

Now their children have flown the nest, Solicitor Andrew and Samantha, a doctor, are free to enjoy the space their home offers – with extensive gardens, a swimming pool and gym – but they admit it's the kitchen where they spend the majority of their time. And with a space this spectacular, can you blame them?

here's no doubt that designer, Howard Stubbs, was spoilt for space with the Harrisons' roomy kitchen, which was created by incorporating a number of outbuildings into an extension. But, as he explains, large spaces can create their own problems.

"We've successfully avoided simply filling the space with runs of boring cabinetry, and this could have happened if the homeowners had opted for an 'off the shelf' furniture brand with standard cabinet shapes and sizes," he said. "Instead, everywhere you look there are interesting elements and every item of furniture has a specific purpose; it's very much a case of style and function working hand in hand."

The vast scale of the kitchen meant that some truly huge bespoke furniture pieces could be created. For example, the mantel spans not only a large range, but also symmetrical, extra wide, three-drawer cabinets either side of the Aga, yet the furniture still maintains a classic and graceful aesthetic.

Other large pieces include the tall tower units, designed to house the capacious double Fisher & Paykel fridge freezers. This piece of furniture also provides cupboard space above the fridge freezers as well as library shelving either side, for Andrew and Samantha's extensive collection of cookery books.





The two huge islands were made possible because of the enormous kitchen space. They were expertly made with Accoya timber, which is an ultra stable, specially modified timber. Its level of stability is great for achieving a long-lasting, super smooth, factory spray-painted finish, since the timber won't move due to temperature and moisture changes in the air, which can crack and spoil the paint finish. However, the granite used on the islands were both one piece sections and required 10 men to lift! Heaven and Stubbs try to ensure as few granite joins are used as possible, to achieve a smooth seamless finish.

"When we're at home, we're almost always in our new kitchen! The original kitchen was boring, tired and simply a place to cook. "Even the food we produce in our new kitchen is much better, not just because of the appliances, but because we take our time preparing food since the room is a nice space in which to be."

Andrew and Samantha Harrison, homeowners.

"Just as with small spaces, a very large space can be a challenge," continues Howard. "Particularly in terms of maintaining visual interest and keeping the working triangle to a reasonable and practical size." Making such a large space work visually and with the right levels of functionality would perhaps have been very difficult if the furniture hadn't have been bespoke.

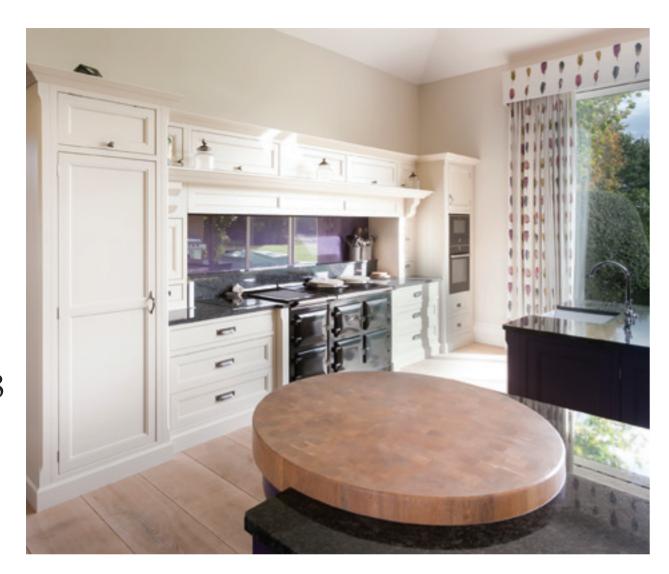
The integrated bench

seating, tables and workstation

demonstrates the skill of the designer and the success of the design to blend Edwardian traditional cabinetry with contemporary design cues and 21st century living requirements.

Standard cabinet sizes and shapes would not only look lost in a room of such big proportions, but also monotonous. "Bespoke is a great option for a kitchen of this size," Howard explains. "And it's often far more reasonably priced than people think." With the Harrisons' kitchen cum social space cum ad hoc office, Howard & Stubbs have created an inviting and innovative living area ensuring the kitchen is the most frequented and loved place in the home.

UTOPIA KITCHEN & BATHROOM APRIL 2017



"We love the fusion of period Edwardian and modern styling as well as the colour."



THE details

Kitchen designed Howard Stubbs from Heaven & Stubbs, with solid timber cabinetry and moulded shaker doors in a painted and washed oak finish heavenandstubbs.com

Visso extractor from Best by Britannia britannialiving.co.uk

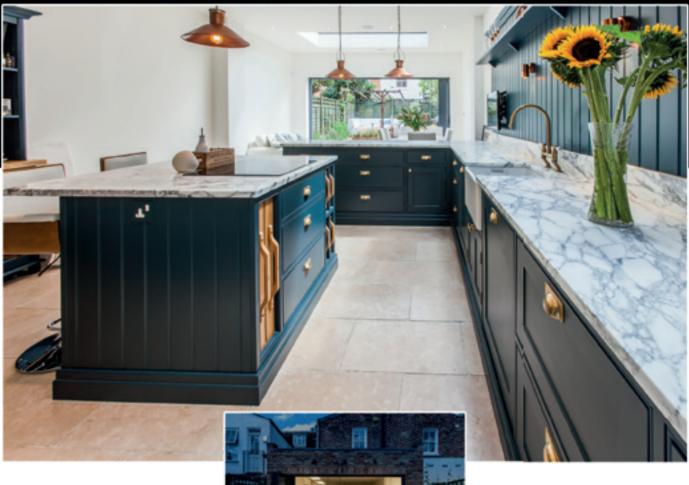
Domino induction hob, single steam oven with microwave and S51 E40X2GB integrated dishwashers by Neff neff.co.uk

Electric Aga oven agaliving.co.uk

Fridge freezer E522BLXF004 by Fisher & Paykel fisherpaykel.com

Gosford tap in chrome and tap with Atlas spray by Abode abodedesigns.co.uk





Contact us now to make an appointment for a free consultation e: howard@heavenandstubbs.com t: 01295 812 423 w:heavenandstubbs.com







