

NEWSPRINT

What's new in the world of garden design *Compiled by Zia Allaway*



LEFT 'Viburnum Gate' by Patricia Fox ABOVE Marian Boswall's Sussex farmhouse garden

SGD MEMBERS WIN BALI DESIGN AWARDS

SOCIETY MEMBERS HAVE scooped National Awards in all the design categories at this year's BALI awards, and will now compete for the top prizes at the Awards Ceremony in December.

John Nash MSGD with Buckland Landscapes and Louisa Bell MSGD with Esse Landscapes were the winners in the BALI-Registered Designers and Contractors Joint Submission category. Nash's design for a two-acre sloping garden, 'From Pit to Picture', is a large scheme comprising a swimming pool, tennis court, woodland garden, Japanese garden, pond, lawn, living wall, roof terrace garden, outdoor kitchen/dining, leisure and relaxation areas.

Bell's winning design is for a large family garden in West Sussex, which includes lawns, plant-packed borders, and a large dining terrace. Her unusual brief was to combine a domestic family garden with a space that would offer respite for the owners' ex-colleagues. Both served in the military and wanted a sanctuary where those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder could recuperate.

In the Green Roof Installations and Roof Gardens category, Garden Club London, run by Tony Woods MSGD, won an award for the Jam Factory, a roof terrace with sweeping views over London. "Our client asked us to develop a design using beautiful, durable materials with low-maintenance planting that would add a naturalistic feel to the space," he said.

In the Design Excellence categories, Elaine Rutherford MSGD won an award for an overall

scheme under £50k for the design of a suburban garden in Worsley. She split the north-facing sloping plot into three levels, linked by sets of wide steps that also create a circular journey around the space. The contemporary design makes the garden safe, with beds protecting the clients from the sheer drops.

Matt Nichol MSGD picked up the Design Excellence Award for an overall scheme between £50k-£125k for his 'Tranquil Cheshire Garden'. Designed for a retired couple who travel a lot, Nichol created an elegant front and rear garden, with space to entertain friends and year-round planting that is easy to maintain.

Meanwhile three Members – Marian Boswall MSGD, John Nash MSGD and Patricia Fox MSGD – will battle it out for the top prize in the Design Excellence Awards for overall schemes over £125k. Nash won with the same design that picked up the Joint Submission Award, while Boswall's award was for a Sussex farmhouse garden. Fox's 'Viburnum Gate' garden is a crisp, minimalist contemporary design that has the wow factor, while offering the clients a practical space for parties and entertaining. To add interest, she included a sunken garden.

Bowles and Wyer, headed up by John Wyer FSGD, won in the Domestic Garden Construction over £250k for a design by Gavin McWilliam MSGD.

The BALI National Landscape Awards Ceremony will be held on 7 December at Grosvenor House, Park Lane, London. www.baliawards.co.uk

Taupe plant pot to revolutionise recycling

TRADITIONAL BLACK PLASTIC plant pots are currently not recycled as part of kerbside recycling schemes, because they contain 'carbon black' pigment, which is not picked up by detection systems. A new taupe-coloured pot made from black pigment-free polypropylene is being introduced by garden centres and wholesalers.

The Horticultural Trades Association is now working with RECOUP, the UK authority on plastics waste and resource management, to raise awareness of the product. RECOUP stated: "We are passing the message to local authorities that these pots should be included in kerbside recycling."

HTA grower members keen on introducing these pots can email policy@hta.org.uk

