

artisan pages

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ANDY BROWN: Director, Artisan Interiors

Artisan News (in Brief)...

Not to be confused with The Sun's 'News in Briefs'... I can categorically promise that none of the Artisan Team will be stripping down to their undercrackers, however, I'm sure that could be arranged in the next edition for a

(very) large charitable donation ☺
Anyway... Back to the news.

The new Next 125 Brochure arrived in the showroom in September. The bright orange 'New Kitchen Book' includes all the latest colours and ranges. Highlights being the brand new range of ceramic doors with an onyx black frame and 3 new colours being added to the Matt Velvet Lacquer range (Mocha Brown, Onyx Black and Lava Black.)

Work has now started on the appliance showroom which will be situated adjacent to the Next 125 Showroom upstairs. It's going to showcase BORA Basic, Classic and Professional extractor hobs,



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as well as a Miele coffee machine and steam oven. There will also be a Liebherr fridge, freezer and full height wine cooler. The kitchen units have arrived from Germany and we've started to install everything with a view to be up and running in the next couple of months.

Throughout the month of July, we ran a fantastic '**no purchase necessary**' contest '**Game of Scones**'. People were asked to bake some scones and upload a photo of themselves with their bakes to our contest page, for the chance to win an award winning AEG Sous Vide Steam Oven. We had 19 contestants and randomly chose a winner live on Facebook on the 2nd August. Rita from Barry was the lucky winner and she was over the moon to have won.

In October, the brand new Schüller-C Brochure arrived instore. Schüller have met the demand for dark grey and black kitchens in their new book by introducing more greys and onyx black colours to existing ranges. There are also a few new ranges including an onyx black textured spruce door. The concrete effect range, Elba, is a particular favourite that has been added to and now has four colour choices including steel and anthracite grey effects.

GAME OF SCONES WINNER, RITA



Finally, we started our '12 Days of Christmas' prize draws on 3rd December. Everybody who had bought a kitchen between 1st January and 1st December 2018 were entered into the tombola style draws. We then gave away a different prize each day, for 12 days throughout December.

The prizes increased in value each day and the draws were streamed live on our Facebook Page. The big '**Day 12**' prize of **£500 Cash** was won by Arron and Lyndsey from Bridgend who were thrilled with their early Christmas present. See all the prizes and winners listed below...



That's it for your News in Brief, until next time...

All the Best, *Andy.*

Congratulations to Our 12 Days of Christmas Prize Winners!

Day 1 Craft Beer Advent Calendar - **Sian Jones**

Day 2 Chocoholic's Paradise - **Nicky Gannon**

Day 3 Gin Advent Calendar - **Karen Gibbon**

Day 4 Cotswold Hamper - **Matt & Rebecca Jones**

Day 5 Champagne - **Steve & Sue Luke**

Day 6 £60 Vouchers - **Jamie & Brigitte Gater**

Day 7 6 Bottles of Prosecco - **Andy & Fran Cottey**

Day 8 Christmas Hamper - **Simon & Ceri Jones**

Day 9 Bose Bluetooth Speaker - **Julia Jones**

Day 10 Coffee Machine - **Dave & Ros Chandler**

Day 11 KitchenAid Mixer - **Chris & Susan Golledge**

Day 12 £500 CASH - **Arron & Lyndsey Bickerton**

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OUT WITH THE OLD....



Each year, Schüller carefully consider which colours and ranges to continue manufacturing by studying sales and trends across Europe. By reviewing their ranges annually, they ensure their kitchen styles remain both contemporary and well received. The 2019 brochure displays the increasing popularity of black kitchens and metallics, as well as the continuing trend for grey and concrete effect kitchens.

Linea and Strato are two of Schüller's new slab door ranges, both available in Onyx Black. As with any of Schüller's slab doors, these ranges can be manufactured with handles or handle-less and, as shown in the brochure, their look is complemented by combining them with a wood effect door or with Schüller's brand new metallic range, Corona.

Schüller's concrete effect range, Elba, was first seen in the 2018 brochure. The range has had a re-vamp for the new year and there are now four concrete effect shades to choose from. The darker shade from 2018 has been replaced with an even darker Anthracite Concrete Effect and two new colours have been added - White Grey and Ceramic Steel Grey - with only Quartz Grey remaining from the original Elba range.



Wall panelling features heavily in the room sets in the 2019 brochure and more accessories to hang on the panelling have been developed too. One of our favourites is the innovative, **Award Winning**, panel garden which has a built in light to keep your live herbs fresh for longer.

The new sample doors and worktops are now in the Showroom and the design team are eager to create some kitchen designs using the new ranges and colours.





UTILITY ROOMS: ESSENTIAL OR EXTRAVAGANT?

The kitchen has evolved from being a room used solely for cooking into a space where family and friends gather and socialise. Because of this, there's more need than ever for noisy appliances to be installed in a room all of their own and utility rooms, with their extensive storage, are fast becoming an essential addition to any modern family home. Last year, Schüller introduced its **utility furniture** range which enables our designers to create a perfectly planned room with an area for washing, recycling and preparation which will give you so much more than somewhere to store your white goods.

No More Wash Day Blues

Tall units are a great use of space in a kitchen and in the same way, make a utility room a fantastic functional area. The cubby holes in



the doors of Schüller's laundry sorting units allow you to separate the washing straight into the baskets behind. It won't teach the kids to put their clothes in the baskets (we're good, but we're not that good) but the novelty of cubby holes may encourage them to help...for a while!

