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BUMPER
ISSUE**

COVER STORY Former rectory turned gorgeous family home See p100

Particulars

LOCATION
West London

AGE
1895

BUILDING
Five-storey
brick house

ROOMS
Kitchen/dining
room, utility,
playroom, sitting
room, pool room,
3 bedrooms,
2 bathrooms

MOVED IN
1995



1 Janet found the rug in the living room at John Lewis (020 7629 7711) and the knole sofa at Harrods (020 7730 1234), while the iron-legged, glass-topped table came from Italy

2 The 300-year-old Venetian mirror above the fireplace came from Through the Looking Glass (020 7221 4026). The cupboard in the corner of the room was made by Elephant (020 7637 7930) using antique Indian doors

2

Janet Thurston has turned her home into a showcase for her collection of art-deco and art-nouveau pieces

Tribute to the arts



It's a peaceful haven of pearl and pewter colours



1

Janet Thurston, a fashion agent for ladies' designer clothes, found a house in London for herself and her daughter Olivia, now eight, in 1995, and has been embellishing it with her own style ever since. With five storeys, it is a large property. 'It's the only house in the street that hasn't been turned into flats and remains a family home.'

The previous owner was an interior decorator, so Janet inherited many benefits. All the floorboards had been stripped, there was a Mexican slate-tiled floor in the kitchen, and several antique doors from Spain. However, there were a few things she wanted to change. 'I wanted to make the lower ground floor a family area. The kitchen was already there with French windows leading to the garden, but the room at the front was a recording studio. I ripped everything out, knocked down the wall and opened it all up.'

Having created such a large and inviting room, you wouldn't think that Janet needed more space for visitors. However, when furnishing the pool room on the ground floor, she bought a pool table that can be moved >

'I ripped everything out and opened it all up'



1 & 3 The table in the kitchen was left by the previous owners. It is made from floorboards set on a frame of scaffolding poles. The glass-fronted dresser came from John Lewis of Hungerford (01488 682066)

2 Janet bought the zebra-print sofa from Elephant and ordered extra fabric to cover the pool table, which was found at Thurstons (020 8952 2002). The 1930s marbled slate fireplace came from Embers (020 8964 3365)



25 Good ideas

Janet's passion for art deco has influenced her choice of decor. Renwick & Clarke (020 7720 0311) can bring similar glamour to your home with art deco-inspired panels, lamps and furniture by World Design. This cocktail table costs £1930, while the Empire chair is £2295 and the Ruban chair is £2200.



4 The bath and sink were already in the house, so Janet just painted the walls with Cameo White (3013) from Dulux

5 The bedhead was designed and cut from deco-style templates and reflects the room's art-deco theme

to one side to create lots more space if she needs it. 'I've got such a big family and so many friends that when we have parties, there's never enough room!' explains Janet.

All the floors in the house are wooden with rugs in a few rooms, while the walls are painted in delicate pastel shades or white. This simple scheme is perfect for showing off Janet's collection of furniture, light fittings and ornaments from the art-deco era.

She has always been a great fan of art deco. The sitting room, for instance, is full of deco figures and a collection of art-nouveau silver, while the deco theme also predominates in her bedroom. Janet had her headboard designed and cut from templates, and a dressing table and cupboard were made to her own design and then veneered in walnut. 'I wanted that organ look that you get in deco furniture, but it's really hard to find the original pieces now. The deco period was so short, and it's all been snapped up.' She also had several mirrors made for the house to her own design, all with an art-deco influence.

Janet's home has something interesting to look at on every level, but she does have one complaint. 'My next home would be all on one level,' she laughs. 'It gets exhausting going up and down all these stairs!'

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