

NEWSPRINT

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



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT
The sensory retreat, raised beds and water feature in Liz's winning garden; judges Kevin (left) and James with Liz

POPPYHEAD'S LIZ ACKERLEY IN GRAND DESIGNS LIVE SUCCESS

PRE-REGISTERED SGD MEMBER

Liz Ackерley of Poppyhead Consultancy in Manchester has won the Grand Designs Live competition for best garden with her design, 'The Gourmet Retreat'.

The competition's theme was 'The Urban Kitchen Garden' and entries were inspired by the Show's ethos, which focused on contemporary style, inspirational design, and ethical and environmental responsibility. The competition was judged by TV presenter Kevin McCloud and garden designer and broadcaster James Alexander-Sinclair.

Liz's garden, designed for an environmentally aware, professional couple, combined fruit, vegetables and herbs in raised beds, and provided a sensory retreat for entertaining.

James Alexander-Sinclair said: "It's nice to see edibles and sustainable elements in a small urban space, proving that you don't need acres to grow an exciting and varied selection of plants.



Not only will this garden provide a small amount of food, but it also boasts some sophisticated bee shelters, taking into account that we must do all we can to encourage bees to thrive."

Liz commented: "The brief was to create an urban kitchen garden that was contemporary, inspirational and sustainable, an idea that's close to my heart.

"A central visual feature of the courtyard was the wall – part green wall for growing herbs and part metal water feature, which doubled as a water source for the planters. Other key features were raised beds made from gabions filled

with stone, wood and other materials, which created bug hotels for wildlife and also provided seating. Their linear simplicity enhanced the clean, contemporary look of the space and also imparted an earthy quality.

"I was thrilled that so many people seemed to love the garden and the use of materials. Developers creating eco builds with courtyard spaces could see the applicability of my approach, as could people with small gardens looking for inspiration."

For more details, please visit www.poppyheadconsultancy.com and www.granddesignslive.com

Australian Garden wins Landscape of the Year

DESIGNED BY TAYLOR CULLITY LETHLEAN (TCL) with Paul Thompson, the Australian Garden at the Royal Botanic Gardens in Cranbourne won the 'Landscape of the Year Award' at the World Architecture Festival (WAF) Awards 2013. The awards ceremony, held at Singapore's Marina Bay Sands, marked the end of the global architectural community's largest international festival.

Seventeen years in the making and sited in a former sand quarry, the Garden takes visitors on a journey from desert to coast. It brings together horticulture, architecture, ecology and art to create the largest botanic garden devoted to Australian flora, showcasing over 170,000 plants across 1,700 species, and has already won state, national and international awards.

The WAF Awards saw the Australian Garden up against a shortlist which also included Patel Taylor's Eastside City Park in Birmingham and landscapes from Thailand, Lebanon, Sweden and China.

"This prestigious international award recognises the artistry of landscape architecture," said Perry Lethlean, Director of TCL. "To receive this award is a great honour." Visit www.tcl.net.au and www.worldarchitecturefestival.com for more details.

