

# The Kitchen

**The image you can see in the diagram is a birds eye view, looking down from the interior wall onto the kitchen.**

The overall size of the kitchen is 330 x 225m. The floor surface is grey linoleum with silver pattern. The kitchen has a double window on the east-facing wall. This window looks out over the car park but in the summer the view is obscured by a sycamore tree which comes into leaf in April. Two collared doves live in the tree.

On the Right hand side of the room there is a large pantry that is primarily used to store food. In the pantry there is also a Hoover, (model: ‘Goblin’), a brush, plastic bags, bin bags and birthday present wrapping paper. On the top shelf is a blender and a large empty box. On the door into the pantry is a calendar that was sent from Vancouver by Mia Cunningham. She took the photos as part of a collective project by ‘Picnic’.

The kitchen was refurbished in 1989 and has a retro futuristic cooker, (model: Tricity Marquis), a washing machine (model: Indesit) and a large fridge freezer (model: Tricity Bendix).

**Folded into the front of the cooker door is a cotton tea towel with “Butterfly’s of New Zealand” on it.**

The tea towel was found in the home of Beryl Adams, she never went to New Zealand. Beryl’s family were friendly with a man called Edgar who lived there. He came to visit once and the family went to Southampton Docks to meet him off the liner. Edgar had a neighbour, who had a daughter called June. She was fascinated by England and, when she was old enough, she moved to Southampton to work as a nurse. Beryl and Ron Adams were a contact and she would visit them on Sundays. At some point June married an English man and they moved back to New Zealand. According to Keith Adams she would write prolific letters to Beryl Adams. The tea towel was included in one such letter.

There are cupboards either side of the cooker, on the left there are a selection of saucepans (of different sizes), a frying pan, a Pyrex dish and a mixing bowl. To the right there are some dinner plates, four side plates and some bowls.

On top of these cupboards are work surfaces. The left hand surface is used for food preparation. There are two chopping boards, a large wooden one which was ‘borrowed’ from a rented student house and a rose pattered Formica board which once belonged to Jess Davies. This second board is primarily decorative and rarely used. On the opposite wall there is a ‘breakfast bar’ with a high stool. This is where most meals are taken. On the wall in front of the breakfast bar there are two Polaroid photos taken on Llangenith beach. On the work surface is a box for post. Most letters, flyers and pieces of paper are, in some way, filtered through this box and are then put into the recycling bin or into the filing cabinet.

At the far end of the breakfast bar there is a digital radio and a toaster.

There are two shelves above the breakfast bar. On the first shelf there is:

One orange tin for tea containing herbs for various ailments, two tins of Jasmine tea, one box of Russian Caravan tea, one box of honey tea (brought back from the Czech republic by Debra Savage) one box of peppermint tea and one box of immune boost tea. There is one visitor’s atlas to London, one London A-Z, one book, Le Repertoire, some cookery books: The Indian Spice Trail, Vegetarian Cookbook, Cranks Recipe Book and Flavouring with Olive oil.

On the top shelf there is: one light, two glasses bought back from Scandinavia which are green and made from recycled bottles. One of the glasses has a cork in it from a house warming bottle of Champagne. There is a small paper maché bird bought from an African craft stall at a market, a copy of the ‘Yellow Pages’, the ‘Thompson Directory’, the ‘Phone Book’ and an angle poise lamp.



**On the fridge door there are 7 postcards and 2 Polaroid’s which are stuck on with green magnets bought from WH Smiths.**

- Postcard sent to 29 Richmond Road from Reiko saying Happy New Year. Reiko
- Postcard showing architects drawings of the Guggenheim, bought in New York City, March 2006.
- Postcard showing camel trail in the dessert. Bought at the Natural History Museum, in New York City, March 2006
- Postcard showing museum constructing diorama, Natural History Museum in New York City, March 2006
- Postcard “Penétrer dans Le monde” from opening in Québec City March 2006.
- Postcard sent on 19.02.02 which says “many Thanks for taking such good care of me during my visit,...which I really enjoyed. The signature is hard to read.
- 2 x Polaroid’s taken in Portugal 2003
- Postcard advertising “Over” at g/39 with special colouring in by Anthony Shapland, decorated during tea time on a Wednesday afternoon in April.
- Postcard from Gail and Alf saying “Happy Birthday Jen, You lovely girl”

**On the windowsill there is a money plant with stripy shell in the soil. The Shell was bought in 1998.**

The money plant was bought from Tesco’s, New Milton, in the year 2000 by Jill Adams. She was momentarily swayed by Feng Shui and hoped it would be auspicious. Next to it is a red and green plant, bought in Laura’s fruit and vegetable shop on Cowbridge Road East in May 2006, a bottle of Ecover washing up liquid, some hand cream and four Lucky Stones. Lucky Stones are stones that have a hole right the way through them. This may be folklore specific to Hampshire, where the beaches are largely pebbled with flint. Research into the luckiness of such stones resulted in the discovery of this quote from Utrecht students who wrote:

*“On Sunday the 21st of September we stayed at the beach. There were many sea gulls and they swam in the sea. We saw many shells too and very small fish. On the beach we looked for stones with a hole (lucky stones). It was a very nice afternoon and we stayed there very long. The sea was beautiful and cold.”*

Maria and Carina

**To the right of the sink unit there is a cork board used to keep postcards and notes on. Next to this cork board is a shelf on the shelf there is:**

- A blue cup with a Chinese design which was an 18th birthday present from Luke McEwen when vodka jelly was a revelation and broken plant pots had to be mended.
- Two straight glasses, origins unknown.
- Some glass mugs, a present from Gail Howard and Ruth Pelopida 2005.
- Two identical horse mugs from a book sale, a birthday present from Debra Savage and Paul Granjon in August 2005.
- A teapot and a hand crochet tea cosy, made by Gail Howard in 2004.
- Two pink flower candles with green bases bought in a Chinese euro shop, Bellevue, Paris.
- A small white china cup with black print from Emmaus, (a second hand super store/ performance shop) in Quebec city, bought in September 2004 for an event at Le lieu.
- A print by Jennie Savage from Ba degree show in 1997.
- A sugar dish, part of a set from Beryl Adams.
- A cup with coloured print on it. This cup lived on a ledge in the kitchen at 74 Clydesmuir Road. There were two keys in it (of no known door) and a squashed ‘scarchive’ badge. These seemed to be permanent objects in the cup. The rest of the time the contents fluctuated to include buttons, safety pins or other objects which were being tidied up. The cup must have been bought by Kerry Lee Powell. The cup appeared in the new flat and has not been returned.
- A green and gold mint tea glass, bought by Paul Granjon in Marseille as part of a set. Stolen by Jennie Savage.
- A horse shoe found in the car park of Llangenith beach in July 2003.
- On the cork board is a postcard with a wheelbarrow on the front from ‘Grandma S’, a postcard from The National Museum advertising the exhibition of the STAR radio archive, a postcard about the library of unfinished books, a postcard from “mum and Keith” from the Lake District, advertising for the Bike Shed, an invoice from Ford and Sons heating and plumbing, a black and white postcard picturing two people jiving, from Ruth and Gail, a pink and gold bag which once had a pair of earrings in it, a postcard from Meriol with a Hawaiian Lady on it, a postcard with pink flowers on it saying “Happy Birthday Jen from Claire and Simon”, a black and white postcard sent in 2001 which says “From Wolverhampton with Love, Paul”, a postcard with two horses on that says, ‘loves island, Mallorca’ from Gail, a postcard with two parrots, love from Mum and Keith, a flyer for Becks Futures, a photo of the sea taken in Kefalonia.