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THE JOURNAL FOR THE SOCIETY OF GARDEN DESIGNERS

GARDEN DESIGN JOURNAL

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Faking it made su
THE RESTOR
OF UPTON
Sculptor David

THE BIG IDEAS

Conceptual gardens special

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Five pages packed with expert information, business ideas and insights

Welcome

The Zone is designed to inform and to invite comment and interactive debate. Please contact us with your views on anything we feature here so that we can share your experiences and thoughts with other SGD members on these pages. The Professional Zone is compiled by Sarah Giles. If there is anyone you'd like us to spend five minutes with – or if you have any other suggestions – please drop Sarah a line at gdj@jppublishing.co.uk

Inside:



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This manor house features a once-lost, now restored Gertrude Jekyll garden



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Luke Roeder explains the challenges of his first meadow planting project



42 Rising stars

How students designed outside space for a prestigious London hotel



Photo: Andy Paradise Photography

Five minutes with...

Tristen Knight

The 2012 RHS National Young Garden Designer of Year, Tristen, 28, won the title with his Tatton Park garden and now works for Aralia Garden Design

What do you wish you'd known before you became a designer?

How many skill sets you need to have! Designer, surveyor, engineer, project manager...

Do you have a mentor or design idol?

Patricia Fox has been my mentor – she taught me a great deal about design and business. In terms of idols, when I first started, I admired Christopher Bradley-Hole's work.

What has surprised you most in your career so far?

How quickly costs can add up when building a high-spec garden.

What is your favourite style of architecture?

19th century industrial architecture; buildings with form and function.

Do you prefer plans/drawings in colour or black and white?

Colour tells the story much better.

What is your favourite material to work with in the garden?

I don't have one favourite but I do love mixing organic and man-made materials; for example the harmony between corten steel and oak.

The part of the design process you like best?

Having trained in industrial design, I find taking a concept design into a construction detail really interesting.

And the part of the design process you like least?

Surveying gardens – though it helps to understand the site, I don't mind if someone does this for me!

Do you prefer hand-drawn or CAD designs?

CAD designs have a great deal of accuracy and save lots of time.

Has becoming the RHS National Young Garden Designer already had an impact on your career?

It has given me a great confidence boost when meeting clients and even when making design decisions. Also, it made me realise how much I like the media spotlight!

Diary dates

20 NOVEMBER FUTURESCAPE KEMPTON PARK RACECOURSE, MIDDLESEX

Seminars on hot topics that challenge landscape architects, garden designers and contractors – costing and quoting, training and recruitment, marketing – and on new techniques and skills, including design software, scheme lighting; masterclasses by industry experts; demos of landscaping and arboricultural equipment, plus leading plant suppliers showcasing herbaceous perennials, shrubs and trees.
www.futurescapeevent.com

6 DECEMBER THORNHAYES NURSERY, DEVON

"Trained Fruit; how to do it." 1.30-4pm. Venue: Thornhayes Nursery. Kevin will explain and demonstrate the techniques of growing a range of high-quality fruit in a restricted space as cordons, espaliers/fans, pyramids, etc. This is a partner session to "Summer Pruning".

Plan ahead

24 JANUARY SAID BUSINESS SCHOOL, OXFORD

"Andrea Wulf – Founding gardeners: The revolutionary generation, nature, and the shaping of the American nation." Talk looking at the founding fathers and how their attitude to plants, gardens, nature and agriculture shaped the American nation. George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison regarded themselves foremost as farmers and plantmen, and gardening, agriculture and botany were as deeply ingrained in their characters as their belief in liberty. Andrea Wulf will show how plants, politics and personalities intertwined as never before. Part of Oxford Botanic Garden and Harcourt Arboretum's Winter Lecture Series; £12.