

Eco and innovative design the big winners at BDAA awards



Chris Clout from Sunshine Beach took out the award for best interior. He designed Saltwater, a Noosa house owned by his parents Peter and Janet.

GOOD design can work hand-in-hand with sustainable development. That was shown at the Building Designers Association of Australia National Awards last Saturday at Twin Waters.

And Sunshine Coast designers were up there with the best as far as award winners and commendations. Among them were Stephen Kidd's design for a retail and commercial building in the heart of Cooroy. The Wattle Street development won the commercial building category.

Maleny-based designer Norman Richards won the Residential Buildings Up to 250sq m for Glass on Glasshouse, a cafe-in-residence to service complementary holiday cabins on 8.9ha at Glasshouse Mountains. Meanwhile Noosa designer Paul Clout took out the award for the best environmental and energy-efficient home and his nephew Chris Clout won best residential interior.

It was Paul Clout's first award for energy-efficiency but he believes the challenge of creating a self-sufficient house has set him on a new path.

"This house at Garner's Beach (near Mission Beach) has no actual services

running to it but it functions well," he said. "We build and design upmarket and elaborate houses on waterfront and beachfronts. The challenge on this one was similar but we had to make it operate without any drain on public services."

"I think, in the future, it's where we have to head. It's taken me a while to get my head around it but now that we've done this house, I've become a fan of it all."

The house uses 42% less power than a conventional house, underground rainwater tanks, waste-water treatment system and has an air-conditioning system run from solar power – an Australian first.

It was a family affair at the awards night with Chris Clout, from Sunshine Beach, taking out the award for best interior.

He designed Saltwater, a Noosa house owned by his parents Peter and Janet, to have a Japanese-Asian resort "persona" that draws relaxing water views through the house.

It is his eighth award for the home which blurred indoor and outdoor areas while taking advantage of winter sunshine and creating privacy from the outside world.

"I think Queensland and south-east

Queensland, and even the Sunshine Coast has been leading the pack and that maybe due to our lifestyle where we have a warm environment where we can really play around with indoor and outdoor areas," Mr Clout said.

"Sydney and Melbourne markets are now leaning towards that, and everyone wants that resort feel, but we need to be more sympathetic of their weather conditions."

Sunshine Beach designer Stephen Kidd took out best commercial building for a complex, which incorporates energy saving and water storage measures, in Wattle Street at Cooroy.

Far from being handed a blank canvas on which to create a work that draws on a wide range of available material options, the designer had his hands tied to an innovative prefabricated building system.

The brief was to adopt elements of the system wherever possible for a project undertaken by the system's developer and manufacturer. Launched as a speculative venture to create a maximum-yield mix of commercial and retail tenancies, the finished product has succeeded in becoming a showpiece for the client's product range.

Stephen Kidd's hands were also tied to the Noosa Plan, which governs the siting, aesthetics and scale of such developments. He was able to take advantage of a cross-falling third frontage for vehicle access to an underground car park, above which two floors of commercial space could be incorporated to maximise the site's potential. He topped the development with colonnade roof panels to provide the country flavour required by the planning department.

A commendation was awarded to Stephen Kidd for White Sands, a low density multi-residential development up to six dwellings at Peregian Beach. He was also a finalist for Residential Alterations/Additions more than \$200,000.

Other Sunshine Coast based designers who were finalists included Reifisma and Associates for small lot housing, and Brad Read design for Multi-Residential medium or high rise as well as Best Commercial Interiors.



Wattle Street development won the commercial building category



Aleshia Bowes of The Media Pond with Stephen Kidd and Matthew Stevens



Kati Williams, Rori Morgan, Melissa Fadden, Ben Drysdale



Winning designer Yael Kurlansky of Yael K Designs in Western Australia, Rochelle James of The Media Pond and Felicity Richardson of Property Week



Janet and Peter Clout, with their award-winning son Chris Clout and Dani Petrie