



**Above left:** Painted traditional kitchen with naturally finished hardwood, by **Creative Wood**. **Above right:** The Chichester kitchen from **Neptune Classics**. With a huge choice of cabinets and 20 colours to choose from, every kitchen is entirely different with spectacular ranges in style from very contemporary to beautifully classic. **Below left:** Hand-painted, in-frame tulipwood kitchen from **Celtic Interiors**. **Below right:** A mix of classic bespoke painted and solid American black walnut cabinetry, teamed with feature corbals, from **Hayburn & Co**.



# Perfectly Planned

Ann and her husband, Andy, opted for a Neptune Chichester kitchen from Malone & Smyth for their refurbished kitchen in Donegal.





Ann and Andy wanted a simple, non fussy and classic handmade kitchen that would brighten the room and complement the fantastic views that they have across Donegal Bay. With a young teenage family, they also wanted a functional and social space that all the family could enjoy.

‘When we moved in, the kitchen was painted a deep green and had black granite worktops, which made this space really dark’, explains Ann. ‘The area was also quite definitely split in two between the kitchen and the adjoining living/dining area and I wanted to open the whole space up and make it feel like one large room. So, wanting to create a more social, brighter space we decided to rip out the existing kitchen and replace it with a Neptune Classics kitchen. Looking for a nearby stockist of Neptune I approached the team at Malone & Smyth to design and install my new kitchen.’

Ann adds, ‘We found the Neptune range to be excellent value for money for a solid wood kitchen and the variety of styles to choose from was impressive. I opted for the Chichester range, which is best described as a traditional French country style. Fearghal McAdam from Malone & Smyth came up with a suitable design that fitted the space I had to work with.’

Visiting Ann’s home, Fearghal was able to see for himself how the original space was split in two. The kitchen and dining areas were separated by a handrail which, he suggested removing and instead replacing with a picture window to frame the fantastic view from this room, making the whole space much more social. Fearghal also proposed that the same granite used on the work surfaces be used for the step between the two levels because this subconsciously ties both areas together and again leads to a more sociable room.



‘One of my main aims was to keep everything light and bright so I opted for the limestone painted finish on my Chichester kitchen, however, there is a whole range of available colours. I also kept my work surfaces light with Millennium Cream granite, sourced from local supplier, McMonagle Stone in Mountcharles, Donegal. Fearghal helped me source suitable floor tiles to brighten the space, and I choose light cream porcelain tiles called Cosmic Trendy from Doherty Tiling in Donegal Town,’ says Ann.

Due to the fact that Ann and Andy wanted the kitchen primarily designed to be social, functional and light, Fearghal insured that in the design the tall cabinets were placed against an internal wall and that the external walls were not cluttered with lots of wall cupboards which add to the brightness of the room. In addition to this, by placing the tall units against the internal walls he managed to free up lots of countertop space. I wanted to make sure that, unlike the previous kitchen I inherited

when we moved into the house, that this one worked for me in terms of design and layout,’ comments Ann. ‘Therefore, working with Fearghal, I incorporated features and appliances that I had always wanted, such as a larder and a Belfast sink and complementary tap from Villeroy & Boch, along with my Stanley all-electric black cooker with four ovens. Our kitchen table and benches I commissioned from local carpenter and designer, Patrick Casserly.’

‘The larder is great because all of my foodstuff is in one place, where previously it was stored in different cupboards all around the kitchen. Even our double fridge is built into this unit keeping it out of sight.’

‘I live in my kitchen and I am so pleased with the end result; there is absolutely nothing I would change. Even with three teenagers and an eleven year old trying their best to wreck the place over the last year, it still looks as good as new!’ ❌

### Kitchen Contacts

#### KITCHEN DESIGN

**Neptune Classics by Malone & Smyth**

Fermanagh 028 6774 1885.

[www.maloneandsmyth.com](http://www.maloneandsmyth.com)

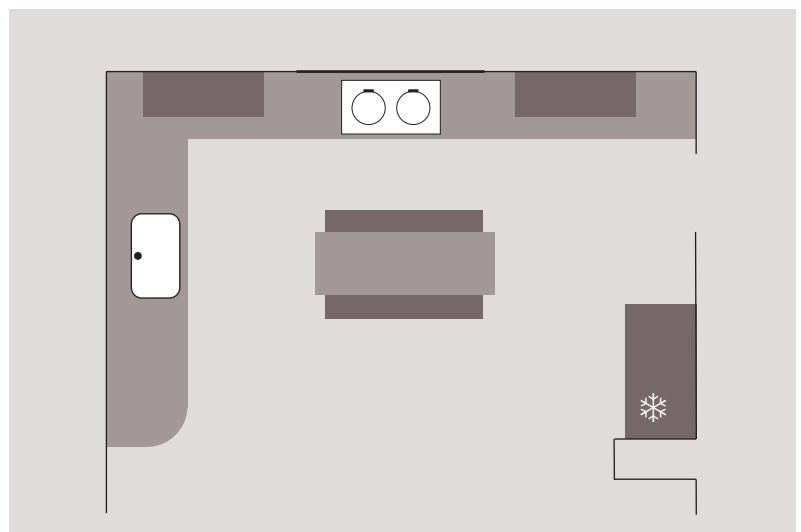
**Worktop:** Millennium Cream granite from McMonagle Stone

**Flooring:** Cosmic Trendy porcelain tile from Doherty Tiling

#### APPLIANCES

**Range Cooker:** Stanley

**Fridge:** Siemens



# ESSENTIAL SEATING

The finishing touches to add design style to your space.

**1** Laclasica chair by **Stua** designed by Jesús Gasca. Price on request. **2** Ideal for children watching Mummy cooking and also for storage of toys and magazines, this curved hand-made model is from **Coach House Kitchens**. Prices from €1,300 - €4,000 depending on size, curvature and storage underneath. **3** Bespoke seating in American Black Walnut, handmade to clients specification by **Hayburn & Co.** Price on request. **4** Suffolk chair painted in honed slate from **Neptune Classics**, based on a series of classic ball back chairs produced in East Anglia by a selection of the best workshops in the 18th century. Available in hand-painted honed slate, limestone, washed oak and clear oak, or can be custom painted in any of 20 colours. £175/€225.

