

ELEGANT ENCHANTMENT

An owner's love of interiors has led to the graceful transformation of an Edwardian family home



LIVING ROOM This enjoys beautiful natural light which influenced Tor and Suzannah's choice of wallcovering. Walls in dyed silk in Lead Grey, de Gournay. Blinds in Miro in Clay, Romo. Trim, Samuel & Sons.

EXTERIOR The house boasts an imposing Edwardian exterior that has been painstakingly restored and rejuvenated by Suzannah and Eddie, including repointing the brickwork and re-rendering using traditional lime plaster.

SURREY HOUSE



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he house that Suzannah, husband Eddie and their four children now call home already had a familiar air to it. 'I used to deliver newspapers here when it was flats - many years ago!' laughs Suzannah, adding that in the intervening years, it had been converted back into a single dwelling and family home. When it finally popped up on their online property search, the pair jumped at the chance.

Keen to stay in this quiet pocket of leafy Surrey where Suzannah grew up and which is close to her parents, the couple were looking for something with more space for the family and with character and potential.

'I literally stalked Rightmove,' Suzannah admits, explaining exactly how she stumbled upon this gem of a property. 'We knew instantly it was right for us. It is a beautiful Edwardian building with a mature garden and it just felt like home, although it did need updating.'

A new roof, a complete re-render of the outside using traditional lime plaster and full repointing was just the start of the transformation. The exterior was then repainted and all original windows were draught proofed, with sashes replaced where necessary, before a new damp proof course was applied. 'We then took a breather,' Suzannah says, before starting work indoors.

Fortunately, the interior was much more forgiving, with a layout that already worked wonderfully. 'We just needed to focus on updating and improving each room,' she explains. 'I'd done a term of an interior design course at KLC between jobs and before the world of IT marketing lured me back again, so I already had a keen interest in interiors.'

The internal decor started with the bathrooms, closely followed by the couple's bedroom. 'I'd fallen in love with a de Gournay wallpaper but needed to source curtains, a blind and a headboard that would work with the pattern,' Suzannah says. She employed

the services of Tor Saer, founder of interior design firm Westcot House. 'Tor was fantastic in helping find the right fabrics and style for the room,' she says. Tor was similarly impressed with Suzannah's interest in and knowledge of interior design and knew they could work together to bring Suzannah's ideas to life. 'It was obvious when I first met Suzannah that she had a really strong feel for what she wanted,' says Tor. 'I was delighted to help her achieve the look - elegant, classic, long lasting, using traditional craftsmanship and beautiful fabrics, wallpapers and trims.'

'I wanted to be sympathetic to the period of the house and reflect my love of pattern and textiles - I can spend hours immersed in fabric swatches,' Suzannah explains. 'But also to keep it a very personal family home and not too "interior designed".' There is a subliminal nod to the Arts and Crafts design ethos of the Edwardian era, with wallpapers showcasing rambling patterns of flowers and foliage. A dreamy Lewis & Wood floral wallpaper graces the walls of daughter Maya's room, while in the living room, elaborate lights from Vaughan illuminate an exquisite sofa and chairs from Beaumont & Fletcher. 'They were in the sale,' explains Suzannah, 'and became the starting point for the main living room and the inspiration for another beautiful de Gournay silk wallpaper. It works so beautifully with the light in the room.'

Contact Tor at [westcotohouse.co.uk](mailto:tor@westcotohouse.co.uk) and @westcotohouse

AT HOME WITH

OWNERS Suzannah, marketing director, husband Eddie, sales director and their children, Freddie, 18, Maya, 17, Rupert, 16 and Jack, 11.

HOUSE A four-bedroom detached Edwardian property set over three floors.

STUDY/TV ROOM As both Suzannah and Eddie work from home, the brief was to create a calm, quiet space that would still work as a family room. Walls in grasscloth in Jade, Altfield. Desk and chair, Oficina Inglesa





STUDY/TV ROOM This doubles up as the TV room and looks out over the garden. **Fireplace**, Chesneys. **Mirror**, Patrick Ireland Frames. **Sofa**, Recoire, in Verona velvet in Baltic, Lewis & Wood. **Armchair**, Recoire, in Ikat Bokhara in Teal, GP&J Baker



'I wanted to be sympathetic to the period of the house and reflect my love of pattern and textiles. The look is classic and elegant, using beautiful fabrics, wallpapers and trims'



KITCHEN The couple updated the existing units with a fresh coat of paint and opted for a pale coloured floor covering. **Cabinets** in Grey Moss and Slaked Lime, Little Greene. **Flooring**, Frosted Stone by Karndean

UTILITY ROOM The ceiling-mounted clothes airer takes pride of place in the utility room and adds a lovely dash of period charm. **Cupboards** in French Gray, Farrow & Ball. **Clothes airer**, Pulleymaid



HALLWAY A bold foliage wallpaper adds a lively welcoming note and is complemented with fresh green paint. Adam's Eden wallpaper in Ivory, Lewis & Wood. **Woodwork** in Drab Green, Edward Bulmer Natural Paint



MAYA'S BEDROOM A calm palette of neutrals is teamed with a romantic floral wallcovering. **Indienne wallpaper** in Wisteria, Lewis & Wood. **Bed and stool**, Feather & Black. **Chest of drawers**, Chelsea Textiles

BATHROOM A pretty fire surround adds a heritage note to the family bathroom, which features a decadent mix of materials. **Tiles**, Mandarin Stone. **Bath**, Clearwater Balthazar. **Taps**, Lefroy Brooks





SUZANNAH'S COUNTRY LIFE

GO FOR A MEAL AT Mimi's in Weybridge, for casual fine dining with a Mediterranean flair (mimisweybridge.co.uk).

WHERE TO VISIT RHS Wisley gardens are a delight all year round and full of horticultural inspiration, but particularly in early autumn as the season and colour palette starts to change (rhs.org.uk/gardens/wisley).

WHERE TO SHOP Valentina Deli & Kitchen in Weybridge is a wonderful Italian one-stop delicatessen and restaurant offering delivery, too, and serves delicious, authentic Italian favourites, both sweet and savoury (valentinadeli.co.uk).



FEATURE: SARA ENSLIE
PHOTOGRAPHS: ASTRID TEMPLIER

MAIN BEDROOM Interior designer Tor Saer helped Suzannah with the design of the bespoke headboard. **Headboard**, Westcot House, covered in velvet by Designers Guild. **Bedside table**, Robert Langford

MAIN BEDROOM The exquisite wallcovering nods to the property's Edwardian heritage. **Walls** in Badminton dyed silk in Pale Grey, de Gournay. **Chandelier**, Nordic Style London. **Commode**, Lorfords Antiques

