

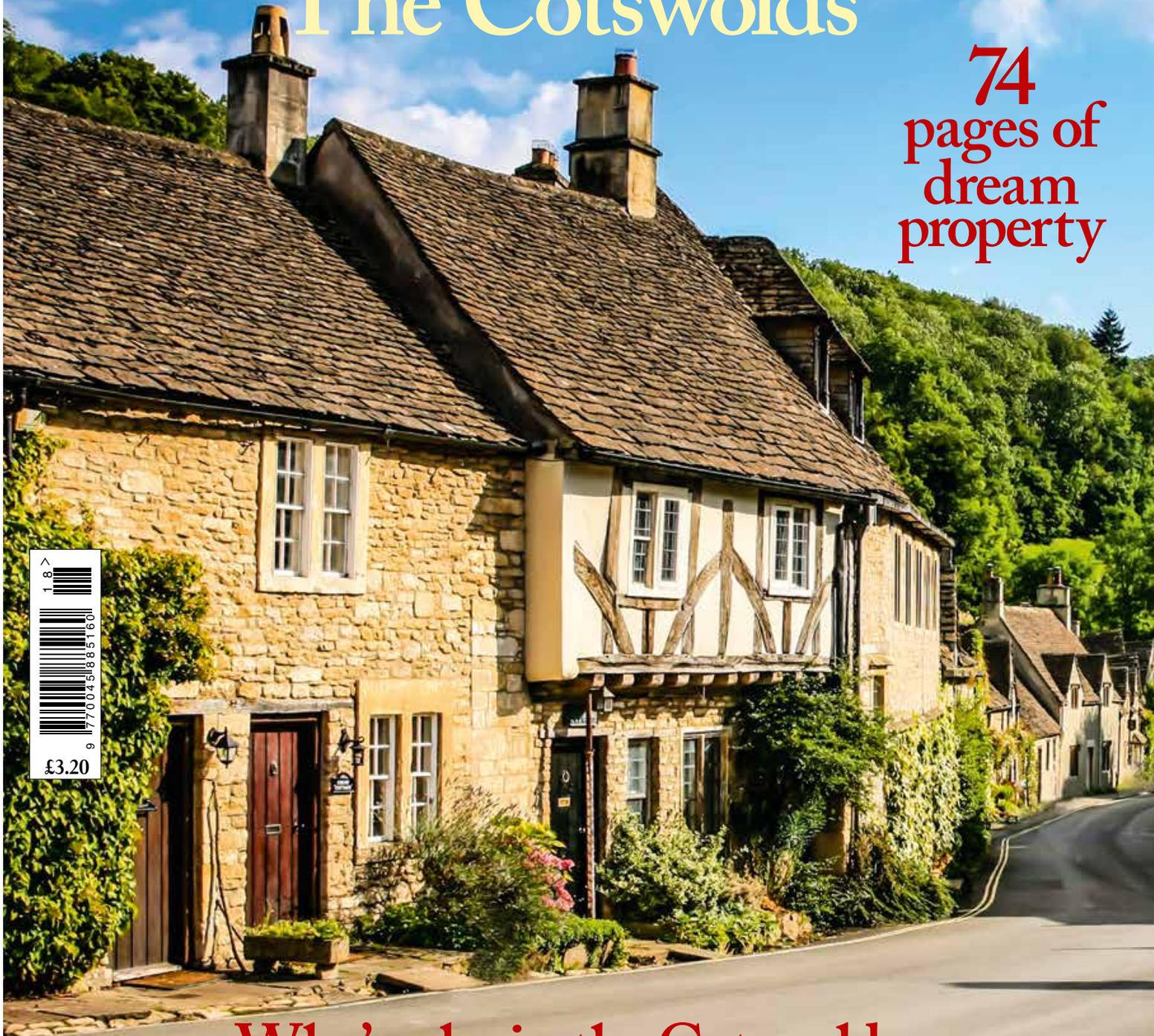
COUNTRY LIFE®

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EVERY WEEK

The Cotswolds

74
pages of
dream
property



Who's who in the Cotswolds

Why swifts are the original members of the mile-high club
Badminton's thrills and spills, coracles and real smoked salmon

Interior design The designer's room

A career in both interior design and construction has given **Stephanie Dunning** a rare ability to transform period buildings into stylish and comfortable family homes





How to get the look

Fabrics

The circular tables are from Julian Chichester, whose shop is at Queen's Elm Parade, Fulham Road, London SW3 (www.julianchichester.com; 020-7622 2928)

Cushions

The cushions are from Inky Velvet, Stephanie Dunning's online business (<http://inkyvelvet.com>), which sells a wide range of deeply textured cushions and throws

Windows

The steel windows are made by Crittall, which has been making this distinctive style in Essex since the late 19th century—it's now enjoying a revival in both period and new-build properties (01376 530800; www.crittall-windows.co.uk) ➤

Behind the design Stephanie Dunning

The project

This is part of an open-plan living space in a London apartment that includes a sitting room, dining room and kitchen

PART of this project involved installing new double-glazed Crittall windows, which offer an opportunity to maximise the light from the west-facing elevation and fashion a clean, contemporary look, enhanced by the muted neutral background created with the paintwork and curtains. The scheme is typical of the designer's use of texture to add a rich, layered look. A mix of burnt-orange cushions, navy sisal flooring and a navy-and-white rug add a tactile quality that also helps to deaden sound (essential in an apartment block). Furniture and lighting include a mixture of new pieces, as well as the client's own antiques. A club fender creates extra occasional seating in what is a supremely social space.



Designer profile

Training and experience

Stephanie started working with her father's construction business, where she learnt the art of detailed technical drawing, a skill that she still uses today and which is the basis of all her projects. After working for the interior designer Nina Campbell, she was commissioned to make curtains for King Hussein of Jordan, which led to her setting up an interior-design business that is now based in Wiltshire

Past projects

Commissions have included the complete refurbishment of King Hussein's family home and, more recently, a hunting lodge in Scotland, a house on the banks of the Beaulieu River and villas in Mustique and Lake Como

Contact (01722 710608; www.stephaniedunninginteriordesign.com)

Things I couldn't live without

1. Two Porta Romana wall lights bought 12 years ago —they aren't a pair, but I love their height, colour and timeless quality

2. A charcoal line drawing of a wonderfully fat woman (from the 1983 Summer Exhibition) that sits beside my bed and gives me reassurance and amusement

3. A Victorian nursing chair I bought when I was 16 and paid far too much for (£62!). It's been reupholstered lots

4. A Persian rug we had at home since I can remember —it's now in my drawing room

5. Photo collages of my family, my husband and all seven of our children, plus dogs, cats and horses. The guinea pigs never survived very long

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