

MORE INSPIRATIONAL HOMES THAN ANY OTHER MAGAZINE

25 BEAUTIFUL HOMES

WINTER CELEBRATIONS

INSPIRED LOOKS FOR THE SEASON
Colourful ways to add warmth and bonhomie

PACKED WITH PERSONALITY
From a stylish new build to a cosy country house

URBAN UPDATE
Vintage charm fills a once-tired Victorian flat

CREATE IMPACT IN EVERY SPACE

Living room, kitchen, bathroom & bedroom ideas





HOME TRUTHS

DESIGN TEAM

Cherie Lee Interiors
HOUSE Edwardian home in Buckinghamshire
WORK Complete reconfiguration internally with rear and side extension



KITCHEN
 Streamlined units were chosen to create more of a 'living room' feel. Try the Bontempi Casa Linda bar stool, from £351, Lime Modern Living

PANTRY
 A separate larder keeps provisions out of sight. An internal window was put in so shopping could be passed through from the boot room. Turquoise

tiles were chosen as it's a colour accent that is used throughout the house. Metro Teal tiles, £20sq m, British Ceramic Tile. Ship wall lights, £540 each, Rothschild & Bickers



TV ROOM
 Two-tone walls bring a touch of informality to this space, while the calming hues and seascape art add to the relaxing feel. Bottom half of wall in

Scree absolute matt emulsion; top half in Inox absolute matt emulsion, both £48.50 for 2.5ltr, Little Greene. Timothy Oulton Cabana Yeti chairs, £2,495 each, Barker & Stonehouse

HALLWAY
 With its striking curved staircase, this area may look ultra-contemporary but heritage materials like the parquet flooring, wall panelling and brickwork

hark back to the house's Edwardian origins. The panelling includes a door that leads to an office. The Mode 4 Herringbone floor from The Engineered Flooring Company is

bespoke; for a similar design, try Broadleaf Timber's Santa Lucia oak parquet, from £89.17sq m. Walls in Strong White estate emulsion, £49.50 for 2.5ltr, Farrow & Ball



HOW DID THE COMPANY GET INVOLVED IN THIS PROJECT?

James and Celia Whyte were in the early stages of renovating their Edwardian house in Buckinghamshire, which they'd bought in 2015, when they approached us for help. 'The property was a bit dated and needed some TLC but the main problem was that it didn't suit their lifestyle,' remembers Cherie. 'Because they want it to be their home for the foreseeable future, it really needed to work for them.'

HOW INVOLVED WERE THE HOMEOWNERS?

The renovation project included a total reconfiguration internally, a single-storey rear extension and a two-storey side extension. Both James and Celia have busy working lives and needed a team that understood them, so that revisions to designs were not too time-consuming or frequent. However, they were very much involved in the finished look and style of their home.

DESCRIBE THE HOMEOWNERS' STYLE.

Despite their minimalist, contemporary approach and the largely light colour scheme, the Whytes didn't want the renovation to feel sterile or devoid of personality. 'They love entertaining and have a good sense of fun, so the interior of the house had to reflect that and not feel too "done up",' explains Cherie.

WHAT WERE THE BIGGEST PRIORITIES FOR THE HOMEOWNER?

They wanted to ensure that the way the property was configured, and the two extensions that were added, worked for their lifestyle. 'We spent a lot of time discussing how they would use the space and what was needed to make life easier,' explains Cherie. 'For example, we added an internal window between the boot room and pantry to allow shopping to be passed through the boot room from the side entrance, and for rubbish to go out to the bins.'

WHAT WAS THE INSPIRATION?

The project was a balancing act between retaining some of the original building and fitting the brief to make it contemporary. Cherie touched on the original property wherever possible, retaining fireplaces and choosing tiles, flooring and lighting that give a nod to the era but in a more updated style. 'The hallway is a good example,' she says. 'At first glance, it's a modern entrance with a curved staircase, but the parquet floors, wall panelling and exposed brick bring another layer that keeps it feeling warm and slightly undone, a charm often felt in period homes.'

WHICH ROOM WAS THE MOST IMPORTANT TO THE HOMEOWNERS?

The kitchen, as with so many homeowners. Cherie didn't find quite the right fit until she met with Lanserring, in London's Notting Hill, who offered the correct blend of traditional and contemporary craftsmanship, and used beautiful materials.

HOW WERE THE COLOURS CHOSEN? The Whytes liked the simplicity that comes with a neutral palette. Colour and pattern was introduced where appropriate and texture added to keep it interesting.

WHAT WAS THE BIGGEST CHALLENGE?

'There were times when it would have been more cost-effective and easier to demolish the existing dwelling and rebuild from scratch,' says Cherie. 'But the Whytes were adamant they wanted to keep some of the Edwardian character and existing facade of the house so as to not duplicate the "modern mansion" style that's popular in this area. Helping them make that decision worthwhile was the challenge.'

WHAT WAS THE MOST SATISFYING ASPECT OF THIS PROJECT?

The flow of the ground floor – the areas now blend into one another and feel open-plan while managing to achieve all of the designated spaces that the Whytes wanted.

IS THERE ANYTHING YOU WOULD ALL CHANGE? As a design team, we're constantly torn between bold and neutral schemes, but the scheme here works beautifully, so we're happy!

ANY ADVICE TO OTHERS FOR CREATING SUCCESSFUL SCHEMES LIKE THESE?

Pursue the elements you're passionate about. Our clients' perseverance to keep some period elements and not create a new build gave them a unique property that suits their style and tastes. 25



MAIN BEDROOM

An elegant bespoke wraparound headboard creates a cosy feel.

IC Lights Suspension lamp, from £365, Flos. Pattani geometric cushion, £40, Oka, would work here

MAIN EN SUITE

Positioned to take in the garden views, a cast-iron bath injects a touch of classic glamour.

Swale bath, from £2,875, Drummonds. Bouclé chair, £229.99, Zara Home

BEDROOM

A raised sleeping area is a fun take on a bunk bed.

Walls in De Nimes estate emulsion, £49.50 for 2.5ltr, Farrow & Ball. Terrazzo wallpaper, around £75 a roll, Ferm Living

