

# COUNTRY & TOWN HOUSE

THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS

MARCH 2019 £3.90

## EMILIA WICKSTEAD'S

Postcards from New Zealand,  
plus properties to buy  
Down Under

## AN UNLIKELY ECO WARRIOR

*Tracy Worcester is a  
duchess on a mission*

## WILD ABOUT ADVENTURE

**PETER OBORNE** finds a warm welcome in Syria. **LEVISON WOOD** explores safe spaces in Afghanistan. **PETER HUGHES** sets sail in eastern Indonesia. **DEVANSHI MODY** discovers the posh side of Peru

## HIP TO BE BRUTON

*How the Somerset  
town turned cool*

## BOTTOMS UP!

Introducing our  
new drinks column

DESIGN Q & A

# BERNIE DE LE CUONA

The fabric connoisseur on roses, glass and an old Teddy bear



Bernie de Le Cuona



**How can we live more self-sufficiently?** The world should revolve around sustainable sources and respecting nature. For de Le Cuona we are subscribing to a natural sustainable luxury for our interior textiles.

**Most extravagant thing you've bought for your home?** A bespoke door to the laundry room. It was made by an incredible craftsman who's fitted all these unusual shapes of oak together to create a double door with beaten metal hinges and handles.



**Whose home would you most like to have a nose around?** Probably someone like Dame Jane Goodall or Sir David Attenborough's. Their collection of photographs must be incredible and I'm very envious of the lives they lead and things they've done with wildlife.



**What was your most recent find?** An extraordinary aged gold chandelier in the form of a sea urchin from Porta Romana. It's so unusual that they also hang in the National Portrait Gallery.

**House warming present?** The best gift is old-fashioned long stemmed pale pink roses.

**Unsung design hero?** The underappreciated Italian architect Carlo Scarpa. I love his instinctive approach to natural materials and how he combined craft and innovative processes.

**What should never have seen the light of day?** Christmas tinsel.

**Where do you find inspiration?** The V&A Museum textiles archives and, more recently, The Hermitage Museum in Saint Petersburg.

**What's the last piece of art you bought?** I don't buy art often, but I did buy this beautiful vintage hand-embroidered fine linen wall tapestry.

**What would you never throw away?** A Teddy bear which was given to me by one of my first boyfriends 30 years ago.

**Which designers do you have your eye on?** We have cushions in our new store by Pippa Caley, an RCA trained textile

artist specialising in embroidery.

**What do you collect?** I have a huge collection of wine glasses and decanters – everything from vintage, precious and hand blown to recycled.

**What are you currently working on?** Fine tuning our new store at 44 Pimlico Road. [delecuona.com](http://delecuona.com)

## LITTLE BLACK BOOK



**TABLEWARE**  
Anthropologie.  
[anthropologie.com](http://anthropologie.com)



**RUGS**  
Guinevere  
Antiques.  
[guinevere.co.uk](http://guinevere.co.uk)



**FURNITURE**  
de Le Cuona.  
[delecuona.com](http://delecuona.com)



**MIRRORS**  
OCHRE.  
[ochre.net](http://ochre.net)



**CANDLES**  
Molton Brown.  
[moltonbrown.co.uk](http://moltonbrown.co.uk)