



THE OWNERS

A husband and wife and their two children aged nine and three live in this magnificent home, along with their pet dogs. Other members of the household include a live-in housekeeper and additional day-time staff. He works in banking, while she runs the home and her own business

ON THE LEVEL

An active family life combined with stylish entertaining needed to be creatively combined. One level daytime living was the answer

‘The couple now wanted somewhere they could live with their children, and entertain, on just one level. The home had to maximise light and provide useful daytime spaces. The property features a swimming pool in a new, glass rear extension, as well as a large half-acre garden’



This six-bedroom detached family house was rebuilt from scratch behind an existing 1970s neo-Georgian façade that had to be retained as a planning stipulation. The architects SHH had designed the homeowners' previous home and this time helped them to find and then created the family's ideal next home. This time the couple now wanted somewhere they could live with their children, and entertain, on just one level. The home had to

maximise light and provide useful daytime spaces. The property features a swimming pool in a new, glass rear extension, as well as a large half-acre garden. It also has a subterranean plant space to house the services for the pool and house. The house is also equipped with rainwater harvesting and a large bank of solar panels (that look like tiles across the entire south-eastern elevation) for hot water and pool heating. The project took two-and-a-half years. ●●●



Stuart McLauchlan, associate director, SHH and lead architect on the project explains, "The couple insisted they wanted a practical, working family kitchen, not a 'show kitchen'. Therefore to enable easy family living the kitchen area opens up into the breakfast area on one side and also runs alongside the children's playroom." With the children and dogs all running around, a sliding screen was developed by SHH in conjunction with the kitchen designers, Bulthaup. This slides out of the

main island, in order to shut off the kitchen and playroom area at night when the parents are using the reception and formal dining spaces for entertaining. Stuart describes the style as, "Contemporary with a fairly masculine, sleek feel – using robust, high-quality materials, the scheme is all about practicality and durability." The materials used include reconstituted stone flooring, cut into huge slabs, so that there were as few joints showing as possible. The worktops are white reconstituted ●●●

ADVICE FROM THE DESIGNER

"Usage patterns should also determine material selection. Stainless steel looks great for island tops, for example, but scratches very quickly. Marble also stains easily, so if you really want either material, you must be prepared to live with signs of wear and tear. Reconstituted stone, on the other hand, stays perfect and is a great choice from the perspective both of longevity and robustness."

