

Perfect UNION

Solid acrylic, oak cabinetry and splashes of lilac all feature in Jane and Michael O'Donnell's kitchen

GREAT IDEA

Including a desk area in a kitchen means the whole family can make use of the space

AS
SEEN IN
BEAUTIFUL
KITCHENS
MAGAZINE

ISLAND UNIT

A **Blizzard CaesarStone** worktop covers the island, which incorporates a **half-bowl Kubus sink** by Franke and a breakfast bar with **stools** from Poltrona Frau

LIGHTING

Bestlite pendant lights were colourmatched by Best & Lloyd to **Plush Velvet 4** by Dulux, the shade of the glass splashback



BESPOKE CABINETRY

Cream White Parapan units have been teamed with **oak veneer furniture**, both by Mowlem & Co

FLOORING

Lancia Khaki porcelain tiles from The Stone & Ceramic Warehouse were bought as a practical, easy-to-clean choice



DRINKS STORE

Designer Alice suggested using a redundant space just outside the kitchen as a place to house a **wine cooler** by Caple

‘WE CHOSE PARAPAN INSTEAD OF LACQUERED CABINETS BECAUSE WE KNEW THE CHILDREN WOULD BE RUNNING AROUND AND BRINGING THEIR BIKES THROUGH, AND THEY WOULD GET SCUFFED’



COOKING AREA

A **stainless-steel range cooker** by Britannia sits underneath a **chimney extractor hood** from WS Westin

OAK DRAWERS

One of the features that Jane and Michael like about their Mowlem & Co kitchen is the wide and spacious **soft-closing drawers**



JANE AND MICHAEL O'DONNELL LIVE IN A VICTORIAN HOUSE IN LONDON

WITH THEIR CHILDREN, MIA, SEVEN, AND JOSHUA, FIVE, AND BELLA THE CAT

When Jane and Michael O'Donnell, an investments manager, moved into their new home, they had to wait two years before they could afford to refurbish it. This did, however, give the couple plenty of time to consider changes they wanted to make. A small space, the kitchen had a warren of little

rooms off it that housed the boiler, the laundry room and a washroom. 'The kitchen hadn't been touched in more than 40 years and it leaked,' explains Jane, a full-time mum. 'Whenever it rained, we had six buckets scattered around. To top it off, there was foliage growing out of the conservatory, so often we'd wake up to find slug trails in the kitchen in the morning!'

The couple's goal was to reinstate the house's original features and, when it came to the kitchen, they knew that they wanted not just somewhere to cook but also a living space. They decided to enlist the help of local architect, Alice Poole. 'For us, it was the most important room in the house, so

we needed it to be light,' says Jane. 'As the room faces east, the kitchen could be quite dark. To make everything as light as possible, Alice redesigned the layout and installed French windows.'

Another must-have was plenty of storage. Alice suggested moving a door that originally led out to the hallway, so that the kitchen could be accessed through an archway at the conservatory end instead. 'It meant we were able to have a long bank of storage and appliances along one wall,' reveals Jane.

Having time to research paid off when Jane discovered Mowlem & Co furniture. The couple chose oak veneered units to give the kitchen warmth and paired them with pale

cream Parapan cabinetry. Parapan is a glossy acrylic surface that is solid, so any scratches can be easily buffed out. 'We wanted our kitchen to be child friendly,' explains Jane.

When it came to practicality, the couple felt it was important to include an island in their scheme. 'It has changed how we live and eat,' says Jane. 'We were lucky that the kitchen was big enough to include one.'

The couple are pleased with the results. 'Everything went smoothly,' enthuses Jane. 'Alice was great and so were the builders. We didn't want super modern or a country kitchen – but I think we've somehow married the two ideas together well.'

FEATURE SARA SARRÉ PHOTOGRAPHY ALEXANDER JAMES



PRICE GUIDE
Starting price
£30,000
for an Alice Poole Architects design, excl appliances

CONCEALED PLUG POINT

The **integrated power point** keeps the surface of the island free of clutter. 'The whole thing pops up out of the island,' says Jane. 'It's fantastic – I love it'

THE KITCHEN AT A GLANCE

DESIGN & CABINETS

Alice Poole at Alice Poole Architects

6 Woodstock Road, London W4 1UE
(020 8742 8800)
www.alicepoole.co.uk

- Bespoke Cream White Parapan cabinetry with oak veneer units by Mowlem & Co

WORKTOPS

- Blizzard CaesarStone, Mowlem & Co. Price per sq m **£529**

FLOORING

- Lancia Khaki porcelain tiles, The Stone & Ceramic Warehouse. Price per sq m **£76.38**

SINKS & TAPS

- US1830B Just undermounted single-bowl sink in brushed steel, Sterling **£439**
- KBX110-20 Kubus undermounted half-bowl sink in stainless steel, Franke **£257**
- 2 x Talis S² Variarc single-lever monobloc mixer taps in stainless-steel optic with pull-out spray, Hansgrohe, each **£282**



- 4000 Classic waste disposal unit, Maxmatic **£375**

APPLIANCES (shown)

- SII2TC6X2SLX dual-fuel range cooker in stainless steel, Britannia **£5,074**
- Built-in microwave, for similar try HF24M562B, Siemens **£382**
- Built-in steam oven, for similar try HB34D552B, Siemens **£1,063**
- SL31 chimney extractor hood in stainless steel, WS Westin **£656**
- MSS20FIS14 integrated American fridge freezer, Maytag **£1,299**
- KWT497 built-in wine cooler, Miele **£3,278**

APPLIANCES (not shown)

- Fully integrated dishwasher, Siemens **£483**

For stockists, see page 137

PLAN SCALE 1cm: 1m

