

Award winners Jamie Falla of Mooarc, left, and Andrew Dyke of CCD Architects.



Left to right, the men behind the Guernsey Design Awards 2012: Paul Langlois, president of the Guernsey Society of Architects, Clive Fenner, Mitch Sneddon, secretary of the GSA, and Peter Sirett.

After seven years out of commission, the Guernsey Design Awards were relaunched this year to recognise outstanding design in local architecture and, for the first time, an award for the People's Choice was made



**I**N THE main Guernsey Design Awards event the judges astounded everybody in their efforts to find an overall winner by giving the award not to one but to two recipients. Two residential properties, **Etoile du Nord** and **Les Prevosts Farm**, were chosen to receive the award jointly after the judges on the panel were equally impressed with their designs. Etoile du Nord was created from an existing bungalow overlooking Vazon Bay from La Rue du Hamel, Castel. It was designed by BAS Mooarc Ltd chartered architects.

**Les Prevosts Farm** was originally built in the 17th century and over time had fallen into a semi-derelict condition. The property was completely repaired and remodelled by Andrew Dyke at CCD Architects, with careful attention given to the original features of the buildings.

Jamie Falla of BAS Mooarc said it had been a privilege to work with the planners, the client and the contractor, and the finished home was the result of what had turned out to be a five-year journey.

From its inception, the project had been a difficult one. The judges had been impressed by the use of locally-sourced materials and the effort to reduce the building's carbon footprint.

At Les Prevosts Farm the judges were impressed by the careful attention paid by CCD Chartered Architects to the original features in the redesigning of the property. CCD managing director Andrew Dyke said it had been a team effort.

'This really was the refurbishment of a historic building and bringing it back to life for modern family living,' said Mr Dyke. 'Many people worked on it - I'm very proud of my staff, who helped bring the project to reality, and the clients for their vision to go ahead with the scheme and for being so enthusiastic,' he said.

**The Norman Piette Contractor's award for craftsmanship of construction** Was presented to Joe Moriarty & Son Ltd for **Etoile du Nord** and to H. D. Brehaut & Sons for **Les Prevosts Farm**.

Guest speaker at the awards Colin

Haylock, president of the Royal Town Planning Institute, said that he was highly impressed with the variety of building designs in the competition.

**Designed to come back**  
The winners of this year's awards were announced in a ceremony that took place on 14 May at the Princess Royal Centre for the Performing Arts. The new GDA award ceremony will now take place every other year. The awards have been developed by the Environment Department and The Guernsey Society of Architects to highlight excellent work in Guernsey's built environment. Norman Piette Ltd are the main sponsors.

For 2012, nearly 50 entries were narrowed down to a shortlist of 11 by a panel of judges drawn from the fields of architecture, planning and construction. The rejuvenated event also featured for the first time the People's Award, in which the public were invited to vote for their preferred building design. They chose this from the shortlist arrived at by the panel of judges. This was very varied, featuring

everything from a sports pavilion to farmhouses and modern family homes to the Town Church. All of the entries were exemplary in showing how good design can enhance the environment in which we work, live and relax. The task facing the judges and the public was to consider the overall quality of design, use of materials, relationship to setting, sustainability and how well the projects met the needs of the clients, including any improvement of lifestyle brought about.

**The People's Choice**  
**Earlwood Cafe** was the clear winner of the popular vote in the 2012 Guernsey Design Awards. More than 800 individuals voted either in the Guernsey Press, online or by using leaflets in public buildings such as Guernsey Airport and the libraries. The architects were Tyrrell Downton Associates and the contractor was JW Rihoy and Son Ltd. Guest speaker Colin Haylock, president of the Royal Town Planning Institute, presented them with the People's Choice Award and People's Choice Contractor's Award.

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## GUERNSEY DESIGN AWARDS 2012

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# Earlswood



**T**HE architect's brief was to integrate external areas and provide a relaxing, homely coffee shop to accommodate a minimum of 60 customers, with appropriate kitchen and toilet facilities.

