

this picture
The farmhouse
is set within acres
of fields, and
there are several
outbuildings that
the couple have
yet to convert.
"There's one
that one day is
going to be my
guest cottage,"
says Rosemary



A twist on tradition

This award-winning home, owned by artist Jake Chapman and his family, is a lesson in how to restore a farmhouse and barn sensitively, while making a contemporary architectural statement. by Sarah Buhfwin / Photography: Rachael Smith



When you hear that artist Jake Chapman (renowned, with his brother Dinos, for bastardising Goya's etchings and Hitler's watercolours, and generally producing boundary-pushing art) has restored and renovated a traditional Cotswold farmhouse and barn, you expect him to have raised two fingers to tradition. But it turns out his architectural style is much more sensitive to the old masters than his artistic one, and his home near a sleepy, cream-coloured village in Gloucestershire, is very true to the original.

Jake lives here with his partner, Rosemary Ferguson, and their children, Elfie, 11, Bliss, 5, and Blythe, 4. When they bought the site, the farmhouse had a two-storey extension and conservatory, but the adjacent barn was derelict, open to the elements and filled with rusty farm equipment. They commissioned architect Andrew Waugh of Waugh Thistleton Architects and his ex-colleague, Kirstin Haggart, to work on the design; Waugh was a natural choice – he is an old friend and also designed one of their previous homes in Hastings.

'We saw the site as an opportunity to do something modern with a traditional Cotswold stone house,' says Rosemary. 'The idea of just having a country →

above The layout of the original farmhouse remains traditional with two rooms on each of the three floors
right In the snug are two matching Chesterfield sofas. They aren't really Jake and Rosemary's style, but the couple think they work really well in this room



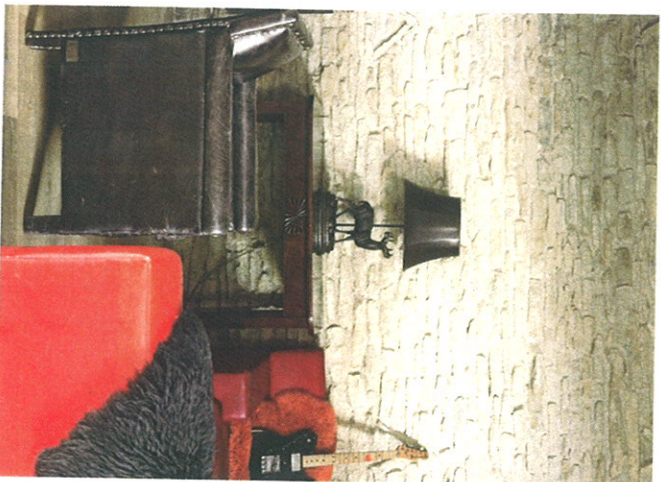


above The couple bought this dining table from a second-hand shop in London, and little of the other furniture is new. Instead, it's been collected over the years by Jake and Rosemary. Left From the front threshold of the farmhouse there is a direct view through the carport and onto the master bathroom fan left The splashback in the kitchen was first fitted in marble, which Jake and Rosemary didn't like. They changed it to statement red at vast expense. It's something we never talk about, laughs Rosemary

'We wanted to make the new bits unashamedly contemporary, while celebrating the existing structure'



Left With a gallery on to the main living room, the study remains connected to the house but feels like a postcard hierarchy. *Right* The house is decorated with all-organic points. 'It doesn't make sense to do a new house without making it sustainable,' says Rosemary. *Below right* All the traditional features in the barn and farmhouse have been retained, like the beautiful Cotswold-stone walls in the living area. Jack's personal memories are showcased in display cabinets for *right* His glazed double doors lead out from the living area to the swimming pool and terrace



Homes Rural Restoration

cottage or a country house was not something that appealed. It needed to be a little bit different. 'They wanted to refurbish the farmhouse, convert the barn and add floor space. Although neither the farmhouse nor the barn were listed, the pair worked closely with the planners and conservation officers. 'They were really helpful and positive,' says Waugh. The challenge was working out how to connect the two buildings successfully, and this was what took time on the drawing board. The result is breathtaking, and although the front door leads into the farmhouse, you are immediately drawn through into the extension, a 3.4m-high, single-storey glass and burnt cedar-clad construction. Not only does it join the two original buildings, it also just out finger-like in front of the



farmhouse, providing space for the kitchen and dining room as well as for a guest bedroom and bathroom.

