

ProLandscaper

Concept to Delivery

May 2015

DESIGN, BUILD,
AND MAINTAIN

WITH
THIS ISSUE

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FLOWER SHOW

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2015

LET'S HEAR IT FROM
SARAH EBERLE

GARDEN DESIGNER

VECTORWORKS

HINTS & TIPS

**DARE TO BE
DIFFERENT**

*Stand apart from
your competitors*

**EQUIPMENT TURF
MAINTENANCE**

**OUTDOOR
TRENDS**

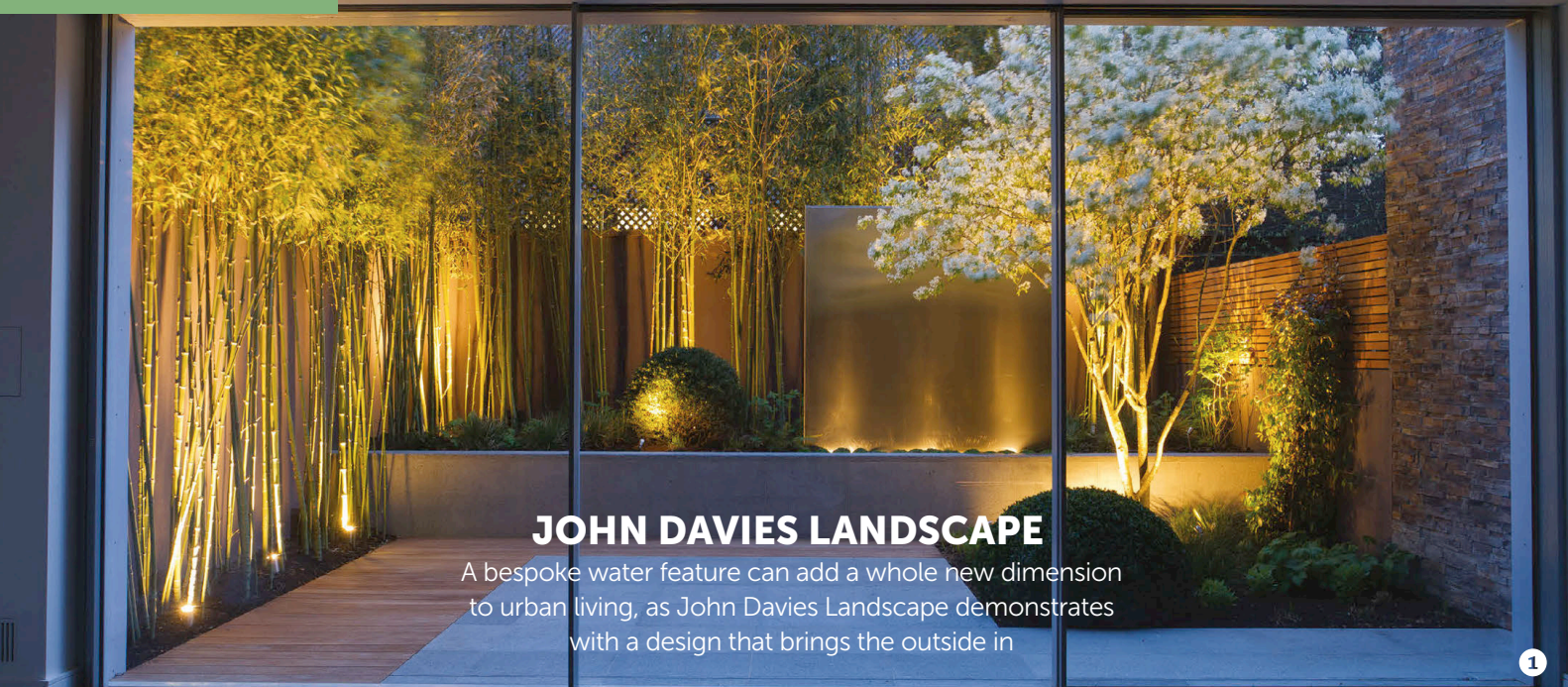
**EFIG AWARDS
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HOLLAND LANDSCAPES

