

the market | Harvey Grennan

# Benchmarks of design

Multiple winners were a feature of the 2003 BDA awards.

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**A** HOUSE at Beecroft designed for a family of musicians wanting to keep far enough away from each other for their sanity is one of the winners of the 2003 design awards by the Building Designers Association of NSW.

The brief was to provide a lot of space and uninterrupted bush views, a job not made easy by a 16-metre fall across the site. Designer Peter Downes' answer was a three-level building with large decks off each level.

Downes' won the top honour, the award for residential buildings between 301 and 400 sq m, and the award for the use of steel with the home.

James Cooper of Sanctum Design took the award for additions and renovations over 80 sq m, with an extension to a Castlecrag house. The owners wanted a family room, kitchen and meals area with more connection to the external environment. This was achieved by stepping down the site with a platform for each function and large, covered verandas.

Cooper was again the winner for environmental and energy efficiency with a home at Mona Vale.

A house at Halekulani on the Central Coast won the award for houses between 201 and 300 sq m for Louise Williams of LAW Building Design. To take advantage of the extensive water views and maintain privacy, the design incorporates angled sashless windows and strategically placed porthole windows.

Williams also received a merit award for the Eleanor Duncan Centre for Aboriginal Health at Wyong in the non-residential additions category.

The winner for a house over 400 sq m was Robert Winter of the Winter Group for a mansion in Telegraph Road, Pymble, with "everything" – including gymnasium, pool room, butler's prep room and geothermal recovery system (whatever that is) – with a budget of \$2 million.

Winter also took home the award for buildings over two storeys with an apartment building at Cronulla, satisfying both the client's desire for a maximum number of units and the local council's architectural and solar access benchmarks.

Chris Reardon of Suntech Design won the award for small homes with an earth-covered weekender at Bungonia constructed of pre-cast concrete walls and double-glazed windows to minimise site impact and energy use and maximise bushfire protection.

The award for the best residential interior went to Pete van Ryn of Cronulla Building Design Co for a Cronulla home where the challenge was to maximise ocean views and properly orient all



Top honour: The Beecroft house designed by Peter Downes.

rooms. The answer included a lot of glass, earning him a separate award for the use of glass.

Designer Ian Webb got the duplex gong with a detached dual occupancy of one and two storeys with curved raking and a hipped metal roof at Casuarina Beach on the North Coast.

The heritage category was won by Ken Gordon of KL & CM Gordon Drafting Service for the refurbishment and extension of a turn-of-the-century cottage at Bega which had to improve internal circulation and solar access and capture the rural vistas.