

THE ASSOCIATION OF *PROFESSIONAL LANDSCAPERS* **AWARDS SHOWCASE 2016**

Friday 4 March 2016, The Brewery, London



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The Association of Professional Landscapers *Awards 2016*

Welcome to this year's APL Awards. This brochure showcases the entries for 2016, highlighting the great, the amazing and the marvellous, as well as demonstrating the quality and passion that landscapers have within the industry.

The APL Awards would like to thank Bradstone for their continued headline sponsorship. We would of course like to thank the category sponsors and media partners for their support, as without them, the APL Awards would not be what they are today.

This year has been a very exciting year, with the 20th anniversary of the APL and the new restructuring of our awards. The APL judges would like to thank everyone that participated in the awards, and give their congratulations to the winners. We encourage you to use your entry to promote your businesses, the industry and your APL membership. We look forward to seeing you again for the 2017 Association of Professional Landscapers Awards.



Richard J. Barnard

Chairman of APL Awards Judges



The Association of
Professional Landscapers

See page 42 for details about
the APL Awards 2017 ►

CATEGORIES

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THIS YEAR'S JUDGES



Chairman
Richard Barnard
*Hillier
Landscapes*



Chris Young
*RHS Editor
of The Garden
Magazine*



Steve Shore
Shore Landscapes



Bob Sweet
*ex RHS Head of
Garden Judging*



**Robin Templar
Williams**
*Robin Williams
and Associates*



Phil Tremayne
APL



Supreme Winner



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The judge commented: "It is a fabulous piece of landscaping work that has exquisite detailing especially within the planting. It is simply stunning fitting the house and its surroundings perfectly."





SUPREME WINNER

Frogheath Landscapes

Project: Brede

The title of Supreme Winner of 2016 APL Awards is bestowed upon Frogheath Landscapes, who landscaped the gardens surrounding a rare timber and brick 16th century sheep barn in the Brede Valley.

The dramatic entrance as you come down a long avenue of Monterey pines, now has a new entrance and parking area, moving cars away from the house. The house is then set in a garden full of colour, with a formal lawn punctuated with clipped *Quercus ilex* and exuberant borders lining brendon gravel paths with oak edging. On the west of the house a thyme walk runs from a tall cathedral window through a bespoke oak and iron arch to a sculptural focal point deep in the garden. Areas of the garden are enclosed with walls and stilted hornbeam hedge to create shelter and seclusion, in turn opening up to dramatic views. A sissinghurst style rusted rose arbour was designed to look out onto the view through a wild flower walk which leads to the walled potager. Bespoke oak gates help keep rabbits out and dogs in, made by a local supplier.



In the walled potager a contemporary fruit arbour was designed in oak and iron, lined with heritage varieties of Kent cordon fruit and under planter with lavender as a companion plant. The centre piece is a large oak top dipping pond; rustic oak raised beds and a large greenhouse which provides fresh produce for the family, and there is a potting shed built by craftsmen in the same style as the house. Frogheath Landscapes also created an orchard under planter with a wildflower meadow and a gentle walk through a nuttery of local filberts and Kentish cobs. To promote sustainability all bricks, tiles and Yorkstone are reclaimed, all lighting LED and a rainwater harvester provides irrigation.

This entry is also the winner of the **Project Value over £250,000**.





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WINNER

R G Landscape & Construction Ltd

Project: Sandy Lodge

R G Landscape & Construction Ltd Sandy Lodge is a converted piggery, positioned alongside an existing farmhouse and another barn conversion. The clients own the yard between the two converted properties and wanted to create a space they could use to entertain whilst remaining secluded from the other occupants within the development. The space needed to be low maintenance, with some softness and colour from the planting, providing all round interest. In order to reduce the amount of maintenance to the courtyard, raised beds were considered the best option. The garden design evolved in to a curved, fluid alternative, with the brick walls creating flow and shape to this space. This gave the illusion of



extra width to the whole area. A woven willow was used rather than ridged fencing materials, adding again to the overall softer appearance of the courtyard. The client's preference was to use a variety of hard landscaping materials, all of which needed to be classic and timeless. With this in mind, R G Landscape & Construction Ltd chose to use a six way sawn sandstone, which was laid in a stretcher bond pattern for a clean crisp finish.

Judges' comments "A fantastic transformation utilising the space that the client had and fulfilling the brief. Lovely planting and well executed brickwork and paving."



HIGHLY COMMENDED

Silva's Gardens

Project: Small Marlow garden

Silva's Gardens were to create a new garden space with the feel of a courtyard. The space was to provide an entertaining and relaxing area. The planting request was a mix of seasonal plants with hedging to soften the boundaries and trees to provide height. The planting and paving was to compliment the house and new extension.



The site was taken back to a blank canvas. The access was good, new Limestone paving and Belgium setts were laid and sleeper raised beds. All the boundary fencing with a privacy trellis fence was replaced. The planting was a mix of larger shrubs and trees and small shrubs with bulbs planted. Cotswold gravel was laid in some areas. The end result was a smart modern courtyard garden. Judges comment: "A lovely use of materials both complementing and bringing together the surroundings with beautiful planting."

COMMENDED

Lloyd's Gardens of London Ltd

Project: De Beauvoir Road

Lloyd's Gardens of London Ltd stripped out and excavated all existing unwanted paving, turf, soil, brickwork and plants. Excavated sub-base, footings, steps, concrete and waste. A large amount of technical work went on behind scenes of this project including over wall hoisting, new block retaining wall, steps and raised beds, wall cladding, panels and inserting drains. The end result was a stunning transformation which the owners were delighted with. Judges comment: "A great transformation using a combination of materials that required skill in order to implement."





COMMENDED

MJM Landscape

Project: The Hawkley project

MJM Landscape created a minimal low maintenance living space as the garden was to be used by a semi-retired couple who wanted an easily maintained garden. Creating space for eating and entertaining which included the use of artificial turf and composite decking. Limited planting includes Buxus spheres, and Birch trees under planted with bulbs, in bespoke pine containers. Structural elements include bespoke pine slatted boundary fencing. Paving and bespoke columns have used natural slate to provide continuity in materials. A contemporary cantilevered pergola provides outdoor room and privacy from surrounding properties. Judges comment: "They have created a successful scheme, hitting the clients brief."



COMMENDED

Walmsley Shaw

Project: The Heritage Garden at Belmont Le Manoir aux Quat' Saisons

Walmsley Shaw were given the opportunity to construct the Heritage Garden at Le Manoir, which was the design of Anne Keenan, who won the Raymond Blanc and SGD's competition to create a new garden to promote organic gardening methods and the importance of preserving knowledge and the use of heritage plants through the Garden Organic Heritage Seed Library. Walmsley Shaw's responsibility was to construct the hard landscaping using building materials which were sourced from the British Isles, and were natural and recycled whenever possible; to ensure the heritage vegetables played a starring role. Judges comment: "A wonderful scheme with great skill demonstrated in the hard landscaping."