LIQUID ASSETS

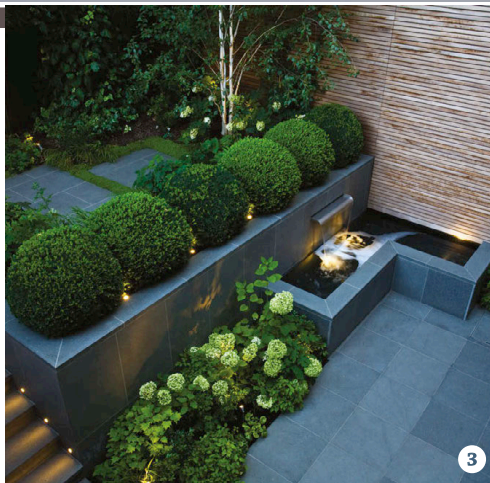
**JOHN DAVIES LANDSCAPE
DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**



JOHN DAVIES LANDSCAPE

A bespoke water feature can add a whole new dimension to urban living, as John Davies Landscape demonstrates with a design that brings the outside in

LIQUID ASSETS



ABOUT JOHN DAVIES LANDSCAPE

John Davies Landscape is an exciting new design and project management studio now in its fifth year of practice. It offers full competence in hand-rendered drawings, using SketchUp for 3d modelling and Vectorworks for CAD presentation. Combining bold architectural form and full, naturalistic planting schemes, John Davies delivers contemporary spaces characterised by a bold sense of modernity and a sensitivity to context, history and ecology.

www.johndavieslandscape.co.uk

College Crescent is a new development of six prestigious contemporary family houses designed by multi award-winning architect Alfred Munkenbeck and Neil Davies of D2 Architecture. Each house features a roof terrace with views over central London, private balconies, a beautifully designed garden and secure garaging as well as a centrally located communal courtyard area. All six houses are currently being marketed for sale.

The client required high-end finishing to the landscaping that would sit comfortably with the quality of the architecture. Each garden was to

be unique in character and form, although all the gardens were to be somehow thematically linked. Year-round privacy and screening was of paramount importance in a development sitting cheek by jowl with other housing in the middle of Swiss Cottage.

Design and build

Each outdoor space is a natural and seamless extension of its internal living area. Water features throughout the development offer a unifying design element. Planting gives a strong evergreen structure so that each garden looks its

PROJECT DETAILS

Project value
£420k

Build time
**Summer 2013 –
spring 2014**

Size of project
864m²

The Association of
**Professional
Landscapers**
Awards 2015

SUPREME WINNER

SGD
2014
AWARDS
FUTURE DESIGNER
AWARD

best at any time of year, overlaid with predominantly woodland edge herbaceous planting schemes.

The careful specification of lighting throughout transforms the gardens into more theatrical spaces by night. Apart from the tiny courtyard garden to House Six, all gardens boast their own bespoke water features. The challenge here was to integrate major features into very small spaces. The garden to House One includes a pool running the entire width of the space with generously sized paved steps as a means of crossing the pool. Gently foaming bubble jets were interspersed at regular intervals across the width of the pool.

Steel water walls were used in two of the gardens. These were particularly effective, bold gestures that took up little space. A pool with a copper wall and spill in the garden of House Four, together with a raised basalt-clad pool featuring a 900mm-wide stainless steel letterbox spill in House Five, completed the private gardens. A water feature with three foaming jets falling onto cropped basalt sets was placed in front of a mature Ginkgo Biloba tree in the courtyard entrance, hinting at the important role that water plays in this development.

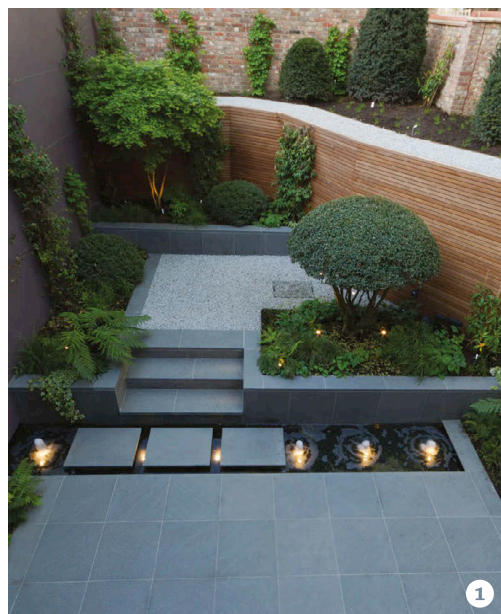
Challenges

The project ran far beyond the predicted timescale, largely due to the main building contractor going into administration, and without the flexibility and guidance of MD Mark Gregory of Landform Consultants, a successful conclusion may never have been reached.

