# Couple transforms savings into apocalyptic glamping experience in Amersham



Viewers of Channel 4's "George Clarke's Amazing Spaces" were left astonished as they watched Nicky and Dom Ackland-Snow unveil their uniquely styled glamping pods during the recent episode. The couple, who previously contributed to Hollywood set designs for films like "Alice Through The Looking Glass" and "Fast & Furious," have directed their creative energies towards the tourism sector by establishing an apocalyptic-themed glamping site in Amersham, Buckinghamshire.

Nicky and Dom dedicated their entire savings—initially estimated at £75,000—to construct two mid-century inspired timber pods, deliberately designed to evoke a 1970s dystopian atmosphere resembling the world of 'Mad Max.' The Build was thoroughly documented in the show, revealing extensive planning and hard work involved in bringing their vision to life.

The project included not only the glamping pods but also a camper van designated as a 'chillout' area, along with amenities featuring shuffleboard and a hot tub. The couple's ambitious plan required significant financial risk, as they opted to sell their house, alongside Nicky’s son’s property, to fund the project. Ultimately, the budget escalated to £100,000, but by the episode's conclusion, the pods were completed and ready for rental under their new business, Lights Camera Glamping, which charges £350 per night for a stay.

George Clarke, the show’s host, described the project's outcome as 'bonkers' yet remarked on the remarkable achievement of creating what felt like "walking onto a film set." However, some viewers expressed confusion regarding the aesthetically rusted exterior of the pods, questioning the appeal of such a design choice. One viewer remarked, “The exterior of the camping pods is awful. Why would you want to stay in a rusty place?” Conversely, others appreciated the couple's commitment to thematic consistency, calling the project "very cool" and "amazing."

The external appearance of the glamping site contributed to a somewhat ominous atmosphere, accentuated by features such as barbed wire and a symbolic peace sign, which left little indication of the comforts that awaited guests inside. Upon entering, Clarke was “mindblown,” as interior designs revealed a stark contrast to the rough exterior. One pod featured a beautifully designed bedroom, while the other was equipped with a kitchen and living area that maintained the 1970s aesthetic, complemented by contemporary amenities.

"Our theme is evidently post-apocalyptic, but your experience won't be," the couple stated on their website, claiming to offer comforts such as a working shower, a proper flushing toilet, a comfortable double bed, self-catering facilities, and a vintage shuffleboard—all set in a serene woodland atmosphere. The rust-like finish on the pods was crafted by their daughter, Lucy, who has experience in set design.

As the couple's venture gains momentum, they are now working towards introducing a Mamma Mia-themed pod and have aspirations to create a Star Wars-themed pod in Norway, meticulously designed to be enjoyed under the Northern Lights. Their innovative glamping venture has not only garnered attention but also earned them spots in Airbnb's 'OMG finds' and recognition in The Telegraph's top 30 best holidays in the UK for 2024.

Reflecting on the journey, Dom shared with Bucks Free Press, “We gambled everything on this. It is a big gamble; our house is on the market, and our son's house is too. In film, family is everything, and looking after our kids and having them involved with us is so important.” He further emphasised the significance of working together as a family, stating, “You can't get better workers than family.”

In addition to the Ackland-Snow's ambitious project, the episode highlighted two young brothers, Billy and Henry Dobson, from Penkridge, Staffordshire, who also showcased their remarkable transformation of an ice cream and coffee van on the show. The Dobson brothers, aged 13 and 9, embarked on their own ambitious project, purchasing a dilapidated ex-library bus from 1974 and successfully converting it while simultaneously aiming to debut their creation at school within three months. The achievements across both projects indicate a growing trend of transforming creative ideas into tangible experiences, attracting viewers and participants alike to the world of imaginative design and entrepreneurship.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)