

Living in

Dublin South

Issue No. 13

Your local lifestyle guide

A Bygone Era

Drama Queen

ACTRESS EILEEN WALSH
ON HER FAVOURITE
D4 HAUNTS

Homeward Bound

THE BEST
IRISH SPAS

We celebrate the
return of all things floral

BALLSBRIDGE BASTION

THE LOBSTER
POT DISHES OUT
A FAVOURITE
RECIPE

On Site Maintenance

WHAT TO DO WITH THE
JURYS SITE? GET BOTH
SIDES OF THE STORY



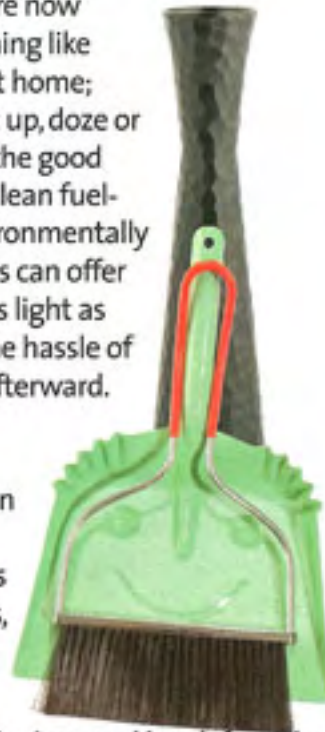
October 2007

+ SHOULD THE PAIN COMBATING STRESS TENSION • BUY IT NOW! ESSENTIAL AUTUMN FASHION MUST-HAVES

Where The Hearth Is

Though most of our areas are now smoke-free, there's still nothing like having your own fireplace at home; somewhere to put your feet up, doze or chat and generally soak up the good vibrations of a roaring fire. Clean fuel-burning appliances are environmentally friendly, while gas-fired units can offer the same heat and gorgeous light as the real thing, without all the hassle of cleaning and scraping out afterward.

The aesthetic appeal of fireplaces is currently enjoying such a boom in popularity that many newly built apartments now feature them. Plus, having a fireplace also opens the door to a world of mantelpiece accessorising...



Dustpan and brush from the autumn/winter range at Avoca



Silvered candlesticks from €50 each by Marston & Langer

Foot stool from the autumn/winter range at Habitat

A Design For Life

Interior designer Neil Jakob lets us in on his personal style tips and sheds some light on lighting your home...



What's your approach to lighting a space in the average home?

Depending on the function of the room lighting requirements vary, but a combination of spotlights, lamps and pendants usually do the job. Dimmers are important, as they enable far greater control of the mood created by the lighting and up-and down lighters can be used to great effect to highlight certain areas or elements of a design. Always go for more rather than less lighting, as long as it is individually controllable, so that different lighting combinations can be used towards different ends.

Are people becoming more adventurous with how they light their homes?

Most new-builds still only come with the barest minimum of lighting, but people are becoming more adventurous by incorporating more current designs and technologies. Designer hotels, restaurants and bars can be a great source of inspiration and their influence is starting to become more apparent in residential interiors.

Floral/retro patterns are making a comeback – is there a place for 'granny chic'?

Modern reinterpretations of classical patterns can be very effective if used correctly. This usually means limiting the amount of pattern and setting it against plain backgrounds, rather than the excessive use of patterns everywhere, as in the past. Patterns should stand out and make a statement and not become part of a blur of half a dozen patterns.

Can you give us a 'do' and a 'don't' on interior design – your personal advice?

- Do buy the best quality you can afford.
- Don't clutter.
- Do mix and match.
- Do pay special attention to the requirements of lighting.
- Don't sacrifice practicality or comfort for pure design.
- Do try to plan and create multifunctional spaces, especially in smaller accommodation.

What is your favourite era or decade of interior design?

Early mid-20th century design, especially Bauhaus. The combination of form, function and quality, the emphasis on practicality and the innovative use of new materials make these designs timeless and as relevant today as they were in the 1920s.

In your opinion, what's the hardest room in the house to design?

A multifunctional guest bedroom and home office/study. Both functions require a completely different setup and over-emphasising the requirements of one usually means that the other does not fulfil its function adequately. It is probably also the one room of the house which receives the least attention and is often cobbled together as an afterthought or in response to changing requirements.

What's more important to making a fantastic home: space or light?

Though both are vital components in any good design, light, especially natural light, is the more important one, as it can be used to not only create the illusion of space, but also highlight or disguise certain areas and can be adapted to create different moods and cater for varying uses of the same space.

See www.neiljakobdesign.com for more information.

Architectural & Garden Lighting



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and
Installed**

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