

PERIOD LIVING

TRADITIONAL HOMES, INTERIORS, GARDENS, ANTIQUES & RENOVATION

DREAM HOMES FROM COUNTRY TO COASTAL

- Somerset flint cottage
- East coast Victorian villa
- Cornish village hideaway

20% DISCOUNT
at Lombok

Enter our Readers' Awards 2010 to win a luxury weekend break

WIN!
A gorgeous bespoke bed

Utility Chic

Using workaday fabrics for simple country style

BUYER'S GUIDES

- Handy kitchen storage
- Classic desks

TRADITIONAL CONSERVATORIES

Small extension - instant benefit

Spring Decorating

Embroidery to fill your home with flowers

RENOVATING KNOW-HOW: SPOTLIGHT ON SALVAGE • TRADITIONAL LEAD WORK • WORKING WITH A CONSERVATION ARCHITECT



Going green

Try a website for all things handmade – and learn how buying crockery can help end poverty

BY REBECCA FISHENDEN



CHINA FOR CHARITY

Designer Jacqueline Cambata has teamed up with Thomas Goode, the porcelain company, to create a Mughal-inspired range of china, with 80% of the profits being donated to charity. Historical images from Persian, Indian and European art are blended with influences from the 16th-century Mughal empire to create the Elephant Shantih collection. Purchases from this range will help improve the lives of thousands of women in India who support their families by running cottage industries, where exploitation by local, unregulated moneylenders is endemic. An ethical micro-loan programme, supported by the sale of the porcelain, will provide fair loans and advice to help lift families out of the cycle of poverty. Visit cambatadesigns.com or thomasgoode.com.



HEART OF GLASS

Go for colour with these recycled glasses from Conran's spring collection. Made from old glass bottles they are environmentally friendly and at £2.50 each you can feel free to mix and match your style. The range is exclusive to Conran (020 7403 8899; conran.com).



DID YOU KNOW?

Fabric made from bamboo is resistant to dust mites so makes ideal bedlinen. Visit bamboobedsheets.co.uk (01380 739234). Prices start from £16.25.

Craft corner

Workshops and studios all over Britain are busy creating artisan products, but discovering them can be the tricky bit. A new website, frombritainwithlove.com, aims to bring all beautiful things to you under one virtual roof. Featuring inspirational craftspeople and food producers, there's a meet-the-maker section, gift guides, news about creative courses and events and, of course, lots of things to buy including Pure Light scented candles (right), £19.



Doing my bit... We talk to Joyce Gervis, one of the founders of Tŷ-Mawr



'I started the company with my husband in 1995. He had been involved in the restoration of traditional buildings when we purchased our run-down farm in the heart of the Brecon Beacons National Park in 1993. We wanted to restore it sensitively and started producing our own lime mortars and plasters.

'We use environmentally friendly products like plant based paints, sheeps' wool insulation, limecrete (instead of concrete) and to improve the environmental credentials we use lower impact products such as recycled glass and hemp fibres.

'We have more than 6,500 products and have supplied material to Cadw, the National Trust and to ethical businesses like Neal's Yard Remedies.

'At the farm, we capture the "waste" heat from the production process to heat our training centre, offices and farmhouse, an innovative system which is then backed up by a log boiler which means that we are free from relying on oil and save 40 tonnes of carbon dioxide emission a year. We have also installed solar thermal systems for hot water and rainwater harvesting as well as, of course, using our materials throughout.

'As a family and business, we try not to put out more than one bag of rubbish per week, but this does take a lot of commitment. With just eight years' worth of landfill left in Wales this is a really important issue, so nearly all of our products can be recycled or composted.' (01874 611350; lime.org.uk)