SHORTLISTED Garden Box Landscape & Design | **Project: Tanglewood**



WINNER

Arun Landscapes

Project: Mediterranean Style Garden

Arun Landscapes created a Mediterranean style garden with plenty of shade, scent and colour. The oak pergola was covered with roses and the trachelospermum climber (trained in a diamond pattern) either side of the pergola add to the scent and break up the fence line. The irregular York stone paving suited the Mediterranean style. The extra-large olive trees help to create privacy and shade, and the lighting highlights them at night. The clients were keen to create a garden that looks good year round as the kitchen with folding glass doors looks out over the garden.



Judges Comments "Excellent interpretation of the brief. A well executed transformation and quality build, with superb detailing."



They have a large deck leading off the kitchen and the dining patio was intended to be right in the garden, surrounded by plants and under the pergola. The children have a small 'fort' and sandpit at the back of the garden. A bespoke hardwood bench with storage and a bespoke BBQ unit complete the garden. The project included a clear out of existing rear garden, construction of a crazy York patio with borders, an oak pergola to provide shade and support. A timber fort, sandpit and climbing wall for children. Specimen trees to provide architecture, shade and maturity to the garden.





HIGHLY COMMENDED

Silva's Gardens

Project: Widbrook farm cottage

Silva's Gardens brief was to remove the existing tired garden and create a new garden. The client wanted a nice quality deck and enough space to entertain and relax. The client wanted a good



view from the sitting room, with some water in the garden and lots of colour in the planting. The small back garden had very difficult access. All materials in and out had to go down a narrow alley then down a number of steps. The garden was cleared with a limited number of shrubs left. A new Cedar deck area was created with a lawn and brick edging, new fencing and a simple water feature. New fencing was also built and planting to finish it off. Judges comment: "This project took a tired old unusable space and transformed it into a modern well balanced garden. Whilst overcoming some very difficult access problems."

COMMENDED

Conquest Hard Landscaping

Project: Dukes Road

Conquest Hard Landscaping took on the re-design of existing front. The tarmac drive was edged using polished silver and black granite setts with a tumbled edge to give some contrast and detail. This helped outline the defined areas of the garden and helps define its clean lines. Black limestone with matching jointing was laid in the car port and under the olive tree border, which also moulds into the front step of the house. The new planting consisted of oriental bamboo shoots planted in the raised beds with new olive trees potted along the front of the house. Subtle lantern style lighting was also added to create some shadow and warmth which turned into quite the feature behind the fencing and among the other planting arrangements. Drainage on this project consisted of discreet linear drains installed at the front of the house. Judges comment: "A great example of how tarmac can be a modern, fresh and clean solution. The combination of materials used combined with planting and lighting transformed this driveway."



SHORTLISTED Planet 14 Landscapes Ltd | **Project: Orwell House**

SHORTLISTED TT GROUP (Landscape Innovation Ltd) | **Project: Coastal Contemporary Garden**

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WINNER

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Landform Consultants

Project: Kennington Garden

Landform Consultants client, a young family, wished to turn their dark and rarely used garden into an open and welcoming space. The space needed to be a safe play area for the young children as well as a contemporary entertaining area that extended their house into the outside space. The client wanted to achieve a contemporary feel, yet remain sensitive to the Georgian square and reflect the feel of their property as a whole. It was also key that the garden was low maintenance and provided pleasing aesthetics year round.



Judges comments "Incredibly high standard, very clever water feature, and a great mix of materials laid incredibly well."



The project is a small courtyard style garden located in Kennington, South London. The design incorporates two water features, seasonal planting, play spaces and all weather surfaces including artificial grass and Iroko decking. The garden was designed to be low maintenance and to offer year round interest.





HIGHLY COMMENDED

Greenscapes

Project: Koi Carp Pond

Greenscapes took on the challenge of constructing a purpose built home for the clients koi carp. The back of the garden was tiered and due to a bad winter a new retaining wall would need to be put in place. The idea was to create a new wall that incorporated a pond, thus limiting the impact on the garden's footprint and resolving the problems with poor construction faced with the current wall. All existing hard landscaping works were removed that were subsiding and replaced with new paving for patio, paths and steps.



The Koi pond was fibre glassed and thermally insulated with a water blade set inside. The inside of the pond was clad with basalt. Planting beds were incorporated to allow the clients planting imagination to run wild! Judges comment: "Followed the brief and finished incredibly well. A very tight, competent job as it is a technically complex garden."



HIGHLY COMMENDED

RDC landscapes

Project: RDC landscapes



RDC landscapes implemented the designs to utilise an existing tiered garden and at the request of the client create a water feature that linked a lower seating area to a summer house and upper garden. They had to be mindful that the glasshouse had to stay intact and lift and reuse the existing planting and shrubs where possible, creating a new low maintenance lawn with new shrubs to decrease the overall area. They had to excavate all rag stone from the existing rockery and relocate to the front of property, remove existing paving, steps and existing hard core, excavate and fit Aquacells and land drain for main paved area as well as using geotextile fabric on all paved areas. Judges comment: "They should be proud of the scheme, very competent job when the design was so difficult."





COMMENDED

Garden Art Designs

Project: Angel Sand Pit

Garden Art Designs implemented the designs for their client who recently moved to Sussex. There was a large front garden that required parking for a number of cars and planting to separate this plot from the others in the development. A new shed was designed with a bin storage area to match the cladding of the house with a green roof. The road noise was more than expected so an acoustic fence was erected that was screened by planting on both sides to comply with planning permission. The soil conditions were very poor at the site and as a result a large amount of good quality top soil had to be imported for plant establishment. Judges comment: "Great definition through simplicity in the garden."

COMMENDED

Frogheath Landscapes

Project: Tunbridge Wells

Frogheath Landscapes took on transforming a narrow sloping garden with a series of different areas that are not all seen at once: a lawn, small vegetable garden and much larger paved entertaining area. The design was led by the level difference and the need to work around the greenhouse and the bay tree. Different surfaces such as lawn, stone and gravel, were used to change the character of the garden areas. Steps and planting beds were staggered to break the view from top to bottom and deliberately slow progress through the garden. This also made the garden appear wider than before. A much larger entertaining area was created at the sunny end of the garden



and the use of different surfaces ensures that each area has a separate character without interrupting the flow. Judges comment: "Very clever, simple scheme to an outdoor room, which was a challenge due to the split levels."

