

KITCHEN AREA The original cabinetry was painted and new worktops added to lighten the space. **Cabinetry** painted in Harbour Grey by Zoffany. **Island** in Bond Street by Mylands. **Pendants**, Visual Comfort & Co

THE HOMECOMING

Returning to his native Shropshire, Richard Glover enlisted the skills of an interior designer to update a sizeable Georgian home with elegant charm and modern style

The imposing Welsh mountains on the far horizon provide a formidable yet familiar backdrop to the home that Richard Glover shares with his partner and their labrador, Inca. After living in Scotland for several years, Richard was lured back to home turf and the undulating green hills and farmland of this quiet corner of Shropshire. 'We're a young couple who were looking to create our forever home. We lead busy working and social lives,

so we wanted a welcoming base to return to,' explains Richard. 'This house was the first one we viewed. We had planned on taking time to see a number of properties, but this one was absolutely perfect, so the search stopped and we started to focus on creating something personal to us.'

It is not difficult to see why the search was halted. The exterior of this house is spectacular, with its Georgian double frontage surrounded by formal gardens and eight acres of grounds. Inside, the house was full of period charm, with all the flexibility they were after. 'We could see it had bags of potential for how we wanted to live, with enough rooms to give us everything we needed, such as a home office and entertaining spaces. We just needed a little help figuring it all out.'

Keen to create an interior to suit their lifestyle while respecting the period grandeur of the property, the couple enlisted the help of interior designer Jojo Bradley and her talented team. 'I knew Jojo through a mutual friend and the powers of social media, and we had worked together on a commercial restaurant project,' Richard says.

Richard's brief was simple. 'He wanted to create a timeless and classic interior, but for each room to have its own personality,' explains Jojo, 'and to give the property a face-lift without changing the overall layout and structure of the building.' The transformation took 18 months. 'We presented two options for each of

the spaces and made the decision to work on the rooms in phases, so Richard could enjoy areas of the home while other parts were being renovated,' says Jojo. It also allowed for a little breathing space between the different phases, resulting in a strong sense of cohesion throughout. 'Many of the rooms, particularly on the ground floor, feed into one another so it was important that the furniture layout did not compromise circulation around the space. Once this was established, we worked on giving each of the rooms their own aesthetic.' Hence the elaborate mix of textiles, paint colours, lighting styles and finishes that allows for relaxed modern living to blend harmoniously with formal Georgian elegance. Period panelling, classic cabinetry and traditional furniture pieces sit alongside exotic ikat fabrics, contemporary artwork, comfortable sofas and neutral tones that are enlivened with splashes of vibrant colour, some of which draw the eye out to those views over the formal gardens and wildflower meadow to the fields and mountains beyond.

'The grounds are incredibly beautiful, with a different country view and level of light in each of the spaces, so we incorporated lots of greens and blues into the scheme to accent them,' explains Jojo.

It is a clever creative mechanism for connecting the inside and out that befits both the property and, indeed, Richard's homecoming.

Jojo Bradley Interior Design,
jojobradleyinteriors.co.uk

AT HOME WITH

OWNER Richard Glover, an entrepreneur, who lives here with his partner and their labrador, who is named Inca.

HOUSE A double-fronted Georgian property, with kitchen/dining area, utility room, boot room, snug, games room, cinema room, study, six bedrooms and five bathrooms.



HALLWAY The interior scheme for the entrance hallway is dark and dramatic, and complements the rich wood tones in the floor and staircase. **Walls** painted in Down Pipe by Farrow & Ball. Similar **rug**, Ruggable

BOOT ROOM Classic tongue-and-groove panelling adds character to the boot room. A peg rail and baskets create invaluable storage for coats and shoes. **Cabinets** painted in Card Room Green by Farrow & Ball

DINING AREA In a smart palette of navy blue, white and cream, this is a sophisticated area in which to entertain. **Walls** painted in Half Harbour Grey by Zoffany. **Rug**, Unnatural Flooring. **Lamps**, Rosanna Lonsdale

CINEMA ROOM The couple enjoy having friends round, so Jojo created a cosy cinema room with an exotic mix of pattern and rich colours. **Walls**, painted in Hicks' Blue by Little Greene. **Sofa**, Loaf

'I love that every room has a purpose and a unique feel. Outside, the grounds are stunning and greenery can be seen from every window'





MAIN BEDROOM Warm taupe and ochre are accentuated with a monochrome striped headboard. **Walls**, painted in Half Harbour Grey by Zoffany. **Lamps**, Pooky. **Wall lights**, Jim Lawrence



MAIN EN SUITE This room is afforded an extravagant splash of turquoise, as well as a luxurious double basin unit. **Taps** and similar **basin unit**, Burlington Bathrooms. **Washbasins**, Duravit

GUEST BEDROOM A soothing mix of green tones and soft earthy shades echoes the colours of the surrounding countryside. Walls painted in Paris Grey by Zoffany. **Headboard** in Athena, Lewis & Wood. **Lamp bases**, Oka. **Shades**, Fermoie

RICHARD'S COUNTRY LIFE

SIMPLE PLEASURES 'We love a good walk with our dog Inca and often trek along the Offa's Dyke Path, which crosses the English/Welsh border and through many different types of landscape and scenery.'

SHOP AT 'Booka in Oswestry (bookabookshop.co.uk). I love a good book and particularly love this independent bookshop, which hosts a regular programme of author talks, book signings and themed events and won Independent Bookshop of the Year in 2015.'

GO FOR A MEAL AT 'The Boat at Erbistock (theboataterbistock.co.uk). It's a 20-minute drive, but it's worth it for its traditional pub classics made using local ingredients and plenty of game and fish.'

FEATURE SARA EMLIE
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