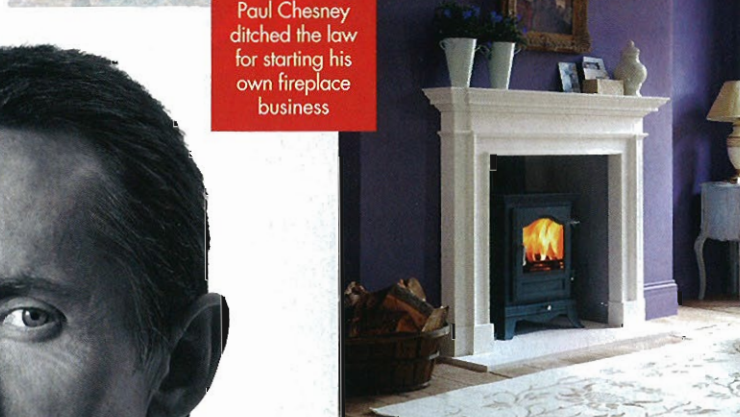


BETWEEN THE SHEETS

PAUL CHESNEY

The fireplace guru boasts such green credentials that you can even have one of his stoves in the city



FIRE STARTER
Paul Chesney ditched the law for starting his own fireplace business

FIREPLACES. HOW AND WHY? I studied law at Cambridge but hated it. Then, by chance, I spotted a cast fireplace in a skip and took it. Later on I saw that the very same types were on sale in Camden Market for hundreds of pounds so I knew there was the potential for a business. Though less than two per cent of our turnover is now down to the sale of antique fireplaces, we still own one of the largest collections in the world. In fact, on 14th September some of them will go on sale at Sotheby's in an auction dedicated to the Chesney's collection, which will be the largest specialist auction of its type.

LAST YEAR YOU COLLABORATED WITH THE NATIONAL TRUST ON A RANGE OF WOOD-BURNING STOVES.

WHAT'S THE CONNECTION? We are both firmly committed to the protection of the environment, making the best use of energy resources. Chesney's range of National Trust stoves delivers amazing efficiency and produces very low emissions using a clean burning technique for cleaner air and enhanced energy conservation.

YOU'VE TURNED THE DESIGN OF OLD-FASHIONED WOOD-BURNING STOVES ON ITS HEAD, WITH MODELS SO COOL AND GREEN THAT YOU CAN USE THEM IN THE CITY TOO... Yes, our new stoves ditch the traditional image of the stove as utilitarian iron monster and draw on an eclectic variety of design inspirations from Victorian Gothic to fifties retro.

As with all our stoves, they have



PAUL'S LITTLE BLACK BOOK

HACKETT
They make excellent shirts. hackett.com

SHIPTON AND HENEAGE, LONDON
For a great selection of shoes. shiptonandheneage.co.uk

HMV
For adding to my CD collection. hmv.com

impeccable green credentials that qualify them for use in urban areas as well as rural.

WHAT IS ABOUT A FIREPLACE THAT MAKES IT SO DESIRABLE?

It gives a room its focus. It's a primeval instinct to want to sit round a fire both for warmth and sociability.

SHOULD YOU ALWAYS GO TRADITIONAL IN THE COUNTRY AND MODERN IN THE CITY? No.

When choosing a fireplace for your home the most significant factor to consider is the dimensions of the room. It is essential that the proportion of the fireplace suits the size of the room.

YOU'VE COLLABORATED WITH SOME SERIOUS DESIGN NAMES, LIKE JASPER CONRAN AND KELLY HOPPEN. ANY MORE IN THE PIPELINE? Yes. Watch this space.

FIREPLACES ARE REALLY JUST FOR WINTER. DOES THAT MEAN YOU CAN TAKE THE SUMMER OFF? Not really, though I do try! All through the year we work on new designs and projects for the forthcoming seasons. Every other year we work on a collaborative project with the KLC School of Design where we invite students to design a fireplace and we put the winning designs into production. Also, as many people choose to buy and install in the summer months, we can often be at our busiest.

YOUR HOUSE IS BURNING DOWN. WHICH THREE ITEMS WOULD YOU SAVE? My family; my CD collection and my football boots.

LUCKY YOU. YOU'VE GOT TWO FIRST CLASS PLANE TICKETS.

WHERE ARE YOU GOING AND WITH WHOM? I'd fly off to Wakaya Island, Fiji with my other half Tanya.

IF PAUL CHESNEY DIDN'T MAKE FIREPLACES, HE WOULD BE...

Running a bar somewhere in the sun. ■