The new building connects to the garden centre and is fully glazed on the north and west sides. It is clad with Iroko hardwood, uses natural materials such as stone floors and timber boarding and has bi-fold doors that provide access to the external seating area. This allows the cafe to be opened up in summer, while the fireplace and surrounding sofas create a cosier environment to sit in during winter months. Since opening, the cafe has become an integral part of the Earlswood experience.

#### The client's feedback

Sean Taylor, owner/proprietor of Earlswood Garden Centre, is very pleased with the design of the new cafe and delighted that it won the GDA People's Choice Award.

'The cafe definitely brings extra ambience to Earlswood and its design ticks all the right boxes.'

'We wanted a cafe area that related to the gardens at any time of year. We run a garden centre for all seasons. As things change outside, people sitting and eating in the cafe can see what is happening.'

'In winter, with the doors closed and the log fire lit, everything is cosy but they can still

connect to the outside.

'In summer we can open all the doors up to completely connect people to the plants and flowers.'

Mr Taylor said he consulted closely with Brian Tyrell, the architect, and Gavin Rihoy of JW Rihoy – the contractor. As the plans evolved, they kept the planning authorities completely up to date and took advice from them whenever necessary.

'We looked at different profiles for the new building. A more rustically styled one looked too twee, while one that was designed to emulate the profile of the greenhouses on site not only looked wrong, the extra roof space would have been economically and ecologically burdensome to heat. The one we arrived at stood out from the others as being the most complementary to the existing structures.'

'In the end it was amazingly effortless the way everything came in on time and within budget.'

Mr Taylor said footfall at Earlswood had definitely increased since the cafe opened last year and was particularly noticeable in the colder wetter months, when the warmth and comfort of the cafe on site gave people another very good reason to visit.

'In all, customer feedback has been very positive' – as evidenced in Earlswood winning the People's Choice award.

 Tyrrell Dowinton  
Associates  
Chartered Architects

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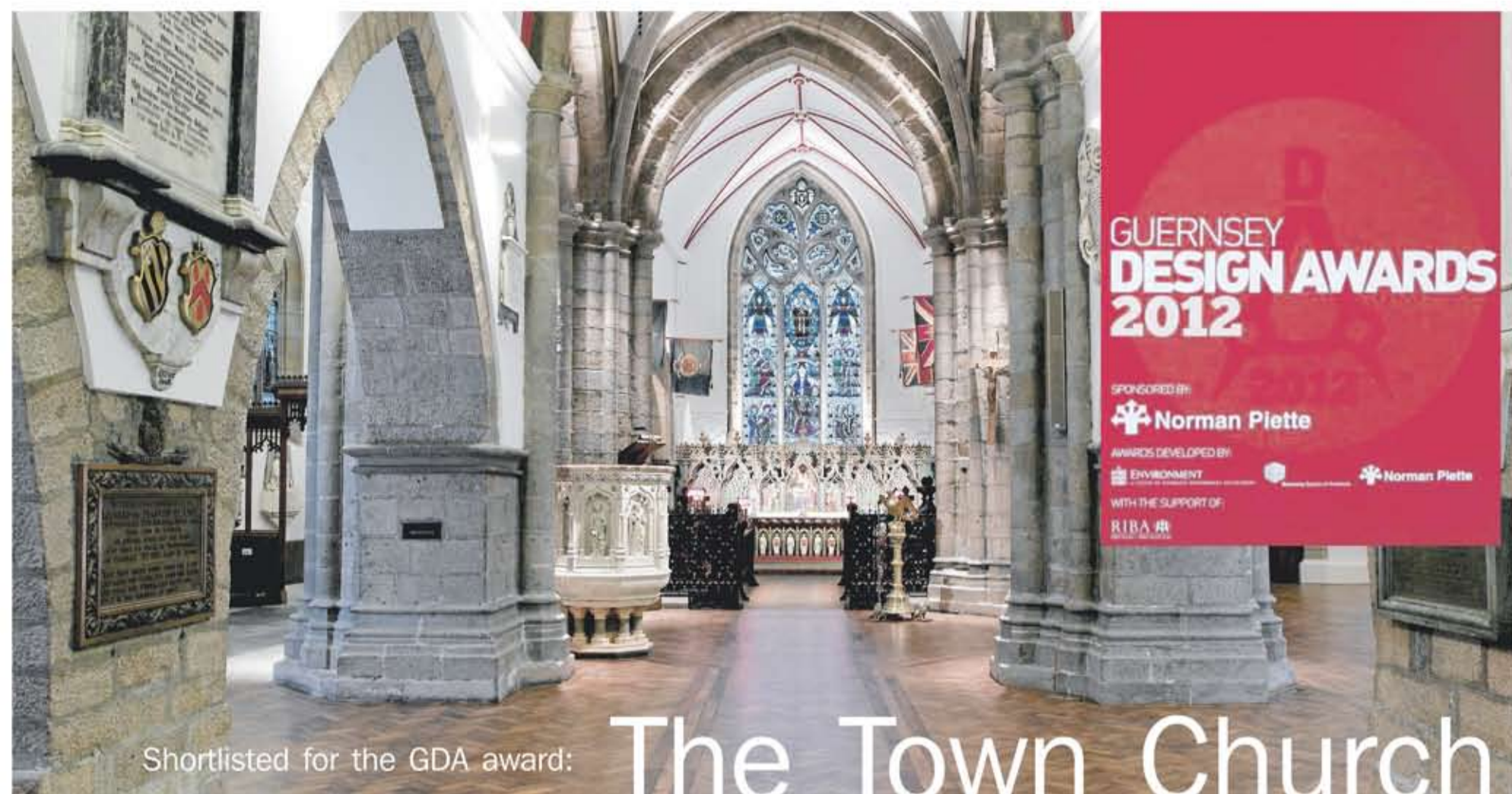
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Shortlisted for the GDA award:

# The Town Church



### The Brief

The interior of the church was lit to an unsatisfactory level with inappropriate fittings and cabling which interrupted the main vistas and provided little functionality or atmosphere.

CCD Architects was called in to devise a scheme that would address these problems and provide lighting to enhance this historic building. After preliminary consultations a scheme was drawn up and electrical contractor Mec (Gsy) Ltd was brought in to implement the work.

The work undertaken by Mec involved more than the introduction of a lighting system to enhance the cosmetics of the church interior. The church required a new power system and the whole had to be rewired.

New heating and sound systems also had to be installed. The new heating system had to utilise the existing radiators.

Watsons Builders was also contracted for the significant redecoration that was required.

The church now has a fully controllable lighting system, installed so that there is minimal impact on the wall elevations and views. Lights have been carefully positioned, certain fittings painted to match the background colour and cabling sleeved to blend in. The tower and spire have also been illuminated, to bring the building to life at night. In addition the woodblock and stone floors were

conserved and repaired and the church was redecorated.

### The client's feedback

The Dean of Guernsey's wife, Mrs Lindsey Mellor, said the congregation was delighted with the Town Church's new lighting system, which was well bedded in now - having been completed in 2010. 'The church is much better lit and we can more easily control the lighting.'

'There had been some concern about the removal of the black chandeliers, which had been there since Victorian times, but now that they're gone the doubters have changed their minds.'

'In any case, the chandeliers were so heavy they were damaging the roof trusses and when bulbs blew they couldn't always be changed because it required scaffolding to be erected every time, which was not practical.'

It seems that the changes enable the church to function aesthetically and spiritually in the way it was originally designed to.

Mrs Mellor said: 'It's not a cathedral, but now people can look upwards and see the variation and beauty of the architecture - we can also see the church windows properly.'

Mrs Mellor's one word of caution concerned the increasing costs of electricity.

'But now we have control over individual areas we only switch on what we need to and are generally careful not to waste electricity.'

# MEC

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## Main Contractor on the Town Church refurbishment

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