SHORTLISTED Chessington Garden Centre | **Project: Surrey SANDS Forget-me-not Memorial Garden**



WINNER

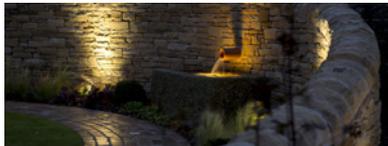
James Bird Landscapes

Project: Greave House Farm



James Bird Landscapes transformed this once working farm yard into a delightful garden space for recreation and relaxation. The clients, after many years of farming and using the space between the house as a collecting yard for cattle, wanted to completely re-design the area. Essential to the clients were a patio in the sun, suitable for entertaining, re-use the original water troughs as water features to maintain and link the garden back to the area's former use and planting that would encourage birds and bees to the garden. The works consisted of removing the concrete yard and surrounding walling to unify the space and wrap the garden around three sides of the property. Flowing, curved, Yorkshire sandstone feature walls were

used to achieve division and definition to the site. To complement the walls, pathways, steps and terraces were constructed. Stone setts were used to define the walkers' path through the lower level and the drive way, which were surfaced in self-binding golden gravel to complement the surroundings. As the walkers' path crosses the upper level, the path changes to grass, meandering through wild flower areas. Areas of lawn were created along with colourful planting borders. Feathered trees and hedges were used to soften the buildings and will provide a degree of privacy in years to come. Finally new electric farm gates and a lighting scheme were installed. The gates helping to keep any stray cattle out and the lighting to ensure that the space is usable into the evening in this stunning rural location.



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Judges comment: "Maturity of dealing with different materials, and a complex brief, and using the materials to complement and be sympathetic to the surroundings. Exudes traditional craftsmanship."





HIGHLY COMMENDED

The Garden Builders

Project: New Concordia Wharf Roof Terrace

The Garden Builders redeveloped all elements of an existing roof terrace. The clients wanted a design and build to reflect the quality of the apartment and enhance their alfresco experience. After removal of existing surfaces new Ipe decking boards were replaced. Raised planters of various heights and a floating bench were designed and built in-situ on a steel framework. A compact food preparation area with underside storage was re-designed and fitted onsite and built in the clients existing BBQ so that all was contained within a skin of Ipe decking. An artificial level lawn area was laid to offer a small putting green as well as lounging area.



Planting was a mix of structural evergreens, shrubs and climbers. Perennials were also part of the design to offer a range of summer textures and colours. A simple tap mounted irrigation system alongside a high quality LED lighting design to illuminate surfaces and architectural elements of the hard landscape. Judges comment: "A lovely scheme and great feat undertaken. The kitchen is great feature."



COMMENDED

The Garden Builders

Project: Datchworth

The Garden Builders were tasked with opening up a disused space outside the kitchen and form an entertaining area. The client wanted to have two access points to the open garden, beyond which were to be incorporated into the design, a water feature and fire table. The planting had to be low maintenance and hardy as the area is open and quite exposed. The planting was inspired by the rural setting that creates the back drop to this unique build. The retaining walls are clad using a dry stone rock wall and beige sandstone copping supports the change in levels and two sets of stairs for easy access points to the garden beyond. The grey riven sandstone paving to match the drives cobbled sets and broken up with channels of black polished pebbles, draws the eye to polished stainless steel water feature which mounts the design bringing a reflective modern twist. A floating hard wood built-in bench seat between the raised planters surrounds the fire table, which is supplied on mains gas to create a warm and spectacular environment. Three raised planters, each with multi stemmed silver birches, create structural height, blends in with landscape and adds a new dimension to view across the gardens. Judges comment: "A good use of materials and soft landscaping to help this garden meet the clients brief."





COMMENDED

Genesis Construction and Landscapes Ltd

Project: Magog Farm Barns

Genesis Construction and Landscapes Ltd starting from unformed grass and a small gravel hard standing area has arisen Genesis' latest garden. Initially, Genesis Construction and Landscapes Ltd excavated chalk and top soil to create the immediate formal garden you see today. Additional contractors were brought in to sculpt the top lawn which will be a mixture of meadow grass and well-kept lawns. Slot Aco drains have been used within the patio to minimise the impact of drainage being visible and unattractive. During the process of getting the pond/water feature right, it was filled and drained 3 times. Each time the water, was pumped across the patio and drained away perfectly, a real testament to the effectiveness of the drainage system. All steps have been bespoke and hand crafted on site to give them a well presented finish. The pond you see is a water feature. Judges comment: "Well executed job, finished to a high standard and good use of materials."



COMMENDED

Silva's Gardens

Project: Fife Road



Silva's Gardens undertook transforming the original garden, that lacked visual cohesion, and the new garden establish unity through simple, contemporary design. A simple rectilinear water feature added movement and dynamism to the smooth grey terrace. The swimming pool area was defined and separated from the main garden. The lawn size was reduced and re-shaped and the fences were painted. A yew hedge was planted to separate this area from the swimming pool area with its hot tub and BBQ. A fenced and paved area was required for the dogs by the back door and a second fence, concealed within the yew hedge, was installed around the swimming pool. A small, interesting vegetable garden was created outside the Grandpa flat. Irrigation was installed throughout. Judges comment: "Very competent job, finished to a high standard."





COMMENDED

TT GROUP (Landscape Innovation Ltd)

Project: The Rydlings

TT GROUP (Landscape Innovation Ltd) client required a garden that complemented the house which had a formal wing and a less formal side. The garden is a walled space revolving around the house surrounded by trees. TT GROUP (Landscape Innovation Ltd) carried out full construction, front and back, of all hard landscaping including terraces, paths, steps and specialist edgings and mole barriers designed around the lawn

perimeter. The garden was then fully landscaped with new borders and planting schemes, including mature hedging and pleached limes, creating an amphitheatre of planted hedges to the rear. The garden has a formal and relaxed design with a sinuous link between both, and three water features installed that were designed and manufactured bespoke for the project. Judges comment: "A well-executed build by TT GROUP (Landscape Innovation Ltd)."



SHORTLISTED Stone & Leaf | **Project: Occidental ascent**

COMMENDED

Frogheath Landscapes

Project: Burwash

Frogheath Landscapes were originally hired to remove part of the hillside to expose the view. Immediately once this work was done, the clients wanted a garden from which to enjoy their new space. As all of the top soil had been removed, raised beds were constructed for the cottage garden planting and also the pond. The paving was a mixture of sandstone and brick to suit the style of the house and a curved path lead up to the upper bank. A complex layout of land drainage was installed to divert springs away from the house and additional top soil was imported to improve the lawn area. Judges comment: "Great use of hard landscaping with brickwork and paving."





