

The Garden Media Guild Awards 2009



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Press Release

December 3 2009

Rose guru wins Guild's Lifetime Achievement Award

Peter Beales, the rose-growing legend, has been awarded The Garden Media Guild's highest accolade at the Annual Awards lunch held on December 3. Peter Beales has been growing roses for most of his life. He began as a true enthusiast for old roses – on which he remains Britain's leading authority – but in recent years he has also been breeding and introducing new cultivars. His enthusiasm for roses has blossomed into numerous books, magazine articles and radio and TV appearances, ensuring that Peter has done more than anyone to promote old roses in the UK and further abroad.

In total, more than 100 of the country's best gardening writers, photographers, broadcasters and editors were rewarded as winners or finalists at the glittering Awards Lunch, which was held at the Brewery in the heart of London. Mark Diacono, of Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall's River Cottage, won two accolades – Practical Book of the Year for *Veg Patch: River Cottage Handbook Number 4* and Book Photographer of the Year for his images used to illustrate it. The main photography Award, Photography Portfolio of the Year, was won by Tim Sandall. TV Programme of the Year went to *Grow Your Own Drugs* by Silver River Productions for BBC2. In fact, it was a good year for the BBC, which cleaned up in all four Broadcast Awards, Gardening Publication of the Year, Practical Journalist of the Year, Website of the Year and the Environmental Award.

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Full list of winners

Multimedia Awards

New Garden Media Talent – sponsored by Honda

JOINT WINNERS: Mary Griffin for various features, written as Environment Reporter, in the *Coventry Telegraph* and Stephanie Mahon for various interview features on gardens and their owners in *The English Garden*.

Young Gardener Initiative – sponsored by Honda and The RHS

The Great Plant Hunt – a pack of materials for schools by Royal Botanic Gardens Kew.

Environmental Award – sponsored by Honda

Toby Buckland for the *Gardeners' World Special – For Peat's Sake*.

Website of the Year – sponsored by Marshalls

Gardeners' World.com edited by Abbie Fereday.

Blog of the Year – sponsored by Marshalls

Blogging From Blackpitts by James Alexander-Sinclair.

Press & Journalism Awards

News Story of the Year – sponsored by Colour Your Life

Carol Warters for her article Grow Plea to World Leaders in *Garden News*.

Trade Journalist of the Year – sponsored by Fiskars

Kris Collins for his three articles published in *Horticulture Week*.

Gardening Column of the Year – sponsored by Johnsons

Jackie Bennett for A Vegetable Gardener's Diary in *The English Garden*.

Practical Journalist of the Year – sponsored by Thompson & Morgan

Adam Pasco for articles in *Gardeners' World Magazine*.

Journalist of the Year – sponsored by Sthil

Ambra Edwards for her articles published in *Hortus* and *Gardens Illustrated*.

Garden Publication of the Year – sponsored by Scotts Miracle Gro

Gardens Illustrated, Editor Juliet Roberts.

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Book Awards

Practical Book of the Year – sponsored by Hartley Botanic

Veg Patch: River Cottage Handbook Number 4 by Mark Diacono, published by Bloomsbury Publishing.

Inspirational Book of the Year – sponsored by Westland Horticulture

The Flowering of Aberglasney by Graham Rankin, published by Aberglasney Enterprises.

Reference Book of the Year – sponsored by GLEE

Scotland for Gardeners – The Guide to Scottish Gardens, Nurseries and Garden Centres 2009 by Kenneth Cox, published by Birlinn.

Photography Awards

Features Photographer of the Year – sponsored by GIMA

Jurgen Becker for images in *Cold & Frosty Morning*.

Book Photographer of the Year – sponsored by Briggs & Stratton

Mark Diacono for his images in *Veg Patch: River Cottage Handbook Number 4*.

Photography Portfolio of the Year – sponsored by Town & Country

Tim Sandall.

Broadcast Awards

National Radio Broadcast of the Year – sponsored by The National Gardens Scheme

The War of the Roses on BBC Radio 4, presenter Wesley Kerr, producer Tamsin Barber.

Local Radio Broadcast of the Year – sponsored by The National Gardens Scheme

Gardening Plus on BBC Essex, presenter Ken Crowther, editor Tim Gillett.

Gardening Feature TV Broadcast of the Year – sponsored by The HTA

Country File John Craven investigates the plight of our bees, by BBC Birmingham for BBC TV.

Gardening Programme TV Broadcast of the Year – sponsored by The HTA

Grow Your Own Drugs by Silver River Productions for BBC2.

Lifetime Achievement – sponsored by Gardenersclick

Peter Beales.

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Notes to Editors

The full results, including finalists, images of the winners and details of the judges are available from the Guild's website – www.gardenmediaguild.co.uk/awards
Here you can also download hi-res images for publicity purposes.

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