem of government policy, where a great idea for sustainable low cost housing still takes 10 years for something to happen, because of local opposition.”** The judges couldn’t put the article down once they started – the ultimate accolade for any journalist.

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FEATURE WRITER OF THE YEAR 2012

The judges were pleased with the good number and level of interest in the submissions this year, including some interesting online features. The spread of articles was broad and covered a range of relevant and important issues including investigations that matter to the industry and wider audiences. It was pleasing to see publishers supporting investigations that focused on subjects that mattered. The variety made it hard to reach a unanimous vote which followed a valid debate among the panel.

WINNER: Will Hurst, writing for Building

Mark Hansford of *New Civil Engineer* was shortlisted for his ability to make complex technical subject matter widely accessible and in an interesting manner.

The judges shortlisted **Martin Hilditch** of *Inside Housing* because “he is an investigative journalist that is not afraid to criticise policy decisions on matters of safety and sustainability.”

The judges also shortlisted **Lydia Stockdale** of *Inside Housing* and regarded her as “a journalist who enjoys taking on difficult subjects with a strong and confident style.”

But *Building's* **Will Hurst** takes the Feature Writer of the Year Award. The judges praised his dedicated desire to create the best possible articles. The judges enjoyed his three distinct articles of variety where the content gave a critical edge. “All three articles were pitched and written with consistency and supported by well researched investigation,” one judge said.



BUSINESS/FINANCIAL JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR 2012

This year's entries were filled with high quality journalism making the judging process difficult. It was pleasing to see news wires competing with national newspapers against trade magazines and all expanding the choice of high standard journalism available.

WINNER: Mike Phillips, writing for Property Week

Property Week's **James Whitmore** was shortlisted for his rare interview with Peel Holdings' John Whittaker that gave an insight into this Northern veteran with traditional values.

Nick Johnstone, another Property Week journalist, was shortlisted by the judges for his insight into the planning difficulties that are delaying development of London's Lords cricket ground which was a highly readable piece on a generally interesting subject. "He tackled the topical issue of London house prices and wrote of the threat to the capital's power supplies which is an interesting issue that could be topical in the future."

But Property Week's **Mike Phillips** takes the Business/Financial Writer of the Year Award. The judges praised his focus on some of the major issues facing the property industry. "His revelation of the FSA's concern over the new 'slottery' rules that would force banks to provide billions of additional capital was a forerunner of a problem that will have major ramifications." His interview showed that he can handle micro subjects as well as macro.



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COMMERCIAL PROPERTY WRITER OF THE YEAR 2012

The judges were pleased to see entries from a wide variety of media, including websites. This year the submissions range from specific stories, highlighting key issues to entertaining features written stylishly. The journalist showed imagination in extending their subject areas to provide copy that was both interesting and important.

WINNER: Patrick Gower, writing for Property Week

In short listing **James Wallace** of *Co-star News*, the judges noted that website articles can examine issues in-depth as well as break news. They were impressed by his extended feature on Lehman Brothers debts which went into considerable depth while his re-analysis of other banks' 'worst case' losses from the crash **"provided an interesting alternative view to conventional thinking"**.

The newcomer to property journalism, **Sarah Townsend** of *Property Week*, was shortlisted while the judges praised her for having a highly professional look at the industry. The judges were very interested in her piece on the 'urban explorer' who scales buildings in defiance of the developers and said **"it could have appeared in a Sunday colour supplement."**

But the Commercial Property Writer of the Year Award went to **Patrick Gower of Property Week**. The judges were impressed by the wide variety of articles he submitted, from a news story about Vincent Tchenguiz to an in-depth feature about shady land deals. **"On his detailed feature about the resale of a key site in Reading he not only made a cold litigation dispute into a highly readable story of intrigue, he also pursued it despite the inevitable legal dangers."**

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HOUSING & RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR 2012

The judges felt that the top entries were very close in quality and it was difficult to choose between the top two. The judges felt that the journalists did a good job of going behind the headlines to discover what is really happening. **“The entries highlighted the continued failings of both political parties to come up with a housing strategy that works.”**

WINNER: Rhiannon Bury,
writing for Inside Housing

Nick Duxbury of *Inside Housing* was shortlisted for his ability to dig out stories proving he “is a real news hound.” The judges felt he displayed a strong understanding of the sector and delivered a real impact.

