

# The SPECIALIST

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October

**LATEST**  
NEWS, VIEWS,  
IDEAS & INTERIOR  
DESIGN ADVICE

## *Make a statement*

Blend old and new with rich  
walnut and contemporary lin



**Kitchen  
CATWALK**

MODERN & TRADITIONAL  
DESIGN SELECTION

**Kbsa**  
the UK kitchen bathroom bedroom  
specialists association





**CEILING DESIGN**  
The ceiling feature, inset with LEDs, is designed to help break up the space and define the working area of the kitchen





# Making a STATEMENT

Julie and George Lynch created a new kitchen-living space in a room that's now four times the size of the original, with a statement design to match its impressive dimensions

PICTURES NEALE SMITH | WORDS AMELIA THORPE

**T**he layout of Julie and George Lynch's 1930s-built home, not far from Glasgow, was curious to say the least. 'To get to the kitchen from the front door, we had to walk along two hallways and through the dining room,' recalls Julie. 'It felt very higgledy-piggledy.'

The back-to-front arrangement and combination of small rooms and narrow passageways was far from ideal for life with children Georgia, now 14, Lewis, 12, and Roma, 10. 'I'm always in the kitchen – I practically live there,' laughs full-time mum and keen cook Julie, 'so as soon as we moved in, we knew we wanted to make some major changes to create a kitchen-living space much more suited to our family life.'

Julie and company director and husband, George, set about obtaining planning permission to extend across the rear of the house, quadrupling the size of the original kitchen in the process. With oak-framed glazed doors across the width of the room affording beautiful views of the plant-filled garden (complete with tree house and zip wire), the new open-plan space is impressive in size. Best of all? 'From the front door and entrance hall, you can see all the way through to the garden beyond,' says Julie.

Julie remembers, 'About six years ago, I saw a picture of a walnut kitchen in a magazine. I loved it as it seemed to blend the best of the old and the new: wood is an age-old material and the furniture traditionally-made, but the design is clean-lined, modern and the walnut is rich and strong in colour. And, since I hadn't gone off it at all over the years, I felt it was right for here.' With clipping and plans in hand, Julie went to meet Sales Designer Duncan Heeles of Kitchens International in Glasgow.

Together they developed the design for the sweeping, long island, flanked by tall cabinets at both ends of the room. 'I come from a family of chefs and, true to form, I love cooking,' she explains adding that Italian and fish dishes and homemade pizzas are her speciality. 'Now I can cook to my heart's content, without feeling cut off from friends and family.'

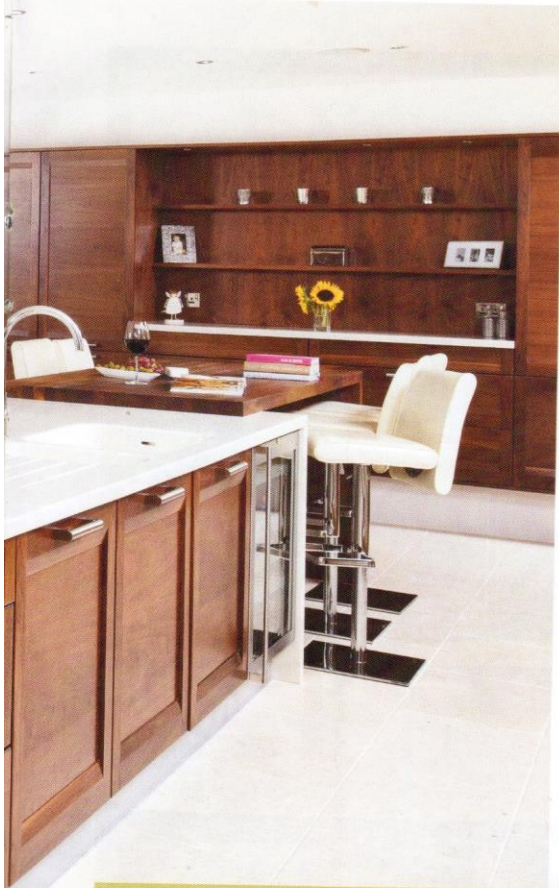




**ABOVE** The Gaggenau 90cm oven provides extra-wide cooking capacity, while the flush-fitted induction hob is teamed with a Westin Design downdraft extractor that slides back down into the worktop when not in use.



## Kitchen case st



**ABOVE** The walnut breakfast bar extends from the island creating a casual morning eating area and seating for the family to socialise and gather for evening meals  
**BELOW** Tall cabinets are semi-recessed into the wall and hung off the floor, creating a floating appearance. They act to balance the room's design, mirroring the tall cabinets at the opposite end of the island, while linking the kitchen to the living area







## *Duncan Heeles*

SALES DESIGNER

### Q&A with designer

**WHAT WAS THE MAIN CHALLENGE?** This room measures just under 10.5m wide and 8.5m deep, so making a layout work in such a large space can present challenges. No one wants to have to walk miles between cooking, storage and washing up areas, but equally, you don't want everything bunched up in one corner of the room. Julie and George wanted to create an interactive family space with a warm and homely feel.