WINNER

Arun Landscapes

Project: Bouley Contemporary Garden

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Arun Landscapes designed and landscaped a contemporary garden which forms a complete extension to the house following its refurbishment. The garden made for extensive outdoor living with covered entertaining areas which can then be used 24/7. The outdoor space is considered extremely important and will be used probably as much as the internal house. The rear garden was cleared except for existing trees and some mature shrubs. A water feature constructed with foam jets, a circular raised terrace, and an outdoor kitchen. Other smaller terraces were constructed, surrounded by decks and planted areas. A hardwood curved pergola wraps around the circular patio. A stepping stone path leads to a feature seat at the end of the garden. The garden has fire pit and border irrigation. The whole garden is complemented with simple but exceptionally effective planting and soft landscaping.



Judges comment: "A really beautiful scheme, with lots of different spaces and a fantastic water feature. The client is over the moon."





HIGHLY COMMENDED

Arbour Design & Build

Project: Elstree Railway Garden



Arbour Design & Build were tasked with alleviating a garden of prolonged flooding, to move the model railway from the lower part of the garden to the upper area, to form new levels around the entire site as the garden slopes 15 metres from top to bottom. Two new clay lined ponds were installed with future decking jetty around a wildflower lawn area. New terraced flower beds, paving, steps and planting. Judges Comment: "A truly amazing logistical feat that exceeded the clients expectations!"



HIGHLY COMMENDED

Outdoor Creations

Project: Oversland Barn

Outdoor Creations clients requested a garden setting for their converted barn that would be contemporary in feel. The distinctive grid patterns of commercial orchards in the local landscape suggested a mix of man-made geometry and natural forms as a theme underlying the design. The removal of one of the two storage barns on site was agreed as it would open up the site allowing for magnificent views. Lack of privacy, due to the location of the front door, was tackled with directional bands of paving and planting - the continuation of a timber bench from inside the house was taken 'through' glazing and out into the garden. Stained timber screens



providing a contemporary take on agricultural shelter belts. Corten steel was used for retaining walls and a water feature. A naturalistic pond was interpreted as a sweep of reflective water, blurring the transition from garden to landscape beyond. Bold planting was requested - trees and hedges provide a strong geometric framework to counterbalance the perennials and ornamental grasses planted throughout. The garden consists of highly considered hard landscape. Judges Comment: "A highly competent build, resulting in a truly exciting contemporary feel, yet fitting effortlessly into the Kent countryside."





HIGHLY COMMENDED

The Team Landscapers

Project: The Team Landscapers

The Team Landscapers built a garden for their client who loved to entertain with designated areas for dining and comfortable seating. The original garden was overgrown and waterlogged so the new wish list was to open up the space and include a fireplace, water feature, vertical green walls, lawn, sun awning, designer furniture by Fendi and a sculpture by Lorenzo Quinn. Bespoke Moorish influenced mirror backed bronzed 'trellis' breaks up the green wall boundaries and creates reflection whilst cream limestone



on the floor opens up the space. Warm buff coloured Norstone 'Sahara' stone cladding and bespoke metal finishes have been used on the fireplace, storage cupboards and water feature to create a unified and stylish garden that can be used year round. Judges Comment: "Seamless transformation, the perfect outdoor room."

HIGHLY COMMENDED

Walmsley Shaw

Project: Wild at Heart (Upper Langridge Farm)



Walmsley Shaw was given the massive challenge to rebuild the natural environment around a contemporary country house, nestled in the Bath countryside. The brief of entrance courtyard with a rural / farm yard feel, the central courtyard a tranquil extension of the adjacent kitchen, upper courtyard a colourful garden and western courtyard a transition into the rural landscape. The project consisted mainly of earthworks and land forming around the property, as well as some hard landscaping to blend in with the architects contemporary structure like the large curved path on the roof terrace surrounded by its earth mounds. It also included water features, installation of stone oak structural benches and most importantly preparation and planting of the designer's scheme. The scale of this work took over a year to undertake

and Walmsley Shaw moved thousands of cubic metres of earth in some of the wettest conditions known for years. Judges comment: "A beautiful entrance and stark planting. A really superb, it's what quality landscaping is all about."





HIGHLY COMMENDED

Timotay Landscapes Ltd

Project: Riverside House

Timotay Landscapes Ltd were tasked with the extensive driveway, courtyard, and rear garden redesign, with water feature and an array of hard and soft landscaping. A seamless association between the separate areas was requested to work in harmony with the contemporary style of the property. To maximise the space, a series of raised areas and sunken patios gently traverse, leading a path down to a lawn area at the foot of the garden. For privacy and security of the property, installation of a bespoke boundary fence to complement the existing aged stone wall and automated gates to the front and rear access of the property and garage. Judges comment: "Quality of construction well executed work. A superb finish overall."



COMMENDED

Silva's Gardens

Project: Hunters Reach



Silva's Gardens created an entertaining area, with views from inside the property. The site was steep with difficult access. The rear garden was re-landscaped with changes in levels with stabilised banks with topsoil. An amphitheatre was also created to the rear of the garden. The old swimming pool was repaved with granite and sleepers and beds were created. Paving and steps were built around the house. The front drive had granite paving with a shingle stabilised gravel drive to allow free drain. Beds were created along with a sleeper retaining wall. Judges comment: "Very competent and beautiful piece of work."

COMMENDED

Garden House Design

Project: The Old Dairy

Garden House Design landscaped a stunning garden to incorporate the existing guest house, creating a wildlife haven of useable garden and a relaxing retreat through an amphitheatre effect on multi levels. The board walks, terrace and steps are low maintenance and usable in all weathers. The pond and decking terrace is "hugged" by a wildflower meadow and ornamental planting with Millboard steps from the house down through into the main area. The terrace shape mirrors the curves of the pond and surrounding paths. Rustic rough-hewn stone steps create natural stone walkway through the extensive tree planting. Judges comment: "A well thought out design competently constructed achieving a natural wildlife haven for relaxation."



