



*‘Replacing our  
posh kitchen felt*

**A BIT NAUGHTY’**

Charity chief executive **Sally Cantello**, 55, lives in West Byfleet  
with her husband **Bill Grose**, 57, a chartered civil engineer



Sally Cantello took one look at the high-gloss cherry units, expensive glass shelves and gleaming tiled floor of the kitchen in her new house and knew it all had to go. 'It just wasn't our style,' says Sally. 'It was very nice and shiny and well built, but it didn't fit the way we lived.'

She confesses to feeling guilty, though. 'I felt a little naughty to take out a five-year-old, high-quality kitchen,' Sally admits. 'Then we discovered there was a real call for it on eBay, so we felt better because the kitchen was being recycled!'

### Newlyweds

The five-bedroom detached house was Sally's first home with husband Bill after they tied the knot in 2009. Bill was project director for the design of the London Olympic Park, so had plenty of ideas for how the kitchen should look. 'I'm the cook and Bill is the designer,'

says Sally, laughing. 'We had great fun moving things around on a big piece of graph paper.'

Next stop was Surrey Kitchens in Byfleet Village. 'Their kitchens are built to last,' she says. 'We showed them our ideas and they used their software to come up with a design together with us.'

### Moominmamma

The remodelling took seven weeks over the summer of 2010, before the newlyweds moved in. 'When we went on holiday to Tuscany, the builders sent photos to our

mobiles to check we approved of what they were doing!' says Sally.

Sally's travels are a big influence on the room, with a year living in Helsinki, Finland, lending her a love of Scandinavian design. 'I've imported clean lines and lots of light,' she explains. And it's her trusty Finnish cookware she prefers to use on the new Aga. A more whimsical feature is her collection of china decorated with Moomins, the cartoon trolls from the Finnish forest.

She also spent time living with a family in France, where she 'learned to

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Sally

## My kitchen



👉 cook the French way'. 'You look in the fridge, see what you have and make a meal out of it,' she says.

Now Sally has no regrets about ripping out the old kitchen. 'We had a party when all the family came over,' she says. 'There were people chopping salads, all the kids arriving, lots of people talking and space for everyone!'

### Favourite gadget

'My InSinkErator instant hot water tap has changed the way I do things,' Sally says. 'I can make a cup of tea or cook pasta without having to boil a kettle or pan of water first'.

### What would you change?

'I'd have a bigger overlap on the island unit so I can sit at my laptop comfortably,' says Sally. 'I've ended up working in the kitchen rather than the study as it's so light and cheery.'

### 10 reasons Sally loves her kitchen

1. The glazed section. It's very light and we can enjoy the garden all year round.
2. The space. It's a good room for entertaining and can seat 12 for dinner.
3. The central island. It has lots of room for food preparation and storage, and acts as a bar when friends visit.
4. Contrasting colours – calico and aqua – and the mix of granite and oak worktops. They add interest to the Neptune units and save the room from looking monochrome.
5. Our Aga Masterchef. It has three ovens and a grill, which are great for when the family's around.
6. The painted glass splashback from Designer Glass Kent. It draws the eye and adds depth to the room's colour.
7. The glazed dresser. It keeps glassware in easy reach and allows us to display things we've collected on our travels.
8. The water and ice dispenser in the Neff fridge-freezer. The water tastes better than from the tap and is so convenient.
9. The larder unit. It has masses of storage space for dry goods.
10. The doorway into the sitting room. We can linger over dinner while listening to music, and it effectively doubles the size of the room.

✻ Would you like to see your kitchen featured in a future issue of **Grub**? If so, please send an email and a photo of your kitchen to [surreyeditor@grubmagazine.co.uk](mailto:surreyeditor@grubmagazine.co.uk) with 'My kitchen' in the subject box.