At the other end of the modern, light-filled extension (floor-to-ceiling sliding glass doors open up completely to the terrace and swimming pool) is the restored barn, the indisputable heart of the home. It features a soaring double-height living space, with room for two separate sitting areas, as well as Jake's drum kit and guitars.

A portion of the barn has been divided into two levels to make the master bedroom quarters, Jake and Rosemary's bathroom and dressing room is on the ground floor, with their bedroom and a shared study on the upper level. Waugh designed a striking metal staircase that sits in the middle of the bathroom and twists up to the bedroom above. Thanks to this feature, this space is one of the most eye-catching parts of the design. 'It's my favourite part of the house - I love my shower and I really love that staircase,' says Rosemary. You spot it even when you first walk through the front door, with a direct view from the threshold of the farmhouse through the extension and barn to the bathroom. It's a dramatic sight, and one that's completed by the irreverent 'Insult To Injury' wallpaper (designed by the Chapmans) that covers the entire rear wall.

You might be wondering where the kids fit into all these architectural gymnastics: in fact, they've got the entire original farmhouse at their disposal. Waugh didn't make any structural changes to this part of the home, and the layout remains traditional with two rooms on each of the three floors. In fact, it looks like a life-size doll's house, complete with quirky, colourful window details and unusual, mismatched furniture.

Although the home has a modern feel, with poured concrete floors and minimalist decor, all the traditional features in the barn and farmhouse have been retained. 'We wanted to make the new bits unashamedly contemporary, while celebrating the existing structure,' says Waugh. The uncovered Cotswold-stone walls and exposed beams are particularly striking, breaking up the white-washed and clean finish.

'We wanted to keep the interior simple and homely,' elaborates Waugh. This extends to the furniture, pretty much all of which has been collected by Jake and Rosemary over the years. The exceptions are a pair of Chesterfields in the snug and the striking pendants in the kitchen. 'There's a lot going on with the stone and timber and glass, so we wanted to wait before we bought loads of furniture,' says Rosemary.

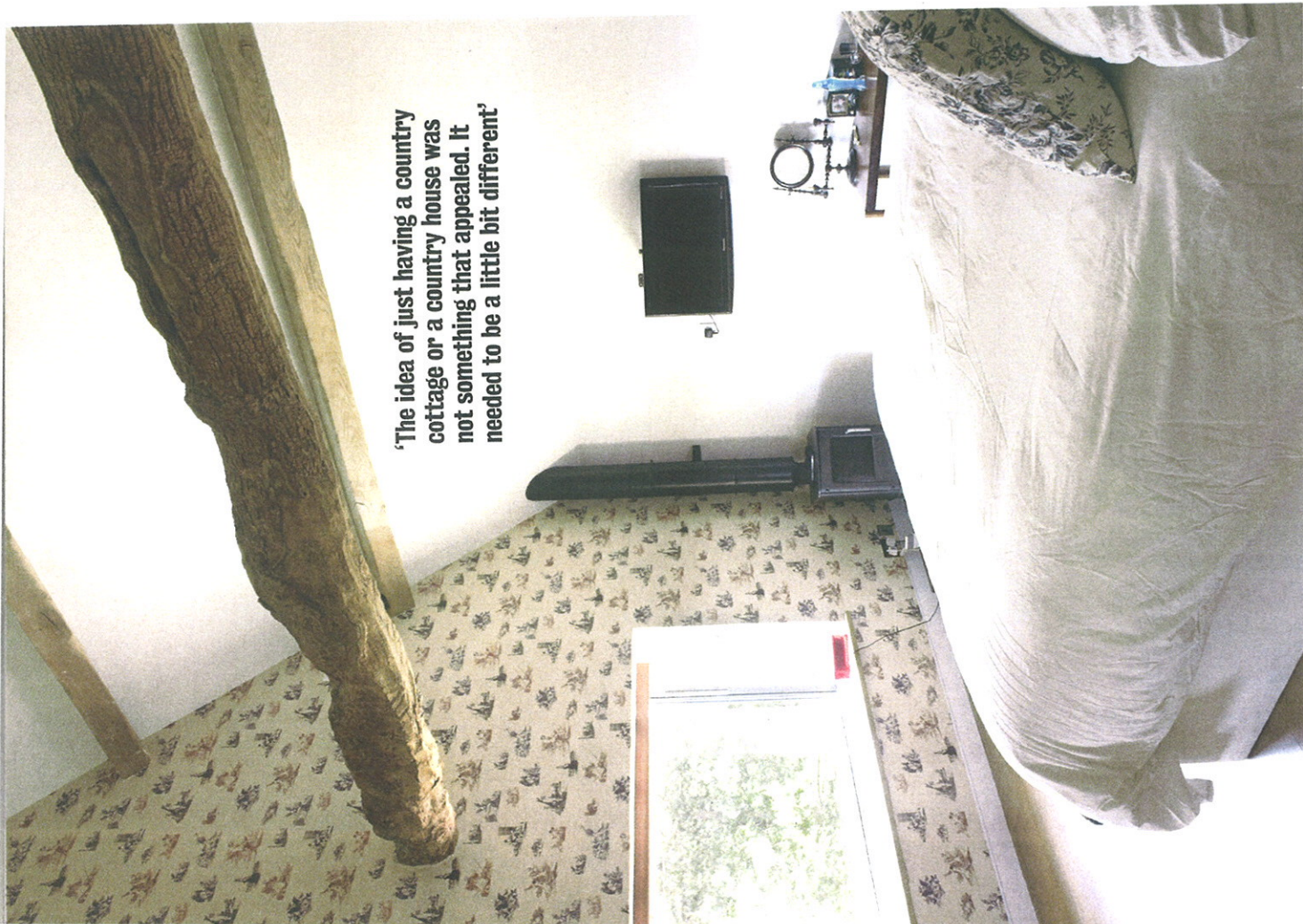
Money was a consideration, too: Rosemary and Jake spent double what they expected. It's not that they went over budget - in fact, the project was, unusually for a grand design, both on time and in budget. Rather, they realised the house they wanted would cost twice as much as they'd originally anticipated.