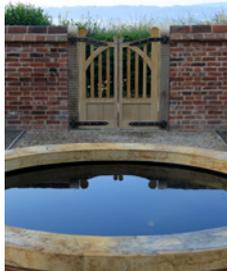


WINNER

Frogheath Landscapes

Project: Brede

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Frogheath Landscapes, landscaped the gardens surrounding a rare timber and brick 16th century sheep barn in the Brede Valley. The dramatic entrance as you come down a long avenue of Monterey pines, now has a new entrance and parking area, moving cars away from the house. The house is then set in a garden full of colour, with a formal lawn punctuated with clipped Quercus ilex and exuberant borders lining breedon gravel paths with oak edging. On the west of the house a thyme walk runs from a tall cathedral window through a bespoke oak and iron arch to a sculptural focal point deep in the garden. Areas of the garden are enclosed with walls and stilted hornbeam hedge to create shelter and seclusion, in turn opening up to dramatic views. A sissinghurst style rusted rose arbour was designed to look

out onto the view through a wild flower walk which leads to the walled potager. Bespoke oak gates help keep rabbits out and dogs in, made by a local supplier. In the walled potager a contemporary fruit arbour was designed in oak and iron, lined with heritage varieties of Kent cordon fruit and under planter with lavender as a companion plant. The centre piece is a large oak top dipping pond; rustic oak raised beds and a large greenhouse which provides fresh produce for the family, and there is a potting shed built by craftsmen in the same style as the house. We also created an orchard under planter with a wildflower meadow and a gentle walk through a nuttury of local filberts and Kentish cobs. To promote sustainability all bricks, tiles and Yorkstone are reclaimed, all lighting led and a rainwater harvester provides irrigation.



Judges comment: "Exquisite detailing, demonstrating a range of skills from stonework, timber, and groundwork. It is truly a wonderful piece of landscaping."





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HIGHLY COMMENDED

Arun Landscapes

Project: Graham



Arun Landscapes client were a young family who required a safe, secure and contemporary garden, that was ideal for outdoor living, socialising and family recreation. It had to be easy to maintain, reflect the architecture and character of the house, the site, and the surrounding landscape, whilst encouraging wildlife into the garden. The entire front and back garden were cleared, re-grade and lawn area drained to take excessive soil height away from oak tree, new lawns, hedges and planting – plus a wild flower area. A level high quality lawn adjacent to the terrace was laid. Rear and side paving areas constructed and two luxury outdoor timber gazebos house both a therapeutic hot tub and an outdoor kitchen and bar which are easily accessible from the house. Secure outdoor storage spaces were created for a bin shed and an external generator. Front driveway extension, timber deck and resin bound paths and a new boundary retaining wall in reclaimed brick. Judges comment: "Wonderful transformation creating a great array of spaces for the client to enjoy. Excellent craftsmanship demonstrated throughout the garden."



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concrete pour. Porous mesh on the inner face allows some concrete through providing the correct surface for the finishing pebble render. The pool features a woodchip heating system, counter current jet and an automated cover which rolls into a trench beneath the pool when not in use. The pool is finished in reclaimed brick and copings to help it blend into the garden.



WINNER

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Big Fish Landscapes Ltd

Project: State of the art Georgian Pool

Big Fish Landscapes Ltd client wanted to install a swimming pool in their garden, however due to the nature of the mature setting it was felt that a traditional style of pool would not fit within the existing brick built outbuildings and period gardens. The pool was to be used for exercise and leisure and partially raised to provide occasional seating when entertaining. Construction is of reinforced concrete pad with reinforced concrete walls. The walls were built using an innovative plastic block system which allowed them to create the correct curves and install reinforcement before the

Judges comment: "Very innovative, an amazing transformation that fits in with the existing landscape well."

SHORTLISTED RDC Landscapes | **Project: RDC Landscapes**





WINNER

Sponsored by
easigrass™
 the artificial grass company

Planet 14 Landscapes Ltd

Project: Orwell House

Planet 14 Landscapes Ltd constructed their client's new garden, working with a blank canvas. They created the sides of the initial lawn area using recycled plastic piling. The tops of the recycled plastic piling were capped off using wooden sleepers and the sides vertically clad using treated timber. The plastic piling is manufactured solely in the UK and has a number of benefits over traditional steel, timber or concrete piling; mainly cost, durability, ease of handling and environmental. The product is non-degradable and lends itself perfectly to this project. Benefits of plastic piling are that it does not rot or rust, has no risk from sparking, maintains its original appearance over time, and isn't affected by salt water. It is also resistant to the majority of chemicals, resistant to rodent and marine borer attack. It can be easily cut or bored, maintenance free. It is lighter than steel, so easier to handle and transport. Has a clean, consistent appearance and is available in a number of colours. It also has the ability to create curved walls and a 90° corner pile is available.



Judges comment: "Very innovative use of the product in domestic gardens as has typically always been used in commercial sense."



SHORTLISTED The Team Landscapers | **Project: The Team Landscapers**

SHORTLISTED Hambrooks | **Project: Garden Destination Centre**



COMMENDED

4th Corner Landscaping

Project: The Orchard Project

4th Corner Landscaping were enlisted to create a safe, accessible, and natural outdoor learning environment, where children can engage with nature and find the pleasure in exploration and discovery. 4th Corner landscaping identified the potential of this disused orchard, They approached the head teacher of the local school and volunteered their team of landscapers to create an outdoor learning environment that would encourage curiosity, exploration and discovery. The Orchard Project now plays a vital role in enabling teaching staff to engage children within an expansive natural environment, where they are able to study a wide range of native British plants and wildlife. "Getting the young generation to engage with nature is the best way to protect their wellbeing, their future and the future of our environment" Amanda Ransom, Director. Judges comment: "Fits the brief well."



COMMENDED

Garden Box Landscape & Design

Project: Epic Garden

Epic Garden In conjunction with 20th Century Fox, Gap Kids and National Schools Partnership created a programme where children entered a competition and were given a chance to create their own garden design, with the first prize being a bespoke garden for their school worth £15K. The idea of the competition was to design a garden based around the childrens' film 'Epic'. The winning design incorporated eight features and Garden Box Landscape & Design role was to interpret the child's creation and build a bespoke usable space for the whole school, whilst ensuring all health and safety regulations were met. From the initial design there were five main spaces to the garden. 'The willow tunnel, the pond, the fairy garden, the bug hotel and the butterfly'. Additionally the garden features a number of hidden gems, including a wild flower meadow, a teaching area with a wigwam and a domed shelter, all made from Willow. These surround a fire pit for the Forestry Group. Judges Comment: "Very considerate interpretation of the child's design."





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COMMENDED

Big Fish Landscapes Ltd

Project: Godwalds Garden - Primrose Hospice

Big Fish Landscapes Ltd took on the project at Primrose Hospice. Family support is an integral part of the services provided by Primrose Hospice, who as well as providing care for patients at the end of life, also help families who are facing losing a loved one. Children are often affected by bereavement and the hospice wanted to improve the care they offered by creating an outside space where therapy can be given through play. A snaking pathway leads through three separate spaces, each with their own character. Judges comment: "A thoughtful landscape fit for purpose of users."



