













'It wasn't until we went for the second scan and they said, "You're going to have a daughter," that it really connected with me = I'm just delighted' Max

glances over at Max, who's relaxing on the ornate chaise longue and nodding in agreement.

"My sister Kristi came over to New York to see us and I told her I'd been feeling dizzy and a bit nauseous and she said straight away, 'I think you're pregnant.' She gave me advice on the best brand of pregnancy test to get out there, but we didn't believe I was pregnant.

"We still didn't believe it a week later, when she had gone home and I decided to finally do the test and this faint little second line came up. I showed it to Max and he said, 'What does this mean?"

"It's weird because nothing really happens to the guy – you're just handed a stick and told this is going to change your entire life," laughs Max, 32, who, as one of the top ten international male models favoured by Tommy Hilfiger and D&G, is further boosting his child's chances of being genetically blessed in the looks department.

"I think it takes time for the news to sink in for a guy, but as you tell more and more people it becomes real," he says.

"It wasn't until we went for the second scan, at 20 weeks, and they said, 'You're going to have a daughter,' and then when I felt her kick, it really connected with me – I'm just delighted.

"When I was younger I always thought it would be cool to have a little boy like me, but now it's actually happening I'm delighted to be having a little girl."

KEEPING MUM... BRIEFLY

Flying back from New York, the couple were still in happy disbelief at their wonderful news and decided to keep it to themselves for a while – a plan that didn't last long.

"Ashley knew straight away," laughs Kimberly about her former Pussycat Dolls bandmate and best friend, Ashley Roberts.

Adds Max: "It was the weirdest thing. Kim was only about five weeks gone, so we couldn't say anything to anyone, not even close family, because it was just too early, but we got back from New York and met Ashley in the pub and she said, 'Do you want a cider?' and Kim said, 'I think I'll have a juice,' and straight away she gasped, 'Nooo you're not!'

"We hadn't even said anything and she knew – I was like, 'How did this happen?'" laughs Max as he thrusts out his hands in mock surprise at Ashley's feminine intuition.

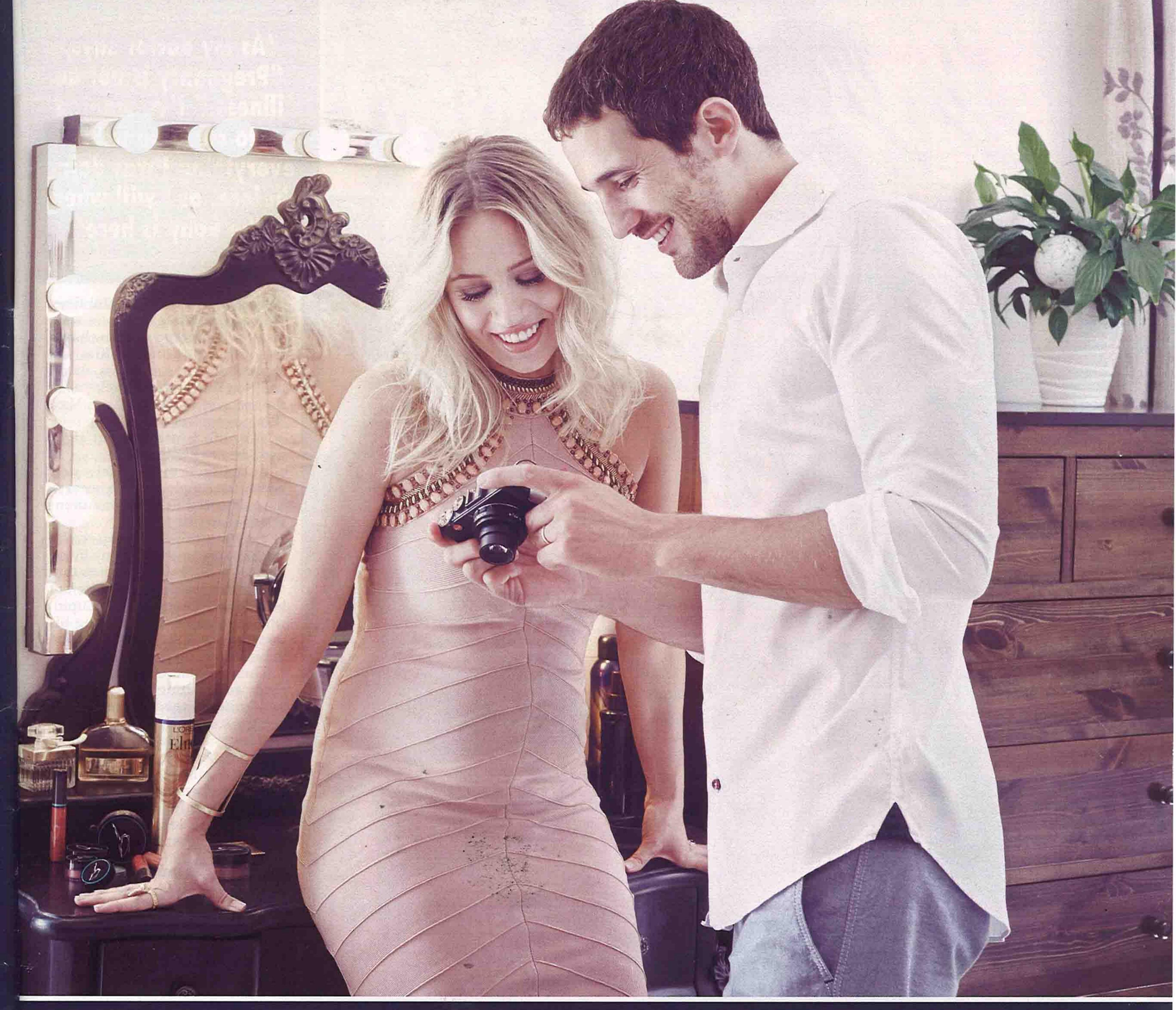
"We are like sisters," says Kimberly. "Ashley knows everything about me, so she only looked at me and guessed right away. When I told her, it was so emotional – she was thrilled for us, which was lovely."