Besides being aesthetically sensitive to the landscape, the home sits lightly on the land, thanks to its eco

left Designed by Jake and Dines Chapman, the 'Insult To Injury' wallpaper in the master bedroom was only fitted a few months ago. It plays with the traditional signature formaton found on nineteenth-century French wallpapers

right The freestanding staircase in the bathroom was one of the trickiest parts of the house to design. Although it is currently wood clad, the plan is to expose the metal frame when the children are older

below right Rosemary chose a double bed for five-year-old daughter Bliss' bedroom, so that it can be used as an extra guest room



'The idea of just having a country cottage or a country house was not something that appealed. It needed to be a little bit different'

Suppliers

Project team: Architects: Waugh Thistleton (020 7613 5727; waughthistleton.com) Contractor: MJS Building & S. Renovation (01666 504 529; mjsbuilding.com)
Project management: Andrew Rucker (01666 504 529)
Structural engineer: Elliott Wood Partnership (020 8544 0033; elliottwood.co.uk)
Mechanics and engineering consultant: Michael Peppier Associates (020 8892 7947; michaelpieppier.com)
Quantity surveyor: Brook Barnes James (020 8362 1375; gs-bbj.co.uk)
Pool maintenance: Gardener, Gardeners (01452 270 273; gardenergardeners.co.uk)
Structure: Concrete floor: Pandemo (pandemo.co.uk)
Sliding doors: Vitrocsa (+41 24 436 22 02; vitrocsa.ch)
Fixtures and fittings: Kitchen design: Waugh Thistleton (020 7613 5727; waughthistleton.com)
Stone work surface and hearth: Anything Stone (01793 695 110; anythingstone.co.uk)
Bathroom: Axon, Marshes (020 2226 2220; axonmarshes.co.uk)
Timber floor: Cathedral Wood Flooring (01962 888 572; cathedralflooring.com)
Furniture and accessories: Audio and TV system: The Breckle Group (0845 273 2843; thebrecklegroup.co.uk)
Pendant lights: Lasso (020 7394 2100; lasso.co.uk)
Sofas: Distinctive Chesterfields (01484 663 294; distinctivechesterfields.com)
Wallpaper: White Cube (020 7930 5373; whitecube.com)

Ground floor

- 1 Bathroom and dressing room
- 2 Living room
- 3 Kitchen and dining room
- 4 Playroom
- 5 Snug
- 6 Changing room
- 7 En suite
- 8 Bedroom
- 9 Terrace
- 10 Pool

First floor

- 11 Master bedroom
- 12 Reading room
- 13 Green roof
- 14 Family bathroom
- 15 Bedroom