Joey Gardiner of *Building* was also shortlisted. The judges said his articles were “a real joy to read – they were classic pieces of writing showing that government policy is in a complete mess.” He displayed his excellent writing style, showing an incisiveness that cuts through the confusion, contradictions and conflicts in housing policy.

However, *Inside Housing's* Rhiannon Bury takes the Housing & Residential Property Journalist of the Year Award. The judges believed that her articles were good enough to warrant an expose in *The Guardian* or on *Newsnight*. **“She achieved what every journalist strives for, to write articles where the reader wants to read from beginning to end,”** commented the judges. They admired her clear style and very readable copy which meant that every word gave the reader an immediate understanding of the issues involved and demonstrated the extensive research she did.



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YOUNG JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR 2012

In a category whose small number of entries this year gave a clear warning of the effects of the current economic downturn in recruiting young journalists and the judge's cause for concern, the entries nevertheless showed resourcefulness and a wide variety of subject choices.

WINNER: Sarah Stewart,
writing for Property Week

The judges shortlisted **Iain Withers** of *Building* for his good range of skills, from news scoops to well-researched features.

Also shortlisted was **Joanna Bourke** of *Estates Gazette*. The judges felt she "showed a keen eye for a news story and application in delivering results".

And this year's Young Journalist of the Year Award went to **Sarah Stewart**. The judges felt that her submissions "demonstrated originality, breadth, tenacity and courage in tackling complex and controversial issues".



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MULTI-MEDIA JOURNALIST OF THE YEAR 2012

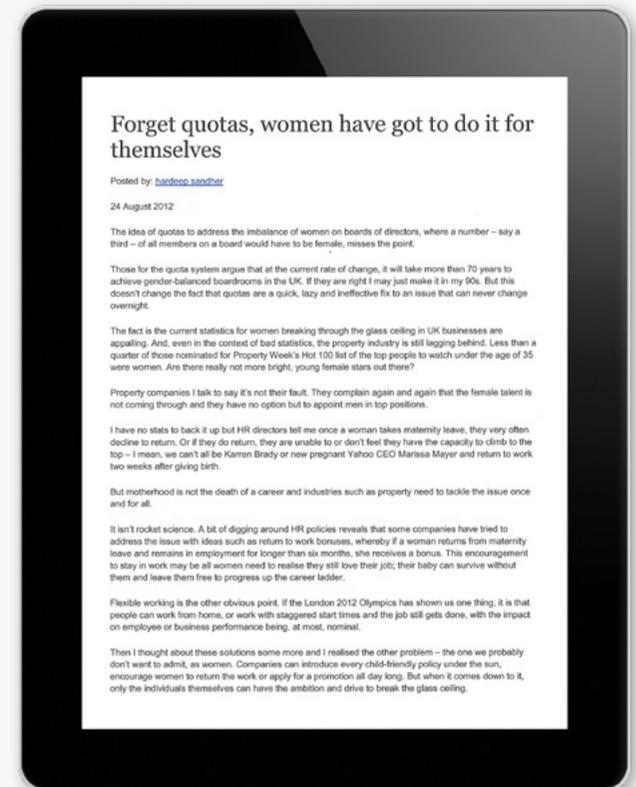
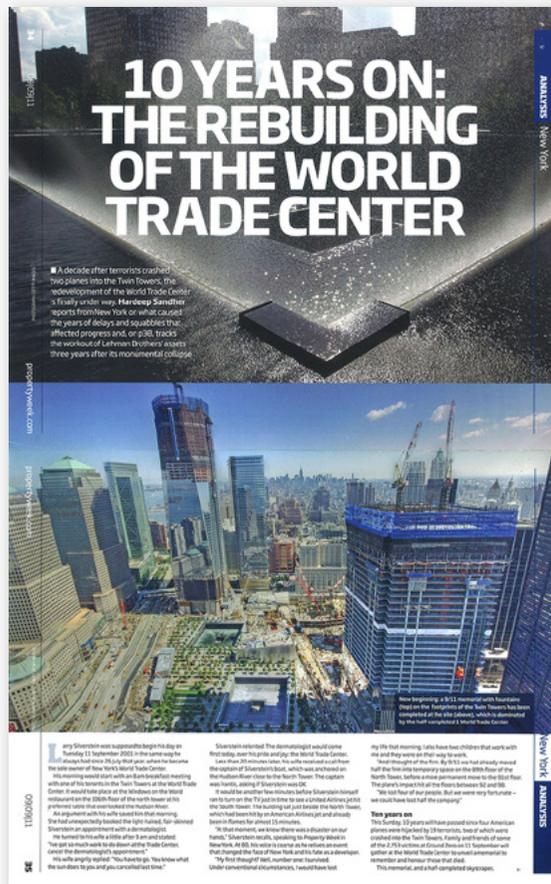
The entries this year for this category confirms that good journalists today are comfortable working appropriately across a range of media.