SHORTLISTED Chessington Garden Centre

Project: Surrey SANDS Forget-me-not Memorial Garden



WINNER

Timotay Landscapes Ltd

Project: Kings Hedges Primary School

Timotay Landscapes Ltd took on the brief to design and build an age appropriate early years play garden within the existing outdoor space of the nursery school. The design was required to make consideration for the future development of the adjoining reception playground within the primary school, ensuring that the complete outdoor space was aesthetically balanced between the settings. The original space comprised of a large area of unused and overgrown woodland, a storage shed and existing conventional climbing features. It was necessary for the design to utilise the existing features with the objective of creating defined, all-weather functional areas accessible by directional paved pathways, the areas within the setting design included; Natural, Physical, Educational, Construction & Storage.



Natural: The design scheme proposed the preservation of the natural woodland area, taming the existing space to make it usable for young children to explore the environment and enjoy role play activities.

Physical: A rustic banked area and cave was proposed into the scheme and the inclusion of a cycling track, formed from all-weather surfacing, to allow for physical play.

Educational: The existing shed was proposed to be converted into an outdoor, all-weather educational workshop and learning area.

Construction: A water play area was included to allow for a natural tactile experience.

Storage: The design was required to incorporate a covered storage area for buggys and equipment.



Judges comment: "Professionalism and complexity of the build for end users, using stimulation and play are very considerate and well accomplished."





HIGHLY COMMENDED

Landform Consultants

Project: Sopwell House Hotel

Landform Consultants transformed the gardens of Sopwell House, a 4 star hotel in Hertfordshire and the former Georgian country residence of Lord Mountbatten, set in 12 acres of tranquil gardens. The gardens are enclosed by pleached hornbeam trees, yew hedging and bespoke woven oak fences. Access into the Mews is via automated steel gates. The private gardens include sole-use terraces for many of the suites (many of them including hot-tubs), a communal zone with spa including a waterwall and jets, alongside sculpture, bespoke urns, Manutti furniture and exquisite lighting after dark. Judges Comment: "Very clean, professional, well executed job."



To find out more please contact Lara Rixon
at lara.rixon@hta.org.uk or **07748 745 014**



WINNER

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BRADSTONE

Arun Landscapes

Project: Fitzgerald

Arun Landscapes client wanted an outdoor entertaining space, and the garden was to include a number of features within the space. The slope from the top of the garden to the house was a 6.5 metre drop and the site also sloped sideways. There were retaining walls on both sides. Everything was removed from the rear garden, then swimming pool, hot tub, outdoor kitchen, bar and small lawn to house a sunken trampoline were installed. The garden was terraced with rendered retaining and boundary walls and sandstone paving. Narrow water features were constructed in front of the lower terrace walls. A small pool equipment shed was constructed from rendered blockwork. Glass balustrade panels for child safety. Clean lines linked each area and the garden was opened to the fields beyond to increase the feeling of space. Planting was romantic and blowsy so that the space still resembled a garden.



Judges comment: "An immense job and exemplary case of great craftsmanship using hard landscaping material, a seamless transformation."



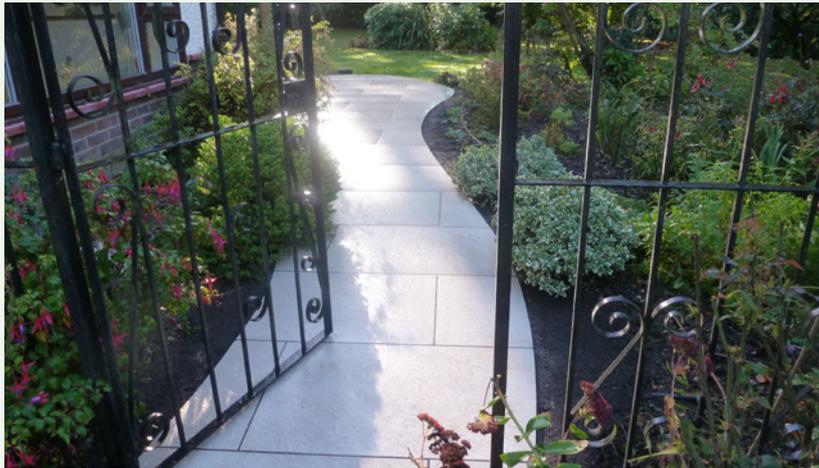


HIGHLY COMMENDED

Aura Landscapes

Project: Italian Ceramic Patio

Aura Landscapes installed a new patio that complemented the house and surrounding garden, creating a high end, clean looking finish. New patio installation was laid using imported Italian ceramic outdoor tiles. Patio area also connected to a curved pathway leading to side gate. Judges comment: "Hits the clients brief perfectly, excellent use of material."



COMMENDED

Conquest Hard Landscaping

Project: Dukes Road



Conquest Hard Landscaping took on the re-design of an existing front garden. The tarmac drive is edged using polished silver and black granite setts with a tumbled edge to give some contrast and detail. This helped outline the defined areas of the garden too and helped define its clean lines. Black limestone with matching jointing was laid in the car port and under the olive tree border, which moulds into the front step of the house also. The new planting consisted of oriental bamboo shoots planted in the raised beds with new olive trees potted along the front of the house. Subtle lantern style lighting was also added to create shadow and warmth which turned into quite the feature behind the fencing and among the other planting arrangements. Judges comment: "A very sleek job, with a modern and functional interpretation."



COMMENDED

Paxman Landscapes

Project: Capitol House Roof Top Terrace, Leeds

Paxman Landscapes undertook the refurbishment of an existing podium terrace in Capitol House, demonstrating multi-disciplinary skills in paving, artificial turf installation, decking and gravel. The original objective was to screen off the plant equipment and repair the existing terrace. However, to maximise the space's potential, it was proposed that the scheme could in fact be converted into roof terrace garden for use by tenants which would both bring added value to the building and provide a greater attraction for potential occupiers. The brief outlined a roof garden requiring no maintenance at all, Grass Greener artificial grass, durable paving, composite decking, and pebbles and gravel utilising the original drainage system. The old, worn balustrading was completely replaced and the existing parapet walls were repainted.

For a finishing flourish, low level lighting bollards were installed around the perimeter and hardwood timber screening erected to mask the plant equipment. The result is a fantastic roof garden that connects well with the recent refurbishment and is usable by tenants all year round. Judges comment: "Great transformation repurposing a disused space for its new occupants with a clever use of material."



COMMENDED

Vandenberg - Hider Landscape Design and Construction

Project: A new drive to Bergh Apton Manor

Vandenberg-Hider Landscape Design and Construction project was the construction of a new driveway through historic parkland up to the Manor House. The project involved part filling an old pit, installing drainage, steel edging and the installation of cattle grids and parkland fencing. The original driveway was a straight and short direct route to the Manor and due to the angle of the drive to the house; the Manor house was not visible until you approached the forecourt. The new entrance was moved 250 metres from the existing entrance and the new drive would curve around mature trees, through a dell and approach the house on the edge of the Ha-Ha where it joined the original driveway. As you would drive up to the house you would glimpse the house in different places, creating a dramatic entrance. New steel park land fencing and cattle grids were also installed to produce a traditional English landscape approach. No lorries were allowed to use the new driveway so the client wanted to create a separate entrance. This was done by using part of the original drive and forming a separate road around the rear of the property. The final surface is a tar and shingle surface laid on thick tarmac base course. Judges comment: "A vast project providing the client with numerous view points of there impressive property and greatly improving on the former drive."





