

The ENGLISH HOME

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"I love it when the house is bursting at the seams and throbbing with life"

ABOVE The master bedroom opens onto the stone balcony on top of the bay window, created in the early years of the farmhouse's transformation.

RIGHT The bathroom was half panelled and painted in Strong White to contrast with the grey-blue walls; both colours Farrow & Ball. The blind was made by Stephanie Dunning Interior Design in Cranbourne Trail from GP & J Baker. The Tay cast-iron bath from Drummonds has a zinc finish.

result of undergoing such a gradual transformation." Stephanie Dunning also created many of the soft furnishings, adding the final personal touch to rooms, including the curtains in the master bedroom. These were made using an old Colefax and Fowler fabric, which is one of Florence's personal favourites. In the bedroom of the couple's eldest daughter, Claudia, Stephanie Dunning Interior Design made the curtains and bedhead in grey English Rose fabric by Clarke & Clarke.

Needless to say, the house is often filled with the sound of children's happy laughter, as well as friends who habitually ask themselves to stay. "Isn't that what big family houses are for? I love it when we are bursting at the seams and throbbing with life," Florence says. "The house has a good atmosphere about it, and even when William and I are on our own, we never feel alone because of the way the rooms relate around the new heart, which is of course our much-loved and long-awaited new extension." ■

