

## NEWS

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## Salisbury Civic Society's New Buildings Awards Scheme

## Society recognises outstanding

THE winners of the Salisbury Civic Society's New Buildings Awards Scheme 2023 have been announced.

The judging panel was chaired by the recent reviser of the Wiltshire volume of the Pevsner Buildings of England series, Julian Orbach, and also included James Repper, Louise Salman, and Heidi Poole.

It met on October 5, 2023, to consider the nine nominations submitted. Of these two were within Salisbury, and seven were outside the city.

After considerable discussion and site visits to shortlisted projects, the judges decided to give six Awards, including the Lord Congleton Award for the most outstanding of them, and one Commendation.

NB. the awards should not be confused with the Civic Society's Conservation awards, which is held in the alternate years and covers work to existing buildings.

The award winners are (in no particular order in awards category):

#### THE LORD CONGLETON AWARD Kite House, Alderbury

The judges said that Kite House has "terrific views" across the Avon, taken full advantage of by an "outstanding contemporary" design, with three wings radiating out from the centre.

Architects: AR Design Studio, Winchester

#### 126 Lower Road, Lower Bemerton

Judges said: "A fairly ordinary looking mid-C20th house on this prominent site has been replaced by something very different, and very successful, in an unashamedly contemporary

style.

"Seen from Lower Road, a low-level frontage spans the whole width of the site, in a buff coloured brick, plus charred timber cladding on the ground floor. At the rear the amount of brick is reduced, to frame

rectangular recesses containing the extensive glazing. Visible workmanship for this mostly self-build project is of high quality."

Architects: Footprint Architects, Bournemouth

#### Blackthorn House,

#### Bishopstone

This new house, replacing a previous mundane cottage, is modern rather than traditional.

Judges said it uses a range of carefully chosen forms and materials, with the flintwork on the front being particularly

impressive, carried out to a high standard.

They added: "Splendid views southwards are taken full advantage of, and the gold standard for energy efficiency, Passivhaus accreditation, is about to be achieved."



A group photo of the winners Images: Salisbury Civic Society



Pool house at Park House, West Hatch





**the 2023 winners**

# Leading contemporary designs

Designers: Affinity Architects, Salisbury, and Ink Box Architecture, Alton

**Pool house at Park House, West Hatch**

The panel described the job of adding a pool house and pool



to a listed C17th house with a fine sweeping garden has been “treated with the care it needed”, with appropriate siting and design, and a contemporary design approach for the pool house which is certainly the right choice in this context.

They added: “The interior design is also well-considered. The pool house more than met the standards set by an earlier kitchen extension, winner of an award in 2016, and received the same level of recognition.”

Architect: John Comparelli, Tisbury

**Admissions building at Old Wardour Castle**

The new building has the same site as the previous collection of timber structures which greeted visitors, but is a vast improvement on them, and an excellent starting point for a visit to one of Wiltshire’s truly great historic structures.

Details have been carefully thought through, say the judges, and there are neat touches everywhere.

The goal of English Heritage, the client, of reducing energy use and embodied carbon has been achieved by various means, and the building’s merits need more than a casual glance, to appreciate the care that’s been taken.

Architects: Connolly Wellingham Architects, Bristol

**Design House at the New Art Centre, Winterslow**

This new gallery is part of a long project to enhance one of the area’s major artistic resources, with two earlier galleries having won awards from the Civic Society. Details have been well



**Kite House, Alderbury**

thought out everywhere, and the new work fully matches the quality of the earlier winners.

Architects: Stephen Marshall Architects, London

**COMMENDATION**

**The Motor Shed at 3 Kingsbury Square, Wilton**  
Garages generally have a low

profile, but this one in Wilton one displays the value of putting in more thought to design than is usual.

It’s in the well-designed courtyard garden to a listed house, and adds to its merits.

Key to its success is the roof, which takes the form of a hipped pyramid with a concave profile,

rising to an ornamental finial, to great visual effect.

All the workmanship is clearly of high quality, and the new addition to the garden complements the contributions already made by other small structures in similar style.

Architects: The Classic Architecture Company, Wilton



**126 Lower Road, Lower Bemerton**



**Blackthorn House, Bishopstone**