One of the greatest design challenges was working with what, essentially, were tiny and massively overlooked spaces. An advantage was that huge sliding doors had already been specified, making for a seamless connection between inside and outside. However, →

- 1** Subtle uplighting highlights the multi-stemmed *Amelanchier lamarkii*, shown here in full bloom
- 2** Copper wall with water spill into pool
- 3** Box, birch and basalt together with a raised pool featuring a 900mm stainless steel water blade form the bones of this garden
- 4** The inner courtyard with a majestic feathered ginkgo biloba as its centrepiece
- 5** A multi-stemmed *Osmanthus burkwoodii* forms the focal point of this sunken garden
- 6** Urbis planters and a green wall
- 7** *Lythrum virgatum* 'dropmore purple' subtly reflected in the polished steel water wall

Photographs © Steven Wooster



providing screening to a height that in most cases exceeded the actual length of the garden itself, proved a major challenge.

Solutions ranged from mature stands of *Phyllostachys aurea* to a height of 8m to a stand of 4m high pleached hornbeams backed by a 3.5m high green wall of *Trachelospermum jasminoides* on top of the 2m high boundary wall. A system of galvanised boxed steel uprights was designed which straddled and were fixed into the wall itself. The entire frame ran for a length of around 15m, was planted with 40 mature plants to a height of 3.5m and irrigated from a separate controller.

The client required a central courtyard area that would announce a residential development of the highest quality. Apart from the tree pit itself, the entire courtyard sat over concrete planking, effectively turning it into a

roofed area. In addition, a fire engine needed to have full access to the area, leaving little space to fulfil the client's requirements. The answer was a simple paving layout in a muted grey granite that didn't fight with the slate cladding to the walls, and a number of blockwork planters, clad in basalt with honed basalt feature seating to one end. Lastly, the water feature was sited within the tree pit.

- 1 Basalt stepping stones and pool lighting
 - 2 All boundary and party walls were built up in blockwork and then rendered
 - 3 The walls of the pools were formed from blockwork before the application of grp waterproofing to the inner faces
 - 4 Mature stock had to be delivered via crane
 - 5 *Phyllostachys aurea* awaiting soil for planting
- Photograph 1 © Steven Wooster
www.stevenwoosterphotography.com

REFERENCES

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The Nursery, Bagshot Road,
Chobham, Surrey GU24 8DB
Tel 01276 856145
Web www.landformconsultants.co.uk

Basalt for gardens (Italy), granite and
basalt for courtyard (China)
Ashfield Stone
Tel 01502 528877
Web www.ashfieldgroup.com

Water features
(with Landform Consultants)
Fairwater Limited
Tel 01903 892228
Web www.fairwater.co.uk

Decking and timber fencework
Alan Hayward Joinery
Tel 01233 625204
Web www.alan-hayward.co.uk

Fabricated steelwork
Welding Mobility
Tel 01895 422 566
Web www.weldingmobility.co.uk

Fabricated steel planters
BSpoke Design
Tel 0121 374 2918
Web www.bspokedesign.co.uk

Trees and topiary
Deepdale Trees
Tel 01767 262 636
Web www.deepdale-trees.co.uk

Herbaceous planting
Hortus Loci
Tel 0118 9326495
Web www.hortusloci.co.uk

Miscellaneous shrubs
and climbers
Evergreen Exterior Services
Tel 020 8770 9200
Web www.evergreenext.co.uk

Hydroponic green wall
The Landscape Architect
Tel 07875 203901
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Planters
Urbis Design
Tel 01759 373839
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