**TELL US ABOUT THE LAYOUT** The island is long at just under 6.5m – it's definitely the longest island I've ever designed! The working zone at one end includes the hob and main oven in close proximity to the other appliances on the run of wall cabinets, with sink and storage close by, plus plenty of work surface. This is the main cooking station for Julie, who can enjoy looking out over the garden while she is working. The island also has a breakfast bar, with wine fridge alongside. At the opposite end, another section of wall cabinetry – this one is semi-recessed and 'floating' and links the kitchen to the living areas in the room. It's designed with display shelving.

**AND THE FINISHES?** Black walnut is both rich and strong in colour. In a small space, it might be overwhelming, but here it brings in warmth and adds impact. Painted timber would probably have been 'lost' in the room. We teamed it with seamless Corian in a soft Bone colour, which blends well with the natural limestone floor, and provides contrast with the timber.







**TOP LEFT**

Durable soft Bone coloured Corian is used for the worktops and sink area, giving it a clean look that contrasts with the warm walnut units

**BOTTOM LEFT**

Symmetrically arranged Gaggenau combination steam oven, coffee machine and combination microwave, each with a warming drawer below, are flanked by an integrated fridge and freezer, left, and larder cupboard, right

**THIS PAGE** Plinths of ribbed stainless steel are durable and contrast with the rich timber and natural limestone floor





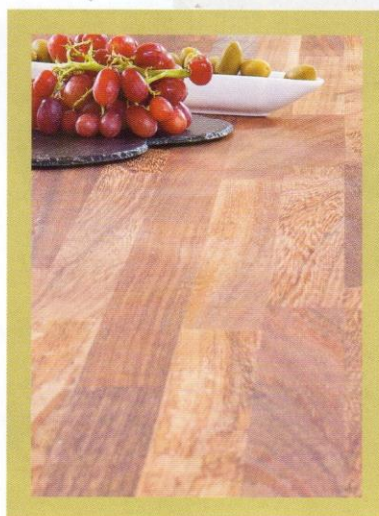




**LEFT** Designed to add interest, the walnut breakfast bar lies on top of the Corian island worktop, creating an attractive and comfortable difference in height

**RIGHT** With a grey mirror splashback, the breakfast zone has another sink, as well as storage and a toaster, out of the way of the main cooking area

**BELOW** The walnut breakfast bar adds warmth to the otherwise clean and white design



## KITCHEN PROFILE

Stoneham Strata Black Walnut furniture features a wide-bevelled, solid timber frame with horizontally grained centre panels that accentuates the linear design. The rich, dark timber makes a statement in impressively-sized room, while an extra-long island topped in seamless Corian Bone provides cool contrast. High performance Gaggenau appliances are a keen cook's dream and complete the luxurious line-up.

### KITCHENS INTERNATIONAL

220 Great Western Road, Glasgow, G4 9EJ.  
Tel: 0141 404 7744. Also at Edinburgh, Broxburn, Aberdeen and Perth. [kitchensinternational.co.uk](http://kitchensinternational.co.uk)  
Kitchen prices from £20,000.





*'Now I can cook  
without feeling cut off  
from friends and family*



## Stockists

### APPLIANCES

BS471 **combination steam oven**, £4,000; CM450 **coffee machine**, £2,760; BM450 **combination microwave**, £3,159; WS461 **warming drawers**, £866 each; EB 385 oven 90cm, £4,113; CI491 **induction hob**, £1,893; RC462 **integrated fridge**, £4,721; RF463 **integrated freezer**, £5,427; DF260 **integrated dishwasher**, £1,124; RW404 **wine cooler**, £1,875; all Gaggenau. Tel 0844 892 9026. gaggenau.co.uk • Lissner **downdraft extractor**, £1,874, Westin Design. Tel 01484 421585. westin.co.uk

### FIXTURES AND FURNISHINGS

Dante **mixers**, £311 each, Carron Phoenix. Tel 01324 638321. carron.com • Corian

Bone **worktops**, £543 per sqm; Corian 804 **sink**, £482, and 873 **sink**, £861; Grey Mirror **splashback**, £410 per sqm, both Kitchens International. Tel 01313 373434.

kitchensinternational.co.uk • Similar **bar stools**, from a selection, Atlantic Shopping. Tel 01212 301644. atlanticshopping.co.uk

• Similar limestone **floor tiles**, Applestone limestone, from £48 per sqm, Classical Flagstones. Tel 0845 308 3030. classical-flagstones.co.uk • Julie had her **sofas and footstool** made to order, for similar try Sofas & Stuff. Tel 0808 178 3211. sofasandstuff.com

### BUILDING DESIGN

Daly Planning and Design  
Tel 0141 848 7946

**LEFT** On the 'non-cooking' side of the island, a display shelf and half-height handleless cabinets are designed to look more like living room, rather than kitchen furniture. There is also a section for more bar stools, right, to accommodate guests **BELOW** Similar natural stone flooring has been used inside and out to create an almost seamless transition between the two areas, perfect for summer entertaining

