

What's new by David Nicholls

1 GLASS IS GREENER New from Lalique is the delightful Bucolique collection, with vases, bowls, tumblers and perfume bottles featuring a delicate dandelion pattern cut into the crystal. There are two colours: Anise (the zesty lime green) and Meadow. Shown here are the three vases, which cost £149, £390 and £1,390 for the tallest, at 13in (020-7499 8228; lalique.com).

2 CLEVER BASTIDE Fired Earth has added a bathroom collection to its Bastide range of freestanding furniture. The oak pieces – such as this linen cupboard (from £1,450) and medium-size washbasin (£1,715, including stone worktop) – are made in France by Fired Earth's sister company Grange. The collection also features a slatted bench (£220) and mirrors (from £215) with the wood finished in either natural, white or an ashy blue. The glazed lava-stone worktops are available in graphite and ivory (0845-366 0400; firedearth.com).

3 USB USP Making a rechargeable battery into an object of desire is a tall order, but Moixa Energy has just about managed with its new USBCELL range. Each battery is fitted with a USB connector that plugs straight into a computer when it needs charging up (it takes about five hours). Not only does this banish the need for endless cables and bulky recharging cradles, it delivers an undeniable cool-factor with its flip-top mechanism. Two AAs costs £10.95 at John Lewis (08456-049049).

4 SEASIDE SPECIAL Lisa Stickley, one of our favourite young textile designers, began her collaboration with Garden Trading earlier this year. Just out for summer is this Dahlia No 81 windbreak, which is made of four panels of her fabrics. It costs £55, is 145cm tall and opens out to 320cm wide. Other new Stickley pieces for the company include similarly patterned beach bags (£18) and deckchairs, £50 each (0845-608 4448; gardentrading.co.uk).



SHOP TALK



Tim Bowen Antiques Carmarthenshire

Tim Bowen had been working in antiques for 13 years when he and his wife, Betsan, decided set up their own shop. That was three years ago; since then their showroom and website have become a vital source for enthusiasts of Welsh (and some English) antiques and folk art (from wool samplers to quilts). A Country Chippendale chair (left) will cost about £400, and a Welsh 'stick' chair (far left) between £1,200 and £5,000; prices zoom up to £18,000 for an immense Montgomeryshire oak dresser. Welsh pottery from the 19th century is added to the mix: although many of the pieces were relatively mass produced, they are now highly prized. Expect to pay £50 for a small spongeware plate. Tim Bowen Antiques, Ivy House, Ferryside, Carmarthenshire (01267-267122; timbowenantiques.co.uk).