

# 25 BEAUTIFUL HOMES

## FRESH IDEAS

ORIGINAL SCHEMES FOR A NEW PERSPECTIVE

### ECO PROJECT

A low-carbon home made for family living

Renovations, conversions and extensions – covered



### PERSONAL TOUCHES

See how colourful details and decorative artwork bring rooms to life



RECALL  
03/09/20



## DINING AREA

Knocking down walls and extending gave the kitchen a roomy eat-in space.

Grace chairs, from £1,215 each; Concorde table, from £5,977, all Poliform. Ocean glass fringe chandelier, from £5,815, Restoration Hardware. Artwork by Juliana Loveday



# ACCESS ALL AREAS

After a total reconfiguration, every room in Jane and Nicholas Parish's villa is now a much-loved and much-used space

FEATURE JACKY PARKER | PHOTOGRAPHY GUIFRÉ DE PERAY





**SITTING ROOM**

Jane and Nicholas both love blue and it was the starting point for all of the schemes on the ground floor.

Hogarth sofa, from £2,625, The Sofa & Chair Company.

Quartz rug, from £3,888, Jennifer Manners.

Hanover coffee table, from £3,860, Tom Faulkner





## HOME TRUTHS

### THE PROPERTY

Edwardian villa

**LOCATION** Chiswick,  
west London

**ROOMS** Sitting room, kitchen-  
diner, TV room, cloakroom,  
utility room, five bedrooms  
(two en-suite), bathroom

**PURCHASED** 1997

### PREVIOUS PROPERTY

'This was our first home and it  
has grown up with us,' says Jane.

DECORATING TIP 'Consider artwork at the outset of  
the design scheme – don't leave it as an afterthought'



### KITCHEN

Plenty of storage ensures all of the  
surfaces are clutter-free. The new wall  
of floor-to-ceiling glazed doors gives  
easy access to the garden.

Chevron timber parquet floor, from  
£42.95sq m, Jack Evie. Pleated crystal  
pendants, £650 each, Marc Wood Studio



**W**ith their children, Alexander, 20, and Marianne, 18, embarking on further education, lawyers Jane and Nicholas Parish decided it was time to overhaul their tired home. 'We'd modernised the house when we bought it 23 years ago, but we'd done nothing since,' says Jane. 'We were in desperate need of storage and better access to the garden.'

Although generously sized with a basement and habitable attic floor, the layout was typical of an Edwardian house, with a warren of dark rooms that didn't work for modern life. 'We had a small table in the kitchen and a dining room we used for special occasions,' says Jane. 'We only used three of the five bedrooms – our daughter Marianne still had the smallest room.'

In addition, the family rarely enjoyed the garden, which was awkward to get to, being accessed through a corridor cluttered with bikes.

The couple approached three local architects to discuss ideas. The one that stood out was Zulufish, a design and build firm run by Felix and Caroline Milns. 'We were both working long hours, so we didn't want to have to liaise with different companies,' says Jane. 'I loved that at Zulufish the designers work with the builders, so they're able to check the feasibility of a design immediately.'

The house is in a conservation area, so the couple was restricted in what they could do. However, a revised planning application to continue the line of a rear bay window and use part of the side return was approved. They were then able to open up the ground floor, moving the kitchen from the middle to the back of the house, with metal-framed doors installed to connect the garden. The former kitchen then became a cosy TV room.

Marianne was given a larger bedroom with a study area and an en-suite bathroom, while her old room became a guest room. Another spare bedroom was turned into a double study for Jane and Nicholas. All of the rooms were elegantly redesigned and kitted out with much-needed storage space.

With Caroline's help, the couple selected luxurious surfaces and a rich palette for their home. A deep ultramarine shade was chosen for the kitchen cabinetry, and then carried through into the dining area, hallway and sitting room in the form of bold artwork, striking tiles and sumptuous upholstery. Rather than bring in lots of pattern, Jane chose plenty of natural textures, such as marble, hammered brass and fluted glass to add interest. The result is a grown-up space the whole family can enjoy. 'It has transformed the way we live,' says Jane. 'We use all of the rooms now and we can be both self-contained and enjoy the house together, which is a great way to live.'



**MASTER BEDROOM**  
Rather than bring interest with lots of pattern, Jane decided on tactile textures. Wallis bedstead, from £1,899, Heal's



**MARIANNE'S STUDY**  
A streamlined desk and shelving provide a work space in the room of Jane and Nicholas' daughter. Bespoke joinery, Hux London. Walls and joinery in Cotton II pure flat emulsion, £50 for 2.5ltr, Paint & Paper Library

**MASTER EN SUITE**  
This compact room was cleverly planned to make the most of the space. Gubi wall tiles, from £45.60sq m, Domus. Basin mixer, £312; bath mixer, from £370, both Holloways of Ludlow

