

SPIRIT OF SALVAGE

Here we salute the people, yards, products and places that make the UK salvage scene thrive

‘Many people **started collections** while in lockdown and, as a result, need a cabinet to store their wares. We’re seeing particular interest in **Cadbury’s chocolate display cases** and **Globe Wernicke bookcases** – they’re selling like hotcakes!’ **Jill O’Neill, onthesquareemporium.com**



A MINUTE WITH...
AARON AND ZOE LAWN FROM SALVAGED NORFOLK

It’s the character in salvaged timber that Aaron and Zoe Lawn, husband and wife owners of Salvaged Norfolk, love. ‘Our pieces have a beautiful weather-beaten, aged quality to them,’ says Aaron of the couple’s reclaimed wood creations.

Salvaged Norfolk began a few years ago when Aaron began upcycling furniture and making items from salvaged timber. ‘I create a large range of unique homeware and decorative items,’ he says. ‘We have test-tube vases of various sizes and colours, wax melt burners (made using vintage spoons), tea-light

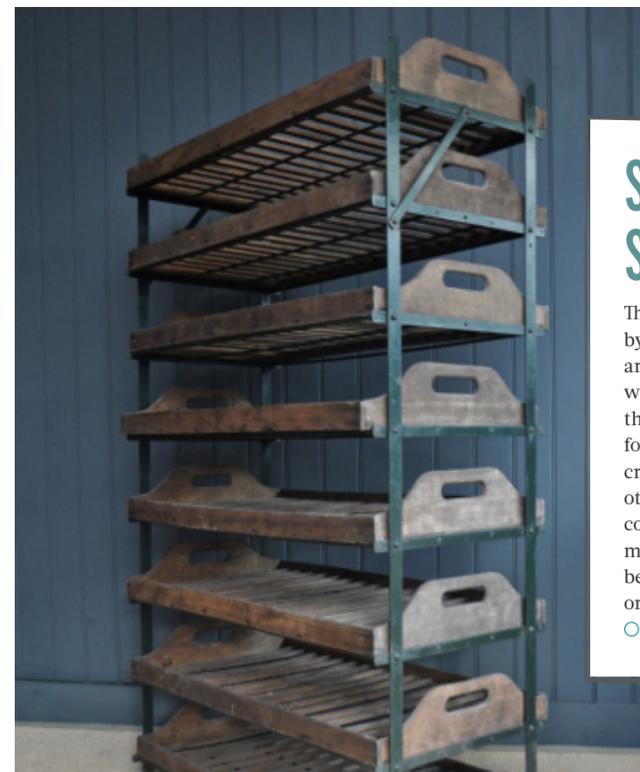
holders, coat hooks, bird feeders, boot removers and decorative houses, as well as wooden garden games.’

Aaron and Zoe organise Bluebirds Handmade Market, a curated fair for high quality, contemporary, handcrafted items. Currently virtual, they’re looking forward to the day markets can start up again. ‘I love seeing people’s reactions to something I’ve spent time designing, sourcing materials for and creating,’ says Aaron. ‘That makes all the long hours in the workshop worthwhile!’

○ SalvagedNorfolk on Etsy; Instagram @salvagednorfolk



Salvaged Norfolk’s most popular item is the test-tube vase



SALVAGE SHOWCASE

This brilliant vintage baker’s rack, sourced by Ben Southgate, is thought to date from around the 1950s or 1960s. There are so many ways this piece could be used and styled in the home – perhaps in the kitchen as shelves for stacking a collection of colourful vintage crockery, or for dried and baking goods. In other parts of the home, the baker’s rack could be kept in a study or hallway, to store magazines or paperwork – or even in a bedroom for neatly folded knitwear, bedding or a shoe collection.

○ £525, bsouthgate.com

MOST WANTED... WINDOW SHUTTERS

Reclaimed window shutters are a beautiful way to add character, colour and charm to your house. Evocative of France, where most houses have window shutters, you can source them in different sizes and shades and use them in various ways.

‘Shutters can be used as intended, as outdoor or indoor window shutters,’ says a spokesperson from Reginald Ballum antiques store. ‘Or they could be used to make cupboard doors, as a decorative background for displays, as wall art indoors and in the garden, as room dividers or kitchen swing doors – basically anything you want to put your imagination to! They can be hung very easily as window shutters and if they need modifying, resizing or different hinges, any competent carpenter can help.’

Salvage yards, eBay and reclamation stockists are a brilliant place to find shutters – just measure up your requirements. If you can’t find what you need online or at a yard, check if you can put in a request for reclaimed shutters to be specifically sourced for you.