Stuart McLauchlan, associate director, SHH

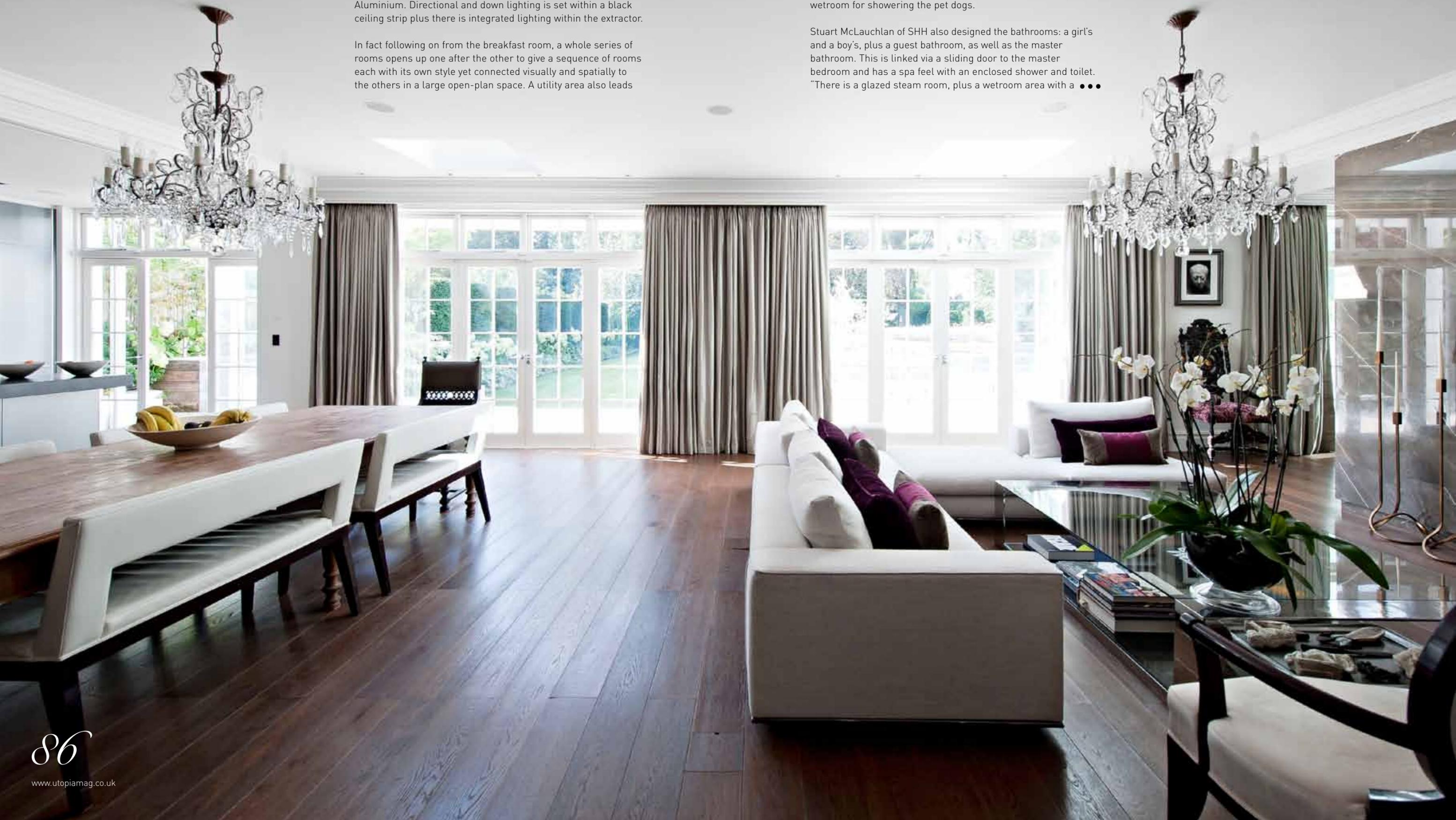


stone, with splashbacks in white back-painted glass. Cupboards are a mix of Dark Wenge Veneer and Brushed Dark Anodised Aluminium. Directional and down lighting is set within a black ceiling strip plus there is integrated lighting within the extractor.

In fact following on from the breakfast room, a whole series of rooms opens up one after the other to give a sequence of rooms each with its own style yet connected visually and spatially to the others in a large open-plan space. A utility area also leads

off from the playroom, with underfloor heating beneath the stone floor, via a ground source heat pump, it also serves as a wetroom for showering the pet dogs.

Stuart McLauchlan of SHH also designed the bathrooms: a girl's and a boy's, plus a guest bathroom, as well as the master bathroom. This is linked via a sliding door to the master bedroom and has a spa feel with an enclosed shower and toilet. "There is a glazed steam room, plus a wetroom area with a ●●●



MASTER BATHROOM



DETAILS

Kitchen

A2AX Dark Aluminium b3 kitchen by Bulthaup, design by John Louden-Davies, designer, Bulthaup Mayfair, 2x stainless steel under-mounted sinks, back-painted glass splashback, Bulthaup 20/white 10mm-thick engineered stone worktops, GZ stainless steel handles
020 7495 3663 www.bulthaup.co.uk

Architecture, interior design, room layout and project management by Stuart McLauchlan, associate director, SHH **020 8600 4171 www.shh.co.uk**

Gaggenau A1542 150 extractor with remote motor, BO 280 110 x2 ovens, BS 281 110 steam oven, BM 220 110 microwave, Gaggenau RW404 260 Wine cabinet
0844 892 8988 www.gaggenau.co.uk

Sub Zero 736 TC1 fridge/freezer, 736 TR refrigerator
0845 250 0010 www.subzero-wolf.co.uk

Miele CVA 36600SS coffee machine, G 2872 SCv1 dishwasher
0845 365 6600 www.miele.co.uk

KWC Ono tap **020 8675 9335 www.swisslinelondon.co.uk**

Quooker Modern Pro 3 hot water tap **020 7923 3355 www.quooker.com**

Insinkerator ISE 78 Batchfeed **0800 389 3715 www.insinkerator.co.uk**

Master bathroom

Bespoke bath, stone basin and bathrooms designed by Stuart McLauchlan, as above

Stone Age Clay Grey limestone walls, vanity **020 7384 9090 www.stone-age.co.uk**

Stonell Direct Lunel Marble floors, bath **020 7738 9990 www.stonell.com**

Hansgrohe Axor Massaud bath spout chrome, single lever basin mixer tap chrome
01372 465 655 www.hansgrohe.co.uk

C.P. Hart Vola A34 basin trap, Vola A62 waste, Raindance Rainmaker overhead shower, Raindance S150 AIR1 jet handshower, Starck 2 Handshower, Shut off/diverter valve, Starck 2 wall-hung pan **020 7902 1000 www.cphart.co.uk**

Majestic bespoke showerscreen **0844 800 1500 www.majesticshowers.com**

Helo N Series Steam Generator **0800 023 4590 www.helo.co.uk**

Parissade Ltd Scirroco Snake 50 towel rail **020 8830 8073 www.parissade.co.uk**

large showerhead, dispensing 50 litres of water per minute using rainwater harvesting, which also supplies the loos," explains Stuart. The family-sized bath is a bespoke item created on site, with the bespoke basin milled from a single, giant piece of stone. The cabinets are set flush into the wall behind a gilt framed mirror, which appears to 'float' off the wall, surrounded by halo lighting. A Crestron AV sound system is also built-in as part of the full house system.

So, what aspect of the design is Stuart most pleased with? "That we got the layout right and that it works impeccably and exactly as predicated for the all the clients' wishes and uses."

The modern take on an enfilade – an open-plan series of rooms – coupled with the specific children's area, all contained on one level helps facilitate a close family lifestyle, while the ingenious sliding door allows for subtle separation when the parents are entertaining – good design at its best. ●

ADVICE FROM THE DESIGNER

"For master suites, it's good to try and blur the boundaries between the bed and bathroom spaces for a luxurious feel, so that the master bathroom ends up resembling more of a shared spa. The best ways to achieve this are to have sliding door access and to seal off the loo and shower areas in their own cubicles." **Stuart McLauchlan, associate director, SHH**