Another unplanned announcement happened when the couple spoke to former JLS star JB Gill and his new wife Chloe, who rang to break the news that they were expecting their first baby.

"They called and I said, 'It's amazing actually because we've got the same news," says Max, who along with Kimberly travelled to Scotland in May for JB and Chloe's wedding. "It's great that we are all going through this at the same time; we can share notes."

"Davina McCall has been amazing too," adds Kimberly of her *Got to Dance* colleague. "She is a working mum and has given me so much advice.

"I didn't tell anyone on the show at first and it was a struggle because I was having serious dizzy



spells and losing more weight than I was gaining because I was feeling nauseous and couldn't eat. And I was really emotional.

"There was one couple that came on the show and said they used to be professional dancers but gave it up so they could start a family and I lost it. I burst out sobbing, so much so I had to go off camera and get myself together.

"It was the hormones that were making me so emotional, but everyone was like, 'What is she doing?' Now I've told a few of them on set it has all started to make sense."

MIND YOUR LANGUAGE

Before finding out she was pregnant, Kimberly, who was born in Missouri, told **HELLO!** that she planned to make England her family home.

With her daughter now on the way is that still the case? "Definitely," comes the emphatic reply.

"I love the life Max and I have built here. My family are planning to come over when the baby is due so they can spend a couple of weeks here, but England is home for me now.

"And there is nothing cuter than having a baby growing up with a British accent," she adds. "I asked Max, 'Am I going to have to start saying footpath instead of sidewalk and things so I don't confuse them at school?"

"You should be doing that anyway, babe," teases Max. "When we found out about the

Picture perfect: Kimberly and Max pick out some favourite shots (above), though their camera can expect to be even busier once their daughter arrives in December. Until then, Kimberly is taking pregnancy in her stride – though she's not immediately keen on the idea of re-forming the Pussycat Dolls (below, in 2008, from left, Melody Thornton, Jessica Sutta, Nicole Scherzinger, Kimberly and Ashley Roberts). "The one thing I said was that in my entire life I never wanted to be on stage with a big belly singing Don't Cha," she laughs





'As my doctor says, "Pregnancy is not an illness." I've wanted to carry on with everything I was doing before, as I will when the baby is here'

baby, it was a pretty stressful time. We had just got married, we were about to move into our new house in south-west London, Kim was applying for her spouse visa, then I had New York Fashion Week - all in the space of five weeks," says Max. "But now we feel settled."

