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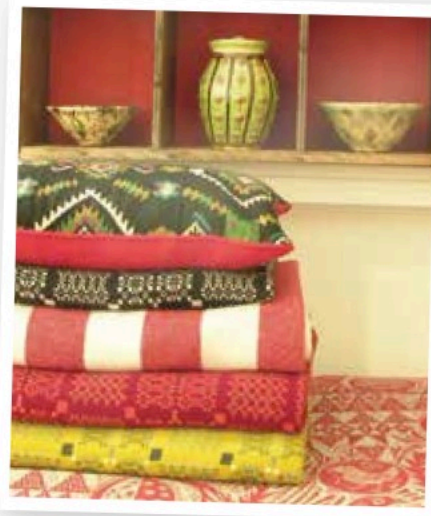
TALKING SHOP

Tinsmiths

In the historic market town of Ledbury in Herefordshire, discover a fabulously eclectic fabric and lighting emporium

WHO Phoebe Clive trained as a furniture designer but, after working in the industry for a year, she was keen to do her own thing. She began making curtains and, when the chance to buy a picturesque old ironmongery in Ledbury came up, she and her lighting designer husband Alex opened their own shop.

WHAT Tinsmiths is a wonderful surprise. Down a Dickensian alley off the high street, you'll find a treasure



ABOVE 'We wanted the showroom to feel like a traditional fabric shop because they are so rare these days,' says Phoebe BELOW LEFT Alex designed Tinsmiths' striking new showroom

trove of vintage kilims, an array of lights and new studio pottery. Everything is personally selected by the Clives and they make a point of seeking out artisans whose work you can't find anywhere else.

WHERE Ledbury still has three butchers and a greengrocers as well as a market – exactly the kind of old-world feel that Tinsmiths itself exudes.

FIND Phoebe sources everything: 'Function is very important to me,' she says. 'It must be my training but I can't cope with things that look pretty but don't work.'

BUY At the moment Phoebe's favourite piece is Clive Hicks-Jenkins' graphic print *The Death of Munrow* (£295).

* Tinsmiths Alley, 8A High Street, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 1DS. 01531 632083; tinsmiths.co.uk



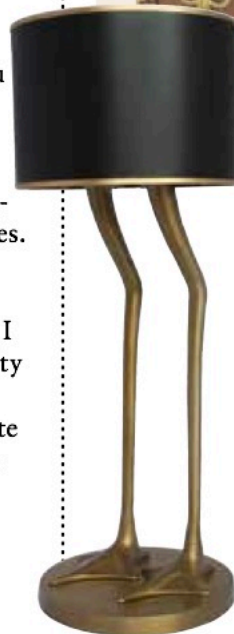
ANTIQUES AT AUCTION

FORTIFYING FIND

Sworders' Autumn Country House sale, 13th September

Designed to keep money safe, this olive wood coffre-fort with gothic hinges dates to the late 18th century. Once unlocked, the front falls open to reveal a rosewood veneer interior of a shallow compartment and two drawers. (Est £800–£1,200).

* 01279 817778; sworder.co.uk



SEASON'S PICK

ROCKETT SCIENCE

Brilliant homeware store Rockett St George opens its first concession in Liberty this month. You'll find the Victoriana-inspired stock on the fourth floor. Look out for exclusives to Liberty such as this quirky 'Duck Feet' lamp (£145).

* 01444 253391; rockettstgeorge.co.uk

5 of the best: Drawer pulls

Be sure to open your drawers – or doors – with a flourish



TOP BRASS

Large antique brass-coloured drawer pull. 020 8761 1011; rigbyandmac.com

£5.95



FIFTY-FIFTY

Pair of 1950s 'Atomic Age' door pulls. 020 7394 2100; lassco.co.uk

£500



PETAL TO THE METAL

Pink 'petals' quatrefoil door knob. 020 7736 7171; hautedeco.com

£230



LINE DRAWING

'Caricature' ceramic door knob. 00800 0026 8476; anthropologie.com

£6



FINE CHROME

Polished chrome art deco cupboard knob. 01228 516516; morehandles.co.uk

£4.58



Drawer pulls

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