WINNER: Hardeep Sandher, writing for Property Week

James Wallace of *Co-star News* was shortlisted by the judges for his “very effective news journalist focus on breaking stories”. He simply and professionally delivers in a digital environment.

And this year’s Multi-Media of the Year Award goes to **Hardeep Sandher** of *Property Week*. The judges were impressed by her work which “engaged with a unique perspective”. “She has the courage and ability to work across a range of platforms, whether introducing an iPad edition or writing an in-depth and engaging interview with the CEO of the World Trade Centre.”

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MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR (WEEKLY)

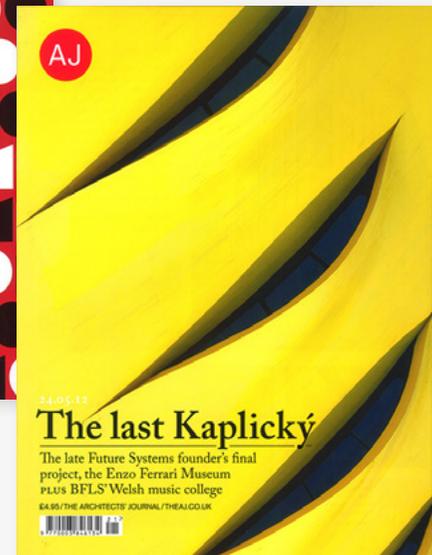
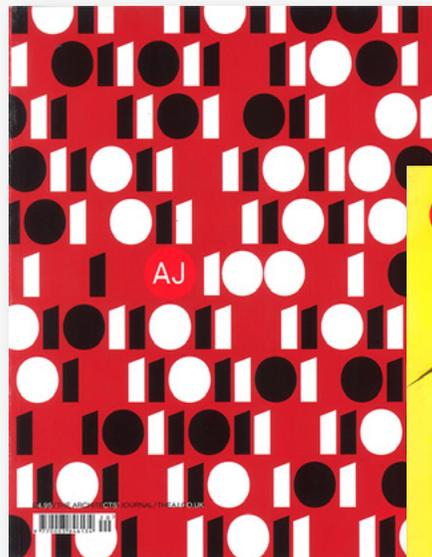
The judges stressed that to judge a magazine in isolation from its online content is arguably an impossible task today but with that proviso and given the industry is suffering from the worst recession since the war the building press's output is a truly remarkable achievement that bodes well for when better times return. They said "the built environment press is in remarkably good health".

WINNER: *Architects' Journal*

In short listing *Property Week* the judges applauded it for diversifying the nature of its product, bringing invaluable and authoritative insight and content in a truly impressive way.

Inside Housing was also shortlisted by the judges who were impressed by the magazine's energy, both in its design and content. "There is clearly a dedicated team working on this magazine", said the judges.

But the Magazine of the Year (Weekly) Award goes to *Architects' Journal*. The magazine is bold, produced with great confidence and has a great impact. The judges felt that it features "lively news, features, and authoritative professional content". The judges salute the clarity of editorial ambition.



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MAGAZINE OF THE YEAR (NON-WEEKLY)

The judges noted that the entries in this year's Magazine of the Year (Non-Weekly) category covered a good range from membership magazines to specialist "coffee table" publications. The entries clearly delivered to their readership with all nominees having gone through a recent re-launch.

WINNER: *New London Quarterly*

Planning in London was shortlisted by the judges who said the magazine "always impresses and serves its readership well with good and interesting articles."

Also shortlisted was *Architectural Review*. The judges applauded it for its "consistently good quality with a global reach, achieving what it sets out to do in promoting excellence".

However, the Magazine of the Year (Non-weekly) Award goes to *New London Quarterly*. The judges were impressed, "*New London Quarterly* has a good clear design, photography and graphics with a strong format". The magazine contained a good range of articles that just edged ahead of its competition.



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DIGITAL SERVICE OF THE YEAR 2012

The judges were impressed by the great diversity of entries this year. Journalist ability and integrity are two foundations on which imaginative contents providers are building to deliver information in appropriate formats and at new frequencies.