Second floor

- 16 Bedroom
- 17 Bedroom



Up View

applying for planning the extension was going to be in Central zone, but rural color was absent instead, so that the new building has its own distinctive identity and is clearly different from the original

features. A ground source heat pump sorts out the heating and the hot water for the house, and an air source heat pump looks after the pool. They used organic paints throughout and the pool is filled with well water purified by a newly planted reed bed. It's amazing, just like swimming in a lake, says Rosemary. The house was originally designed as a country retreat, with the family intending to remain living in London. 'We quickly realised we wouldn't get enough out of the house if we just came at weekends', says Rosemary. The house was finished in August 2009 and they made the full move almost exactly a year later. 'I don't think Jake would ever be happy in a house he hadn't built,' laughs Rosemary. Indeed, their stamp is all over it, from the 'bits of wet' sign on the front door to the blood-red splashback in the kitchen. 'We just absolutely love it.' 60

Like the original cabinet in oak and Rosemary's living room (see sidebar, see p11)



STYLE FINDER

Display cases: Show off your collectibles, like homeowners Jake and Rosemary have done in their Gloucestershire farmhouse, with one of these eye-catching, glass-fronted storage cabinets. Compiled by Stephanie Barrow-Saunders



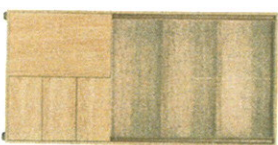
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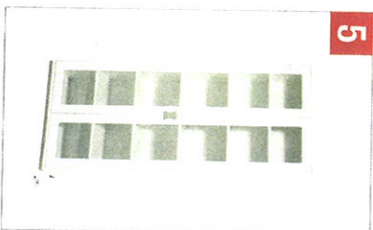
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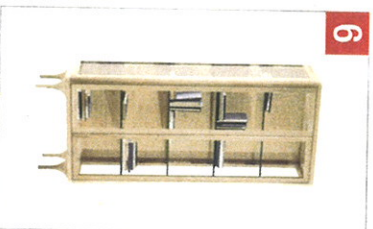
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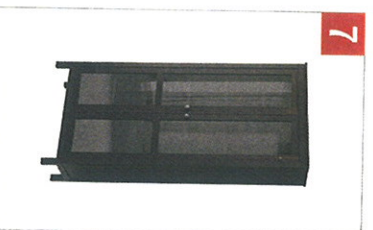
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6



7



8

- 1 Spacious design** Wide glass cabinet in wood with satin black finish and brass turned handles (H206x W187xD35cm), £1,881, Black Orchid Interiors (01772 722 344; blackorchidinteriors.co.uk)
- 2 Scandinavian style** Lecco wall system in walnut veneer with glass (H229.5xW131.5xD41cm), £1,995, available in a range of staining finishes, also in white-lacquered, walnut veneer and black-stained oak, and fronts also available in yellow ochre and dust grey lacquer, by Morden Georgan (or Bo Concept) (020 7388 2447; boconcept.co.uk)
- 3 Traditional elegance** gpr cabinet in oak in linen grey (H230xW120xD11cm), £1,350, also available in weathered oak, Oka (0844 815 7380; okadirect.com)
- 4 Cocktail time** Garros storage cabinet in oak veneer with wine rack, pull-out drawer and three storage drawers (H100xW202xD40cm), £1,100, Habitat (0944 499 1111; habitat.co.uk)
- 5 Cool white** Snow cabinet F in solid birch with MDF and glass doors (H210xW90xD42cm), £1,835, also with plain doors and in anthracite, dark grey, light grey, coffee, white, sand, mole and deep blue, by Jonas Bohlin and Thomas Sandell (or Asplund at Skandium) (020 7594 2066; skandium.com)
- 6 Contemporary choice** Gillespie tall glass cabinet in oak (H180xW75xD40cm), £2,790, other finishes available, Channex (020 7371 0301; channexdesign.com)
- 7 Swedish glamour** Hermes glass-door cabinet in solid wood in black-brown (H197xW90xD37cm), £27472, also available in grey-brown and white, by Carre Berings for Ikea (0845 358 3363; ikea.co.uk)
- 8 Classic update** Pilgrim armoire in oak and oak veneer in grey (H185xW120xD42cm), £1,100, also available in Puty, by Ercol (or John Lewis) (0845 604 5049; johnlewis.com)

