



**The home** A two-storey Victorian shopfront in Melbourne's inner-north with two bedrooms, a generously sized bathroom and a compact older-style kitchen.

**Who lives here** Interior designer Kate Challis with her husband Andrew Hollo, a management consultant, their son Jasper, 6, and Burmese cats Chai and Fez.

**What we did** "We bought the house 13 years ago and it was painted beige with Italian tiles throughout. Apart from installing a new bathroom upstairs, the changes have all been decorative: new paint, new wallpaper and curtains. I've tried to add a sense of drama," says Kate.

**My favourite room** "It's a toss-up between the hallway, with its Fornasetti "Clouds" wallpaper, and our bedroom, with its aqua walls and the cupboard I covered with the crazy 'Napoleon Bee' wallpaper."

**The 'hood** "I love the diversity of our inner-city community. It's real, not sanitised," says Kate.

**Future plans** "We are about to do a major renovation to add a new master bedroom, garage and roof-top garden," says Kate. "One part of me feels sad because some rooms will go, but I'm also excited about the new possibilities."

## TOP *SHOP*

A tiny shopfront terrace gets a decorative makeover that adds a character and a dash of drama.

Words Heather Nette King Photography Armelle Habib

**Opposite:** *Kate's dining room painted in "Priscilla" by Porter's Paints. The room features a vintage Murano glass chandelier and the photograph on the wall shows her grandmother at Speakers' Corner in London.*



**Right:** *a purple Utrecht armchair by Cassina in the lounge room.*  
**Far right:** *"I got the vintage chandelier at Leonard Joel's auction rooms," says Kate.*



**Left:** *"I covered an Ikea wardrobe with "Napoleon Bee" wallpaper by Timorous Beasties, then added beautiful handles," says Kate. Below: the kitchen has an industrial-style factory lamp and French-inspired toile fabric, also by Timorous Beasties.*



**Right:** *The bathroom was created by knocking out a wall between the tiny old bathroom and the third bedroom.*  
**Far right:** *Kate commissioned a blue from Porter's Paints for her bedroom. The painting is by Pacquita Maher.*

