

Architecture prize for home showing 'new way of living'

BY JACK MCKEOWN

Astriking Passivhaus in a woodland setting near Dundee has won the area's top architecture award.

The Seed was the winner of the Dundee Institute of Architects' Supreme Award.

Taking place annually, the awards celebrate the best new architecture in Dundee, Fife, Angus and Perthshire.

Around 200 architects attended the ceremony at the Invercarse Hotel.

Below are all the winners of the Dundee Institute of Architects Awards 2023.

Supreme Award

Winner: The Seed, Liff – Kirsty Maguire

This striking house nestled in woodland near Liff has been built to Passivhaus standards and costs almost nothing to run.

Making it extra special, it's also designed for two families or groups of friends to live together in a mixture of shared and private spaces.

The judges said: "The Seed is a superb building, which wears its environmental credentials proudly. It's a beautiful house to look at and to spend time in."

"On top of this it also tries to do something new with the way we live."

"Designed to be lived in by two households, its shared spaces include a large communal hallway, an outside dining area and a sauna. Its clients believe groups of friends living together generates positivity and helps deal

with everything from social isolation to health and wellbeing mental health.

Best on the drawing board

Winner: Folding Concrete Quarry House, Dundee – Jon Frullani

This unique project envisages a house that descends an 11 metre natural cliff face that once formed Dundee's shoreline.

The judges were impressed by the scale and ambition of the design.

Commended: The Flaxmill, Kingsbarns – Muir Walker Pride

Best Use of Timber

Winner: 5 Woodburn, Ceres – Fife Architects

This small but beautiful extension to an otherwise ordinary house on a hillside spot in Ceres has created a little bit of magic in a tranquil corner of Fife.

A traditional construction using green oak gives the project beauty and a timeless feel.

Commended: The Seed – Kirsty Maguire.

Best Group of Housing

Winner: Downfield Primary School, Dundee – Jon Frullani

This former Victorian era primary school has been split into apartments and a townhouse, with a new-build element to one side.

Commended: Lade Braes, St Andrews – Muir Walker Pride

Best Use of Stone

Winner: The Pavilion, St Andrews – Muir Walker Pride

A small but beautiful building, this cliff-top retreat provides panoramic views across West Sands.

With a terrace that cantilevers three metres beyond the cliff-edge it's not for the faint-hearted. The stonework is superb and its chiselled surface complements the craggy cliff face below.

Commended: Fife Farmhouse – Voigt Architects

Best New House

Winner: The Seed, Liff – Kirsty Maguire

As well as winning the Supreme Award, The Seed also took home the award for Best New House.

Commended: The Courtyard House, St Andrews – Muir Walker Pride

Best Refurbishment

Winner: Greyfriars Gardens, St Andrews – Muir Walker Pride

This B listed 1830s townhouse has been given a modest extension and extensively overhauled and upgraded. Tasteful, elegant décor and careful attention to detail make it a joy to explore. From the roof lights in the kitchen to the restored balustrades, care and craftsmanship is everywhere.

Commended: 12 Abbey Street, St Andrews – Muir Walker Pride

Best Small Project

Winner: Outfield Farm, Carse of Gowrie – Kirsty Maguire

Most people who build a cluster of holiday cabins come up with one design

and repeat it. That wasn't the case at Outfield Farm. Its three new holiday lodges are completely unique, each with their individual character and charm.

Commended: 5 Woodburn, Ceres – Fife Architects

Best Extension

Winner: Balbirnie Gate Lodge – Fife Architects

Extending a tiny but iconic lodge house on the edge of a popular woodland park without spoiling its character is a major challenge. The two-storey extension at Balbirnie Gate Lodge added a large open plan living space and an en suite master bedroom.

Commended: Tigerton Croft, near Brechin – Gerry Adam

Best Interior Design

Winner: The Youngs' House – Aim Design

This landmark new house is a prominent addition to Wormit's skyline. The extensive glazing is complemented by a light colour palette that makes good use of bespoke timber stairs and furnishings.

Commended: Tattoo Studio, Arbroath Road, Dundee – ARKTX

Ambassador Award

Winner: Langdale, Bampton – Mary Arnold-Forster

All the hallmarks of Mary Arnold-Forster's distinctive style are present in this Cumbrian home, which replaces a 1960s stable block.



Balbirnie Gate House won Best Extension award.



The Flaxmill at Kingsbarns was commended.



The Youngs' House was recognised for Best Interior Design.



5 Woodburn, the Best Use of Timber winner.



The Folding Concrete Quarry House.



OUTSTANDING: The Seed stood out for the judges

to win the Supreme and Best New House awards.



The Pavilion triumphed for Best Use of Stone.



Tattoo Studio in Dundee was commended.



Lade Braes at St Andrews was commended in Best

Group of Housing category.



Tigerton Croft was commended by the judges in the Best Extension award.

Former EU official to give lecture on climate change management

A public lecture titled Adapting to Climate Change: Effective Crisis Management Strategies is being held at St Andrews University.

Dr Christos Stylianides, minister of maritime affairs and insular policy of the Hellenic Republic and former European Union co-ordinator for the Ebola virus disease (2014-2019), will speak on Monday from 5.15pm to 6.30pm in School III, St Salvator's Quadrangle, North Street.

Dr Stylianides is a Greek-Cypriot and Greek politician who is currently minister of maritime affairs and insular policy of the Hellenic Republic.

During his political career, he has previously served as the first minister

for climate crisis and civil protection of the Hellenic Republic (2019-2021).

He was also European Commissioner for humanitarian aid and crisis management (2014-2019), member of the RELEX Commissioners Group (2014-2019) and European Commissioner for humanitarian aid and crisis management (2014-2019).

Other roles he has held include European Union special envoy for the promotion and protection of religious freedoms and beliefs (2021) and government spokesperson of the Republic of Cyprus during two different periods (2013-2014 and 1998-1999), where he worked on Cyprus' accession to the European Union.

Area gains accolade for environment leadership

Perth and Kinross is one of 119 areas across the world that has been recognised for showing environmental leadership.

The charity Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) gave the area an A rating in its rankings based on actions being taken to tackle climate change.

Only 26 UK local authorities achieved the highest rating, with Dundee, Perth and Kinross and Edinburgh as the only Scottish recipients.

CDP is a not-for-profit organisation that runs the

global disclosure system for companies, cities, states and regions to manage their environmental impacts.

To receive an A rating, among other actions, a city must have a city-wide emissions inventory and have published a climate action plan.

It must also complete a climate risk and vulnerability assessment and have a climate adaptation goal to demonstrate how it will tackle climate hazards.

Club wheels out awards for cycling achievement

The performances of local cycling stars were celebrated at Perth United Cycling Club's prizegiving.

The top prizes for best all-round female and male riders went to Divindy Grant and Jackie Chan.

The outstanding performance award went to Donatas Markevicius, who finished first in the Etape Caledonia, with Mark Riddell receiving the award for most improved

club rider. The seven riders who qualified for the UCI Gran Fondo in Perth were also recognised. They were: Ewan Campbell, Jackie Chan, Ian Bengie, Colin McCreath, Derek Smith, Kevin Lancaster and Maurice Laing.

The Steve Davidson Memorial Quaich went to Maurice Laing. The prize for outstanding contribution went to Ally Little and Hamish Law.