

HOMES & GARDENS®

DECEMBER 2009 £3.

A perfect Christmas

SEASONAL HOMES & FESTIVE ROOMS

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**CELEBRATE
WITH STYLE**

WELCOMING HALLWAYS, STUNNING
TABLE SETTINGS, DELICIOUS RECIPES



LIVING ROOM

At Christmas a tall Nordman spruce, decorated with hand-blown glass snowbirds and sequined baubles, looks magical in the curved bay window.

Crimson Grand Prix roses, amaryllis and branches of eucalyptus add to the festive feel.

Glass snowbirds, from £50, Radziwill, radziwillstudios.com. **Baubles**, from £12, Liberty, 020 7734 1234, liberty.co.uk. **Walls painted in Oyster Lily emulsion**, £32 for 2.5 litres, Paint & Paper Library, 020 7823 7755, paintlibrary.co.uk. **Torino sofa**, £2,295, Heal's, 08700 240780, heals.co.uk. **Floral rug**, Eden, £330sqm, Riviere, 020 7627 0031, riviererugs.com.



LIVING ROOM

Mirrors, soft pastels and white give the room a Gustavian feel.

Edinburgh fireplace. £1,995. Chesney's, 020 7627 1410, chesneys.co.uk. **Venetian mirror and sconces.** Palmer Antiques, 01273 328669, jillpalmerantiques.co.uk. **Artwork.** Jessica Zoob, 07824 833410, jessica.zoob@desire.com.



EXTERIOR

Designed by AH Wilds, the Grade II-listed villa was built in 1840. Although later than Regency, it bears the classic trappings: stucco finish, cast-iron railings and generous windows.



KITCHEN

A traditional dairy was the inspiration for this contemporary open-plan space.

Kitchen. Artisan by Plain English, from £25,000. 01449 774028, plainenglishdesign.co.uk

Pierre and Harriett Moisset's 19th-century villa in Brighton comes to life when friends and family arrive for Christmas. As Harriett was raised in Munich and her husband Pierre is half French, festivities are celebrated in both the Continental and the English way, beginning on Christmas Eve. Earlier in the week, Harriett will have picked up the impressive Nordman fir that she ordered at the Christmas tree farm in nearby Barcombe. Its branches will stretch across most of the curved bay in the living room and, once crowned with the pretty Polish glass ornament, it will nearly reach the ceiling.

Next on Harriett's busy agenda is to get out the carefully labelled boxes that contain all manner of exciting Christmas decorations, some from childhood. And this means climbing up into the loft where they are tucked away. Harriett loves Christmas and decorating the tree evokes happy memories of celebrations with her own family. "There is something magical about beautiful decorations," she says. "I can't resist adding a few more to my collection whenever I see something special."

Every year, guests are treated to a slightly different look and colour scheme. For 2009, Harriett's house is decorated with pine branches, herbs, flowers and sparkling baubles in shades of green and frosty white as well as touches of rich crimson with silvery glitter. As Harriett is an interiors consultant and stylist she has a wonderful excuse to let her imagination unfold.

Eight years ago, the Moissets packed up the contents of their Victorian red brick family home in London to move to this house in the centre of Brighton. "It felt like the right time to move on and leave our hectic lifestyle behind," recalls Harriett. They had visited Brighton many times, but, she continues, "We