

# COUNTRY LIFE®

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EVERY WEEK

## Grate expectations: secrets of a perfect log fire



Reigning cats and dogs – the pets in power

Who will be Gentleman of the Year?

How the World Service saved me, by Terry Waite

## Interior design

### The designer's room

Kate Earle has created a seamless transition between a kitchen and a dining room, which together offer a calm and versatile space for family living

**T**HE designer established the interior-design practice Todhunter Earle with Emily Todhunter in 1998. The pair has worked on a number of high-profile projects including Le Manoir Aux Quat'Saisons and the Vineyard at Stockcross plus private homes around the world, as well as launching collections of wallpapers, fabrics and rugs.

This is the kitchen of a former rectory in Richmond that was created by replacing a conservatory with a two-storey extension. The client is Scandinavian and favours light, simple interiors in a neutral colour palette as well as a mix of antiques and quirky, contemporary elements.

When entertaining, the pocket doors that slide from the wall are closed to separate the two spaces. The kitchen walls and woodwork are in Timeless by Dulux ([www.dulux.co.uk](http://www.dulux.co.uk)) and the pair of cupboards in the same paint colour have been given a distressed finish. The kitchen cabinets are in Charleston Gray by Farrow & Ball ([www.farrow-ball.com](http://www.farrow-ball.com)) and the lighting is from London specialist John Cullen ([www.johncullenlighting.com](http://www.johncullenlighting.com)).

The curtains in the kitchen are in Polperro by GP&J Baker ([www.gpjbaker.com](http://www.gpjbaker.com)) and those in the dining room are in Pomegranate by George Spencer ([www.georgespencer.com](http://www.georgespencer.com)). The floor is laid with wide planks from Schotten & Hansen ([www.schotten-hansen.com](http://www.schotten-hansen.com)) lending the space a creative, cohesive feel.

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Ray Main