SUPPLIER OF THE YEAR 2016

Winner North / Midlands Grower

Coles Nurseries

Coles Nursery has been in business for over 100 years. Through two world wars and countless recessions, it's still going as strong as ever, supplying the market on a nationwide basis. They also have been involved in running CPD training classes for the National Plant Specification, which allows the industry to purchase on a like for like basis and help the whole industry understand and adhere to plant specifications."

Winner South Grower

Palmstead Nurseries

Palmstead Nurseries have been a leading supplier of nursery stock in the south of England for over 45 years. Their 53 hectare site delivers over 1 million container plants and 200,000 field grown trees, delivered throughout the south of the country. On top of this they support the whole industry with their annual workshops and masterclasses, helping build community and developing the industry along the way.

Winner Retailers

Chessington Garden Centre

Developed from a nursery which started in 1949, Chessington has developed in to one of the largest garden retailers in the South East, also having the biggest Stonemarket display centre in the area. They pride themselves on range, and amongst the pots, plants and panels they have a team of dedicated horticulturalists who offer great advice and service too.

Winner Manufacturer

Green-tech

Based in Yorkshire, Green-tech has supported the industry for over 20 years. They have extensive knowledge and huge catalogue and manage to service the industry ethically and responsibly. Their staff are acknowledged with high regard and are seen as the driving force of this company that continues to build on its success.

Winner Service Provider

2 Circles

Telecoms are an essential part to all businesses and 2 Circles have provided support to our membership for over a decade. They make telecommunications simple and save you money, whilst providing excellent customer service.



WINNER

Big Fish Landscapes Ltd

Project: The Crowns

Big Fish Landscapes Ltd clients bought a former pub/restaurant in Herefordshire, and spent the next three years restoring and renovating the old buildings, parts of which date back to the mid 1600's. The garden is set in what was the car park of the former pub and has been designed to provide a new, more private entrance for the owners and provide space for art workshops.



Gravel paths and reclaimed brick retaining walls provide much of the hard landscaping. Steel edging separates the hard and soft landscape areas. Most of the focus was on the construction and providing superb growing conditions for the plants. The site is sloping and on heavy clay, so extensive drainage was installed and then soil conditioner and grit were mixed into the soil to create an ideal growing medium. A range of trees, shrubs and herbaceous perennials have been planted to provide year round interest.

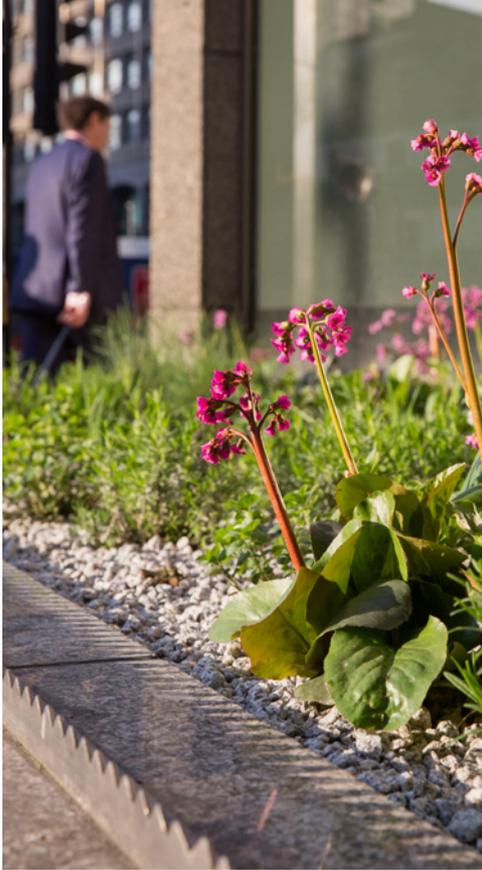


Judges comment: "Very enjoyable garden, both sympathetic and empathetic of surroundings, with a lovely use of repetition in planting."

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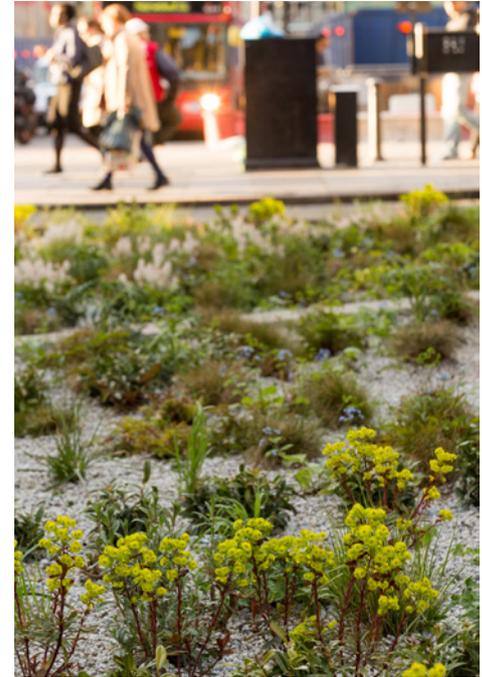


HIGHLY COMMENDED

Landform Consultants

Project: John Lewis Rain Garden

Landform Consultants took on the John Lewis Rain Garden in the Victoria area which has been prone to damaging flooding in recent years and an initiative by the Victoria Business Improvement District looked for projects that increased biodiversity and provided solutions for localised flooding. This is a ground breaking project in that it is Central London's first street-side Rain



Garden. This garden retro fits biodiversity-promoting and rainwater management features in areas with little in the way of vegetation. Judges comment: "A rare concept having truly understood the plants, very innovative, overcoming environmental difficulty."