Reclaimed bottom-opening shutters, painted green, with handles (below), £130 each; englishsalvage.co.uk

Original pale-blue window shutters from France (above), £185; reginaldballum.co.uk



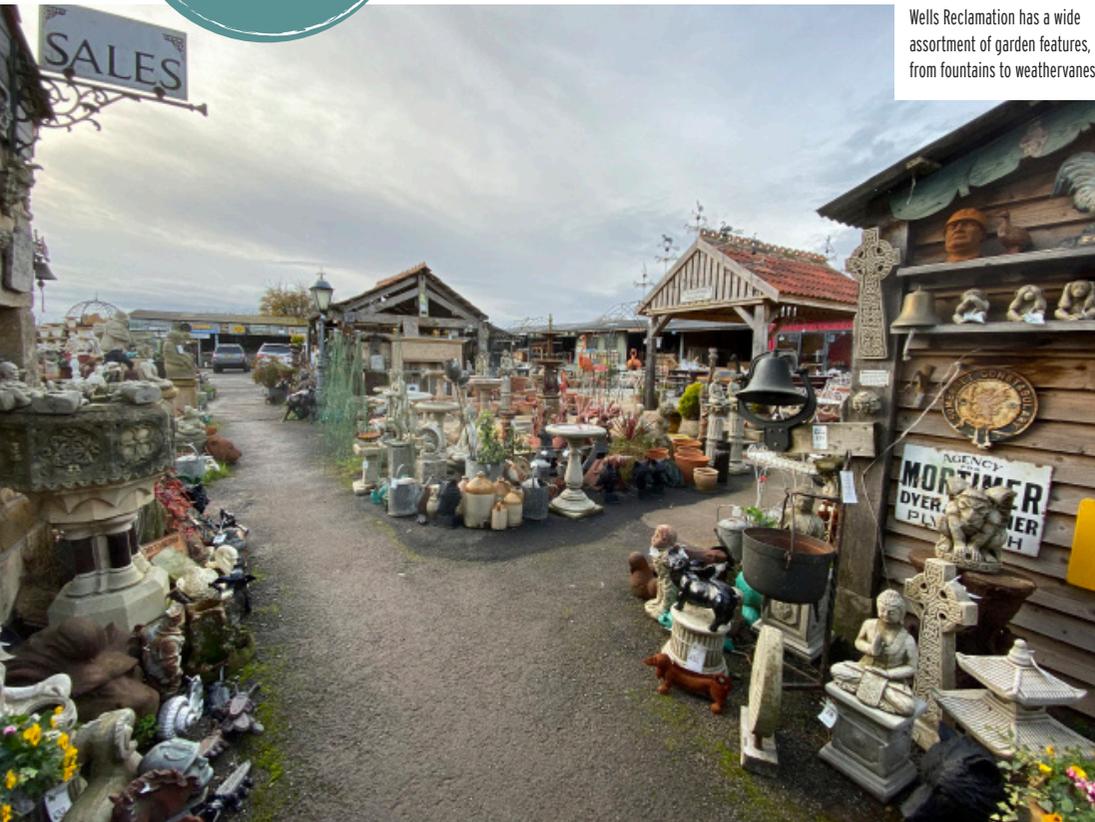
Period pine three-panel window shutters (left), £149; reclaimandsalvage.co.uk

YARD FOCUS

STYLE TIP

Reclaimed Indian doors make great headboards or wall cladding

We spoke to Emma Smith, marketing and online director at Wells Reclamation in Somerset



Wells Reclamation has a wide assortment of garden features, from fountains to weathervanes



This 1950s missile was decommissioned from a nearby ordnance factory

What sort of customers do you usually see at Wells?

We have such a huge range of customers: trade, interior designers, film and TV prop buyers, architects, builders, reclamation enthusiasts and antiques dealers.

Have you been involved in any interesting or unusual projects?

We supply lots of hotels, bars and pubs, and film and TV companies, plus we have customers all over the world. For instance, we've supplied stone flooring to a large hotel in Singapore, huge terracotta pots to The Newt in Somerset and various items to Glastonbury Festival. Interior designers are regular customers for hotel and bar fitouts, especially in London. We've recently supplied props for a TV company filming locally as well.

What do you love about working in the trade?

No two days are the same and I love sourcing new stock from auctions all over the UK and beyond. It's also a pleasure to meet customers and other traders with a real love for reclamation and antiques.

Give us a couple of salvage style ideas.

Old pine floorboards are great for rustic wall cladding. Customers are now spending so much time at home and in their gardens that reclaimed flooring is proving ideal for building home bars and the ultimate material for 'man-cave' construction. 🍷

>> *Wells Reclamation, Coxley, Wells, Somerset BA5 1RQ; wellsreclamation.com, Instagram @wellsrec*

How would you describe the yard in three words?

Totally mind-blowing!

What's the story behind the business?

It was established in 1985 by Haydn and Margaret Davies. It began in the old railway shed in Wells, selling old doors, reclaimed building materials and Margaret's reclaimed pine furniture. The business moved to a cider farm in Coxley a few years later and since then the business has expanded to over five acres of land with an enormous amount of stock salvaged from all over the world. I'm Margaret's daughter and their grandson Oliver Llewellyn has recently joined the company. It's a thriving family business.

What sort of stock can customers expect to find at Wells?

Architectural antiques, vintage and antique furniture, huge stocks of natural stone and timber flooring, reclaimed building materials, freestanding solid wood farmhouse kitchens,



large garden statuary, reclaimed fireplaces – and everything else you can imagine!

Any items that are particularly unusual?

We have a 1958 Bloodhound missile on site. This came from outside the former Royal Ordnance Factory in Puriton near Bridgwater. We brought it to the yard on the back of our truck. It's a rare Cold War relic and not for sale – just a quirky part of the décor!