



ISLAND STYLE

Chris and Angela Hartley felt their mid-Victorian gothic residence deserved a kitchen befitting its grandeur and status as a manor house

The large, gothic, mid-Victorian style island, hand-crafted from oak, painted with gold leaf detailing and topped with Baltic Brown granite matches the style of the rest of the kitchen. It provides vast amounts of additional storage and food preparation space. It's the place where the Hartley's love to sit and socialise



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hile looking for a new main residence, Chris Hartley and his wife Angela knew in an instant that they had discovered a real gem in Elverstone Manor, the former home of Lord Elverstone located on a delightful hillside setting on the Isle of White.

Since Lord Elverstone's time the manor had been used as a school and a hotel. The subsequent owners had spent very little on the upkeep of the property. "Ironically the fact that little had been spent on the property was what made it so special and appealing," explains Chris. "It hadn't succumbed to the ghastly 20th-century 'improvements' and additions that blight so many of these old period properties."

With beautiful uninterrupted sea views from the original cast iron balconies and characterful architectural charm in abundance it's easy to see why Chris and Angela fell in love with it.

THE owners

Chris is very much a self-made man. He grew up in the East End of London and did a variety of jobs before recognising that he could make more money working for himself. Today he manages his own extensive commercial property portfolio. He and his wife Angela have five children, two of whom still live at home.



The large pantry cupboard has twin doors for easy access and integrated wine storage above. On close inspection the decorative period reeded columns, topped with ornate hand-carved corbels, actually open to provide useful additional storage



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Every part of the interior restoration was given careful consideration and the kitchen was no exception. “We recognised that we required a bespoke manufacturing service in order to create a kitchen space that not only suited our individual needs but also to create a kitchen grand in style and in tune with Elverstone’s manor house status and architectural style.”

Online research led them to long established, family-run, Broadway Kitchens of Sutton Coldfield in the West Midlands. “We could see instantly from the quality of the various examples they showed us that they were the perfect choice.” Before long Satt and Sunny Sembhy, the father and son design and project coordinators at Broadway, were visiting Chris and Angela to assess their requirements. “Their final presentation was excellent, with detailed drawings and impressive three-dimensional perspectives. However, nothing could have prepared us for the real thing!” says Chris.

The couple were simply bowled over by the kitchen’s imposing look, detail and quality. “We love to cook and hold dinner parties and the large island unit is where we enjoy spending most of our time socialising with friends and family. We live on a beautiful island, but you could say that our kitchen island is our very own island in the sun.”

THE designer

“For a truly opulent hand-crafted kitchen with cabinets designed and made specifically to fit a property you need to opt for a bespoke manufacturing service. Shop around and do your research – you will be surprised at how affordable a bespoke solution can be.”

Satt Sembhy, designer, Broadway Kitchens

THE details

Bespoke Victorian, in-frame kitchen in painted tulipwood featuring a painted and gold leaf finish, and Baltic Brown granite worktops designed and supplied by Broadway Kitchens www.kitchensbybroadway.co.uk

Siemens Speedmatic Tall Tub integrated dishwasher siemens-home.co.uk

Smeg FAB32LFCL Fab fridge freezer smeguk.com

AGA 4-oven 13-amp electric agaliving.com

Shaws Bowland 800 Original sink shawsfordarwin.com

Perrin & Rowe Mayan deck mounted taps with crosshead handles perrinandrowe.co.uk