

# CLEAR VISIONS

Starting from scratch enabled the creation of the ultimate family-friendly living space.

PHOTOS DARREN CHUNG WORDS HELEN BROWN



Western red cedar cladding flows through the double storey space, complemented by a wood-burning stove in the living area.



*‘Open-plan living really suits our family and there’s never a shortage of parties.’*



#### DESIGN PROFILE

Understated handleless Jubilee Putney Gloss units by Callerton Kitchens are teamed with professional-style appliances and streamlined storage solutions for a practical work zone in an open-plan scheme, celebrating natural materials and a feeling of light and space. An island unit with space for food preparation and effortless induction hob cooking creates a chic focal point and allows for easy entertaining. **Kitchen Design: Jaga Designs Ltd, 40 West Street, Alresford, Hampshire, SO24 9AU. Tel: 01962 735135. jagadesigns.co.uk. Kitchens cost from around £15,000. Architect: Dan Brill Architects, 37 Southgate Street, Winchester, Hampshire, SO23 9EH. Tel: 01962 622085. danbrillarchitects.com.**

**T**he saying ‘all good things come to those who wait’ certainly rings true for Lucy and Ian Golding, who re-located from London to Winchester in 2008. When the perfect house revealed itself on the street they were already renting on, they embarked on a challenging renovation to create a smart, spacious and contemporary family home.

The property in question was a detached 1950s home with a long suburban plot with expansion potential. With three children, Mo, 17, Jemima, 14 and Molly, 12, flexibility was key.

The previous owner had lived there for many years and the house had dark, boxy rooms. ‘Our previous home was open-plan and we wanted to recreate this style again, with lots of natural light,’ says Lucy, a food

technology teacher. ‘Starting from scratch was our only option,’ she explains.

Finding a suitable architect was a priority and, after just two phone calls, Dan of Dan Brill Architects instantly impressed. Lucy and Ian initially hoped to demolish the existing house, but given the uniform streetscape, this idea was abandoned in favour of a more subtle design approach that preserved the old but made way for the new, allowing the two to harmoniously co-exist. Today, only the shell of the original property remains. The main living/dining/kitchen areas are located within a double height space and a new single storey extension, constructed of sustainable timber, runs along the length of the plot. It houses four bedrooms, two bathrooms and a laundry ➔

**Above** A vivid yellow feature wall brings a beautiful burst of colour to the all white scheme.

**Right** Polished concrete flooring with underfoot heating accentuates the pared-down ambience.



An instant centrepiece, the island unit reinforces the conceptual aesthetic of clean shapes and lines used throughout.

*‘We can’t wait to throw open the doors to make the room and garden one.’*

room that skewers the original house to form a new porch at the front. ‘The exciting design allowed Lucy and Ian’s architectural vision to become a reality, while the discreet exterior keeps up the 1950s façade,’ explains Dan.

Lucy’s passion for cooking and entertaining meant that getting the kitchen just right was paramount. With a blank canvas to work with, it was easy to visualise its new location – Dan

was keen to reinforce the feeling of simplicity and ensure the new space met the family’s love of socialising at home. Once the layout was agreed, the search began for a company to bring it to life – step forward Jaga Designs.

Lucy met with Director Maxine Baughan and they hit it off straight away. ‘She understood exactly what I envisaged and I didn’t hesitate on asking her to take on the project,’ she says.

Maxine’s brief was clear, with practicality at the forefront. ‘As Lucy does a lot of cooking, she required a sleek kitchen that would not just blend in with the contemporary style of the open-plan room, but would also double up as a versatile space for preparing food,’ she says.

To celebrate the light-filled surroundings, Callerton Kitchens’ handleless white gloss units with deep, easy glide drawers and soft-

close cupboards ticked all the minimalist chic boxes. A luxurious island topped with sleek white quartz is an instant centrepiece, housing the induction hob and perfectly positioned so Lucy can cook and chat to family or friends at the dining table. All of the high performance appliances, including an American-style fridge freezer and side-by-side ovens, were carefully chosen and overhead cabinets were rejected,

opting instead for shelving above the sink that makes light work of unloading the dishwasher.

Colour is used sparingly in the new room, but with spectacular results. Showstopping yellow brings a fun element, with an alluring raspberry wall further down the long corridor. A further nod to vibrancy is seen through the full-height, flush-glazed windows and doors in the more rustic, wood-accented living area. ➔



**Above** The impressive island is the perfect hub for food preparation, housing a sleek induction hob and easy-glide drawers for essentials.

**Left** Streamlined design features enhance the feeling of space, with practical open shelving for glassware above the sink and dishwasher.

'It was fantastic to be so involved in the design process and to create exactly what I wanted,' says Lucy. 'It's incredibly user-friendly, looks great and is so practical and easy to keep clean. Everything from the polished concrete floor to the ergonomic layout just works perfectly.'

Open-plan living clearly suits the Golding family and there's never a shortage of parties. 'We get such fantastic light in here, it means we can do most of our living in one space,' says Lucy. 'We are counting down the days until summer when we can throw the doors open so the garden and interior can become one.' ■

#### STOCKISTS INFORMATION

##### APPLIANCES

JLAFFS2009 fridge freezer, £899, at John Lewis. EOC 69400 multi-function single oven, around £1,247; EMC38915X combination microwave, around £689; EED21600X warming drawer, around £300, all at Electrolux. HK854400FB induction hob, around £622, at AEG-Electrolux. ZHC4284X extractor hood, around £599, at Zanussi.

##### FIXTURES AND FITTINGS

White Quartz 20mm worktop, £POA, at Hampshire Stone. Polished concrete flooring, £POA, at Steyson Granolithic. PPX611 stainless steel Planar sink, £352; FFCH-PO Fuji pull-out tap, around £177, both at Franke. 16/68 cube wood-burning stove, £POA, at Stuv. Radius dining table, £900; Radius bench, from £200, both at Habitat. Dr Glob chair by Starck, around £170, at Kartell. Similar armchair sleek by Luca Scachetti, from £3,595, at Heal's. Classic coffee machine, £270, at Gaggia.

*\*Prices are approximate. For stockists, see page 162.*