



Twin vases of fragrant sweet peas give the bathroom basin a shot of colour



Here window boxes contain "hidden" daffodils that are viewed from the living room only



Mirrors in the hall (left) and posies in the living room (right) greet Ellis's guests

of heavy earthenware pots, including one she brought back from her native Greece. "I always have a mixture of flower stems and branches in them; at the moment there are spiraea, a favourite of mine, tightly budded white lilac and sprays of pale green viburnum."

Old church chairs, complete with prayer pockets at the back, are Ellis's choice of dining chairs and the vintage

table is usually covered with a cloth to provide a backdrop for an ever-changing runway of flowers that she adds to for more formal dining. "With a long table, you need to split flowers all the way down rather than have just one big vase in the middle. I landscape so there are three different heights, like the tiers of plants in a garden. It's a great way of bringing the outdoors inside."

Kally relaxes with husband Damian and children Freddie and Sophia (left). Flower-filled wicker baskets on a windowsill (right)



Photographs: Clive Nichols

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can layer every colour on to them – and she does, to great effect. Currently she's taken to violet underscored with turquoise: lilac sweet peas and fat bars of Claus Porto's Lime Basil turquoise soap decorate each of the twin basins, a trio of turquoise glass vases holds purple

anemones, while dusky mauve heads of herbaceous clematis, available for the first time as a florist's flower, are displayed in a plain enamelled pitcher. More than any greenery could, the vibrant colours bring the bathroom to life. "I've no idea why people put green plants in

their bathroom," says Ellis, who clearly waves the flag for cut flowers in every room, from bathroom to workroom. "I can't bear green plants in the house. I think they're for outside, not indoors." The disused fireplace in the kitchen makes the perfect place to hold a cache