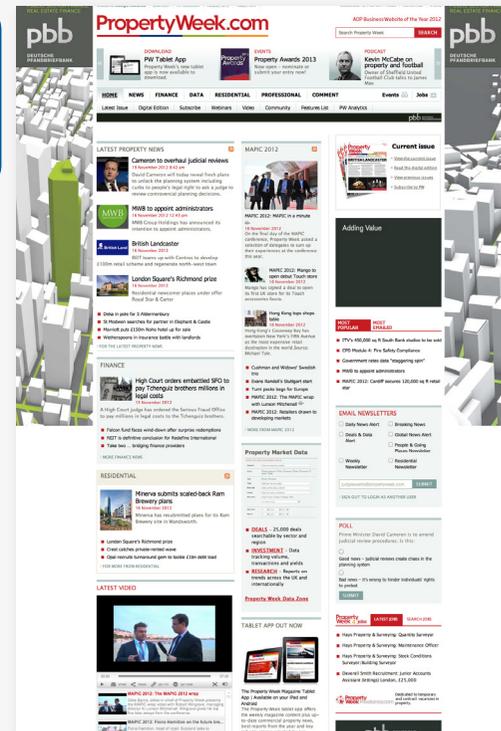
WINNER: *Property Week*

Inside Housing was shortlisted because of its exemplary journalism and the easy to navigate site. While successful, the judges did not feel the site's design was quite innovative enough to make it a winner this year.

Also shortlisted was *Dezeen* due to its "exciting and successful site". The judges felt that the site "presented a progressive direction for a digital publication, while informing on new designs in images, video and words." It succeeded in its own terms by not setting out to follow the route of traditional 'must know' journalism and analysis. *Dezeen* was given a Highly Commended by the judges.

In short listing, additionally, *Co-star News* the judges felt the magazines new launch was a lean and targeted operation, rapidly building an audience for news bulletins, which frequently beat larger competitors.

But this year's Digital Service of the Year Award goes to *Property Week*. The judges felt there was a strong base of professional, comprehensive and appropriate news journalism, in which it kept up its momentum for innovation. "It has added a new iPad edition and launched a daily tablet app, radically enhancing the ways in which readers can receive information." Also it is launching a subscription service to allow subscribers to receive daily tailored planning information. The judges felt that the energy was impressive and look forward to see what happens next.



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Body language plays a part in the early deliberations of David Taylor, Debbie Whitfield, Frank Duffy and Matt Yeoman.





Michael Day and Peter Roper see the funny side of a story.





Pip Clothier takes a rest from the cut and thrust of judging



While Lee Mallett notes John Waple's views



*Serious reading time for
Richard Northedge and Liz Peace*





Steve Hale awaits David Lawson's decision...





Left to right standing: [Gerald Bowey](#), Awards chairman; [Lee Baker](#), Director, Association of On line Publishers; [Ruth Slavid](#), Architectural author and editor; [John Yadoo](#), Partner, Pryme Consulting; [Dickon Ross](#), Editor-in-Chief, Engineering & Technology; [Michael Day](#), Managing Director, Integra Property Services; [Richard Aylwin](#), Managing Director, Aylwin Communications; [Steve Hale](#), Managing Director, Crofton; [Peter Roper](#), Freelance Journalist; [Richard Northedge](#), City & Business Journalist; [Matt Yeoman](#), Partner, Buckley Gray Yeoman; [John Waples](#), UK Head of Strategic Communications, FTI Consulting; [Debbie Whitfield](#), Director, New London Architecture; [David Taylor](#), Editor, New London Quarterly; [Mark Collins](#), Executive Director, CBRE; [Frank Duffy](#), Design Consultant; **Seated left to right:** [Lee Mallett](#), Consultant, Regeneration & Communications; [Pip Clothier](#), Journalist and Broadcaster; [David Lawson](#), Freelance Journalist and [Liz Peace](#), Chief Executive, British Property Federation. [Not shown in the picture: [Alasdair Reisner](#), Head of Industry Affairs, Civil Engineering Contractors Association; [John Slaughter](#), Director, External Affairs, Home Builders Federation; [Stephen Thornton](#), UK Head of External Affairs, Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors; [Peter Day](#), Correspondent, BBC 'In Business' programme and [Gerry Gosney](#), Consultant, Professional Publishers Association].