"Yes, life is pretty great right now," beams Kimberly.

Looking around their new home, the couple certainly seem to have adjusted to their imminent roles as parents.

Tiny stuffed toys clutter the leather sofa in their sunny living room - though it transpires that they're not for their daughter but belong to Kimberly's dog Cupid, who, when he's not following his owner to check she's okay, is nestled in his kennel.

There is, however, a Moses basket ready and waiting in the nursery and knitting needles are already being put to good use.

"I have started to take up knitting little jumpers for the baby," says Kimberly. "I figured I could do it in the breaks between filming Got to Dance, but so far no matter how much I do it doesn't seem to be getting any bigger."

KNIT ONE, PURR ONE

Knitting and nesting are a far cry from her Pussycat Doll days, when she'd perform burlesque routines in tiny outfits, kicking her leg over her head in her trademark move.

What does she think of fellow former Pussycat Nicole Scherzinger's reported hope that the girls re-form in the future?

"The one thing I said was that in my entire life I never wanted to be on stage with a big belly singing Don't Cha," she laughs, referring to their 2005 hit.

"I'm open to the possibility of the Pussycat Dolls getting back together, but I'm not sitting by the phone waiting.

"And I've got a few other things to think about right now," she says, stroking her bump once again and explaining how her daughter is already starting to follow in her footsteps with her strong kicks.

Would they want their daughter to follow them into the limelight? "If she came home and said she just wanted to be famous, something would be wrong," says Max, who studied marketing at Huddersfield University before being discovered during Milan Fashion Week.

"I'd send her to her room," jokes Kimberly. "Truthfully, I just want her to be happy and healthy and fulfilled in whatever endeavours become her passion."

Luckily the birth will coincide

'England not the US is home for me now. There's nothing cuter than having a baby growing up with a British accent

calendar, which is a bonus for in-demand Max, who plans to be there for the birth before returning to the catwalk in January.

Kimberly is likewise busy, with her TV show, Dancing Leopard clothing range, DJing career, Beautiful Movements make-up line, as well as a perfume launch to come later this year - she has, she says, no intentions of taking it easy, either now or after the baby is born.

"As my doctor says, 'Pregnancy is not an illness.' Life doesn't stop moving forward and I've still wanted to carry on with everything I was doing before and I will continue to when the baby is here.

"I'd love to dive right back to work once the new year comes. I've been told that kids are quite adaptable at that age, so she could come with me.

"I've had to change some things to my fitness regime; instead of going to hot yoga at my local YogaHaven, I've had someone come to my house to adapt the moves," she says.

"My choreographer has been helping me work on a routine that isn't too strenuous and I've been working with fitness trainer Jane Wake, who's spoken to a lot of doctors about what's right and what's wrong to do during pregnancy."

BODY OF WORK

And then there was that naked photoshoot, in which she was apparently suspended in the air with nothing but a rope covering her modesty, a pose that perfectly showed off her fit physique.

"I was about 16 weeks pregnant when I did that," she says as she shows us the pictures of her incredibly toned physique. "I was really proud of it, but on the day my boobs suddenly sprouted and I thought, 'Oh my goodness, I'm not going to be able to hide this."

With her body, work and home life in great shape, Kimberly certainly seems to be taking prospective parenthood in her stride. What kind of a mother does she hope to be?

"I want to continue living an inspired life," she says. "I think that by continuing to be that example and doing what you love, having your passions - that's the biggest thing I could hand down to her.

"I'm just so excited about meeting her. This Christmas is going to be very special."

INTERVIEW: DANIELLE LAWLER PHOTOS: DAVID VENNI

STYLING: ALEXANDRIA REID HAIR & MAKE-UP: CAROLINE BARNES AT FRANK AGENCY



Standing outside her and Max's new home in south-west London (above), Kimberly is in a sunny mood. And with good reason - she has great friends, a busy career in a number of fields, a new husband and a baby on the way. As she says herself: "Yes, life is pretty great right now"