

Rooms with a view

A tour of the Editor's home

By Tabitha Teuma

Photography Marcus Peel

It could sound arrogant to say that this feature came about 'by popular demand', but I have received many requests from readers over the years for a look inside the Editor's home, and issue 10 seemed like the place to do it! As our long haul renovation project is drawing to a close, it seems fitting to talk about how the publication has shaped my own home.

Since the first issue of *MidCentury* was conceived from the penthouse apartment of our 1960s London high rise, my husband, Tom, and I have adjusted to a new, low-rise lifestyle: a 1966 bungalow in the Buckinghamshire countryside. Having enjoyed the benefits of a mid-century home, we wanted to find a bigger place to settle and bring up a family. We realised that the only way of achieving this was to look for somewhere in need of renovation – and, most definitely, outside of London. What we bought wasn't a flat-roofed Case Study style 'dream home', rather a bungalow of the vernacular pitch-roofed variety that you commonly see in the UK. Unassuming from the front, it sits humbly within the landscape, belying the spacious interior and the panoramic views that span the entire rear

aspect. It was the view that sold us, along with the light and the generosity of space, which even included an area in the hallway for simply sitting and admiring the view, something I'm sure most developers today would do away with in favour of an extra room.

The bungalow had originally consisted of two bedrooms, a living room, a small, functional kitchen and a tiny bathroom with adjacent WC, a typical 1960s feature. The house had remained in the same family since it was built and little had changed in the intervening period. In short, it needed some modernisation. We were keen to update the floor plan and to extend upwards, into the loft space. The roof pitch was actually higher than the ceilings on the ground floor; the original intention, it seemed, had been to allow for this very thing.

The view to the rear could be maximised – we replaced the regular kitchen window with one over three metres wide, and created a picture window in the hallway by removing a small extension. This window connects the living room at the front of the house to the landscape at the back, something that had been artfully considered back in the

'A home is the truest reflection of who you are'

Following: living room with Haslev rosewood side table; daybed sofa by Hvit and Mølgård-Nielsen; Sanderson 'Tribeca' curtain fabric; Hans Olsen rocking chair; Tulip Seed and Big & Little Circles cushions by Charlene Muller; Orla Kiely Flower Blossom lampshade on 1950s teak base; Charmwood C-Four stove; knitted pouffe by John Lewis; wire basket by Ferm Living; Santa & Cole GT6 hanging lamp; Happer rug by Habitat.



