



Bill and Jenny Levett with twins Ursula and Joshua on ponies Basil, who is 27 years old, and Peggy Sue, 39



estate was broken up and now there are four properties where once there was only one.

All this happened long before Bill Levett moved in, however. He came to the UK from Australia in 1994 with only a horse and a suitcase after gaining a scholarship to train with Mark Phillips. Despite his horse going wrong for the World Games at The Hague he decided to stay and was taken under the wing of a couple of patrons who sponsored him and helped him get a foot on the ladder. "When I moved from Australia I didn't realise how much I was leaving behind," says Bill, who received backing up until seven years ago. "These people have become my closest friends and are part of the richness of moving to another country." Bill's parents, Bob and Wendy, who are retired school teachers, live in Byron Bay in Australia and Bill and Jenny and the twins return every winter to visit. Bill and Jenny also have their own property in Australia, in



'The house looks enormous from the outside but it's the opposite of a tardis and is small inside. It does have a nice feel, though'

the Southern Highlands, that they have bought as an investment and currently rent out.

"Ideally we'd love to split our time between the two places but the house in Australia is more a retirement prospect," says Jenny, who met Bill at an event party. "At the moment our home is the UK. It's a fantastic place to bring up the kids and where we are now is the most wonderful location for eventing."

So would Bill ever think of moving? "I guess when I wind down my career we'll go back to Australia but at present we love where we live," he says. **E**

ABOVE The hall boasts a high ceiling in front of the window. The couple loves the house's big rooms but would like more of them **RIGHT** The living area **BELOW** Jenny's office



Pictures by Emma Smart (Horse) / Words by John Harbort