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Gorgeous garden gadgetry you just have to buy



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Marc Nucera's garden design in Provence, influenced by his sculptural skills

welcome



THE AWARD ceremony season is here and this issue we are delighted to be featuring the winners of the SGD sponsored BALI award for Design Excellence (page 16). Awards are always exciting – particularly so for the winners – but there was one week in early December when I attended three events on three consecutive days and had to admit to a little award fatigue – not to mention a thin reediness in my voice as I said to the waiter, yet again... no, mine's the vegetarian.

Weariness aside, this is the time of year to pat ourselves on the back and one way in which it is perfectly acceptable – even obligatory – to do that is to use the letters MSGD and FSGD after your names. As you know, they are hard earned. In last issue's Review Of The Year a few people forgot to tell us, and a few more we missed off accidentally. If you are getting some new stationery done in the New Year, don't forget to include those letters and use them wherever possible. Why be shy about it? To misquote Alcoholics Anonymous, your new mantra should be... My name is ***** and I am a Garden Designer!

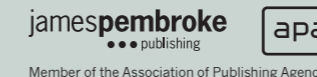
On the Letters page (13) this month, one correspondent reiterates that exact point – about standing up for what we do. Keep the contributions coming, they are a barometer of how our profession is faring and I believe as we move into a new decade, there are many, many reasons to be cheerful. And when you don't feel so cheerful? The *Journal* wants to hear about that too. Happy New Year.
Jackie Bennett, Editor gdj@jppublishing.co.uk

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"To forget how to dig the earth and to tend the soil is to forget ourselves" Mahatma Gandhi

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