SHORTLISTED Garden Art Designs | **Project: Bazehill Road**



WINNER

R G Landscape & Construction Ltd

Project: Stour House

R G Landscape & Construction Ltd clients took on landscaping the grounds of Stour House, enabling the client to make their own mark on the historical property. Stour House is an impressive Victorian Gothic House built in 1868, set high on a hill surrounded by mature trees and rolling countryside in the heart of Constable country with views across the Dedham Vale. The garden consisted of large lawned areas with a few very old specimen trees, dead end paths and an unattractive circular parking area. The peripherals of the house were bereft of any soft landscaping, leaving it looking austere and unwelcoming. The house also appeared to be perched rather than sitting within its environment due to the severe slope of the land surrounding it. The garden had lost all its charm over the years, the only reminder of its former glory being the derelict Palm House. The client wanted a large entertaining area around the house and restoring the Palm House with a prime consideration being minimum on-going maintenance. From the outset it was clear that the very steep slope adjacent to the Palm House was cause for concern due to the slipping of the soil. The land in front of both the house and Palm House had to be levelled. This created a very large engineering project for RG Landscapes that had to be carried out in order to proceed with any

other landscaping. A new driveway and cart lodge, copying gable ends of the house and topping the new building with a bell tower, which reflected the architectural details. The existing original Palm House was refurbished. To tie all areas together around the house with innovative landscaping, a mix of different hard landscaping materials, most of which were traditional with a contemporary twist. Scoutmoor paving and a more traditional York stone sit alongside some areas of brickweave, to break up the overall expanse. A contemporary planting scheme with a limited colour palette to reflect the clients palette was used.



Judges comment: "Developed a classic solution for the character of the property. It is technically complex, executed to a very high standard."



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HIGHLY COMMENDED

Dorney Court Kitchen Garden

Project: Keese Outdoor Area



Dorney Court Kitchen Garden was enlisted to help design and create a usable outdoor living space for entertaining and sharing time with family and friends. Dorney Court Kitchen Garden incorporated an outdoor kitchen/bar area, with preparation surfaces and storage. New screening was erected to provide additional privacy and ambient lighting to create an overall sophisticated tranquility. Judges comment: "Great transformation, the balance of the space is great."



SHORTLISTED Stone & Leaf | **Project: Occidental ascent**

COMMENDED

Garden Art Designs

Project: Bazehill Road

Garden Art Designs clients had lived in the property for a number of years but had never taken any interest in their garden. It had a beautiful old flint wall and was on a steep hill. As the clients were now approaching retirement they decided to embark on considerable home improvements and the addition of a new large orangery. The client wanted a traditional herbaceous garden to complement the house. There was a considerable amount of chalk that was taken out and replaced with topsoil. The hard landscaping was brick pavers and Indian limestone with an aged feel to it laid in complex patterns. New flint walls were built as retaining walls to match the existing. The dog house still had to be accommodated and there was a new summerhouse added. Judges Comment: "Overall transformation of the garden is lovely."



GOLD WINNER

APL WORLDSKILLS UK FINAL

Will Burberry, Gardenscapes, is the 'Best in the UK' in landscaping gardening after winning gold at the Association of Professional Landscapers (APL) WorldSkills UK final.

Mark Chapelhow, Wildroof Landscapes took silver, and Noel Taggart, CAFRE, took bronze.

Previous winner of the APL Young achiever.

The APL WorldSkills final took place last week from 19-21 November at the NEC in Birmingham. Over the four days, one of which being a training/prep day, the competitors had 16 hours to build a garden designed by head judge and technical lead Jody Lidgard.

Will spoke to us about how he felt after winning gold and said, "Words can't describe how I'm feeling, I'm completely overwhelmed by it all. It was a really good competition this year as everyone was really equal in standards. I'm really pleased to have qualified for the chance to go to Abu Dhabi in 2017, I didn't think I would at all." Talking about the WorldSkills competitions, Will said, "Loads more people should be put forward for it. It's been a really good experience right from the start."

Speaking to Mark after he won his silver medal, he said, "I'm really pleased for Will, really happy with the result.



APL WorldSkills UK Final Gold winner
Will Burberry, Gardenscapes



It's been a great experience and definitely has great value and brings the coverage and promotion needed for the industry."

Having competed in knock out stages in May at Reaseheath College, Nantwich and Greenmount Campus, Northern Ireland, and the semi-finals at RHS Tatton Park Flower show in July, the final five had proven their skills to the judges to be in the running for the title of 'Best in the UK' at the Skills Show.

During the final they were marked on elements such as block paving, recessed drain covers, wood work (which included decking and fencing), planting, health and safety and the overall appearance throughout the three days.



A new element was included this year which tested the competitor's knowledge to name ten of the plants that were included in the gardens.

Overall, this year's finalists included Will Burberry from Gardenscapes, Mark Chapelhow from Wildroof Landscapes, Christopher Shore from Reaseheath College, and Noel Taggart and Aaron Quin from CAFRE. Adam Ferguson also joined the competition, but was competing purely for a place on the international squad in Abu Dhabi in 2017.

Judges for the competition included: garden designer Jody Lidgard, who has run his own landscaping firm for over 18 years, 2011 WorldSkillsUK Silver medal winner, Simon Abbott and APL National Business Manager, Phil Tremayne. Colin McKnight, 2015 UK Training Manager for the International WorldSkills competition also dropped by to check out how the competitors were getting on.

Matt Beesley, Beesleys Landscapes, and Jonathan Gill, CAFRE, popped by during the final to show their support to the competitors. Matt and Jonathan were in the UK Squad this year for the Landscape Gardening competition, held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, and came home with silver medals.

The APL would like to thank sponsors Makita UK for supplying all of the tools and equipment for the competitors, Marshalls for all the paving and supplies, J A Jones for all the plants that were used within the gardens, Jewsons and British Sugar Topsoil for their support for the show.



APL WorldSkills UK Final Finalists: Back row – Aaron Quin from CAFRE, Will Burberry from Gardenscapes, Mark Chapelhow from Wildroof Landscapes. Front row - Adam Ferguson, Noel Taggart from CAFRE, Christopher Shore from Reaseheath College.



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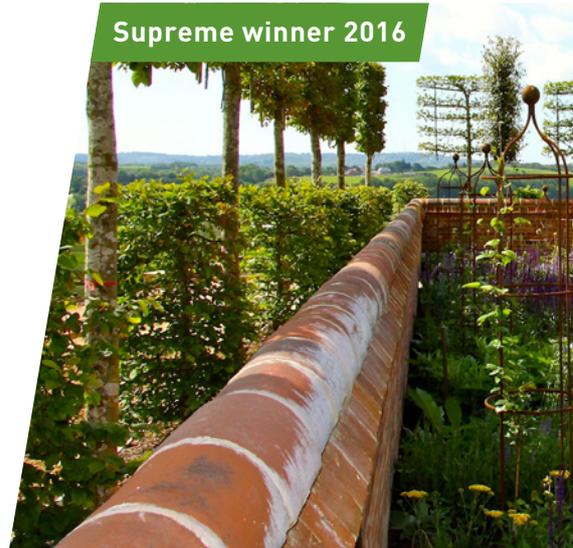
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Supreme winner 2014



Supreme winner 2016



Supreme winner 2015



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