The ingenious **pull out shelf** below the washing machine will mean less bending and the handy shelves or drawers within the same unit make great storage for washing detergent, cloths and pegs etc.



Open, tall units are manufactured to accommodate the extra size, depth and weight of free-standing washing machines and tumble dryers. In fact, the shelves can hold up to 200kg of weight, which is heavier than a fully grown Lion!

Smooth Operator

'What could make ironing more enjoyable than it already is?'...asked nobody, **ever!**



But, maybe it could be more bearable if you had the space to just pull out the ironing board, do the deed, and hang the ironed clothes straight onto the rail in the unit next to you. A lower pull out laundry rack also allows you to dry smaller items or hang them up straight after ironing – **genius!**

Neat and Tidy Goals

Furniture specifically created for utility rooms means that no space is wasted. A slimline tall unit is perfect for the ironing board, vacuum and broom, whilst the options for bottle crates, shoe storage and integrated drawers for cleaning products help create a multi-functional room which, not only has everything to hand but is all hidden away tidily.

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

We're all aware how important it is to recycle but it can take up a lot of space,

be unsightly and be a bit on the stinky side if it's not stored properly! Schüller developed a solution with their utility range by creating a base unit specifically designed for housing recycling. It comes complete with two reinforced plastic bags, specifically for the job, and is all hidden away from view to ensure your room is kept tidy and any unsavoury smells are suppressed.

Whilst it's true that any kitchen units can be used to create a utility room, when it comes to free-standing appliances, the units need to be a different width and depth to those made for integrated appliances. **The Schüller Utility Collection** has been specifically designed for purpose so the storage solutions have been thoughtfully designed to quash any potential problems and ensure that everything will work together. **Seamlessly.**



Whether you have a room bigger than most people's kitchens or something a little more modest, a utility room to suit the available space can be designed to incorporate the storage and appliances that will best suit you and your family and ensure that every square inch is used to its full potential.





REBECCA KLEIN: Head Designer, Artisan Interiors

WHAT GOES AROUND COMES AROUND...

There are countless innovative trends currently circling around the design community and many of the new design movements seem to have made their way into our homes – but are they really new or are we borrowing ideas from the past?

Concrete Chic

Concrete has been used as a building material since early civilisation, laying concrete as the foundation of the Colosseum in Rome and high rise buildings in the 20th century by architects such as Frank Lloyd Wright and Le Corbusier. The infamous brutalist material is made from three basic components; water, aggregate (rock, sand or gravel) and cement. In recent years concrete has found its way into our homes as polished concrete floors and more recently in kitchens.

The stripped back look gives a modern-minimalist appearance that can be complemented with any colour and any style. The grey textured material has the quality of bringing the outside into our living space.

If you want to dip your toes into the movement, worktops or wall panelling can be a great start but for the braver concrete lover, the material complements itself and

can be used for base units as well as worktops. Concrete works well with other raw materials, such as wood and brick and comes in a variety of tones and textures to accommodate your personal style.



Scandi – Style

Scandinavian design combines function and aesthetics and is a direct result of the life style. The minimalist design emerged in the 1930s in the five Nordic countries and promotes the simple ways of living with clean lines inspired by nature. The philosophy is derived from improving daily life with soft colours and natural materials. The natural look complements the muted pastel colours, which can be accessorised with bolder statement pieces. Typical Scandinavian colours include light blues and greys, white and greens but more recently can include oranges, yellow and soft pinks.



The style can be interpreted in different ways to suit your own needs and lifestyle. You could go for a modern feel with a handle-less design, or a more contemporary approach with wooden accents. Whilst the cabinets are normally white or a hushed grey, natural elements, such as dried herbs and natural materials, give this movement such a homely feel with an individual touch.

The Shaker Kitchen

This faithful kitchen has been around for years and can be found in an array of different styles and textures from solid wood to the more modern solid colour handleless version. The trend started with the religious English settlement, Quakers, moving to colonial America in the mid-17th century. Due to their active and animated style of worshipping often 'trembling and quaking at the word of the Lord' they quickly became known as 'Shakers.'

Their beliefs reflected in their interior choices were humble, functional and big enough to house large groups. The handcrafted furniture made of different coloured woods and silky-smooth timber were skilfully constructed, as crafting something well was regarded as an act of prayer. The bespoke kitchens made with practical austerity and different textures created depth in darker areas of the house, due to the lack of electricity at the time. The hand painted cabinets brought light and good

flow to the room - a visual trick the kitchen still achieves to this day. The kitchens included tall pantries to store all their day to day necessities and high tables, better identified as kitchen islands now.

To this day the Shaker kitchen is a very sought-after look, ironically for its richness but also for the traditional homely atmosphere it creates. The kitchens are tailored to your needs and lifestyle and come in different colours and complexity of styles. If you prefer the traditional Shaker kitchen you can opt for engineered wooden front or a light-coloured door. A more modern approach sees the kitchen in a darker light with bold, rich dusky colours, integrated appliances and handle-less doors.



Trends come and go but these popular movements have been around for years and will be 'in fashion' for years to come. When designing your kitchen tell your kitchen designer how you use the space, what colours and textures you like and a good designer will help you come up with the perfect personalised design, taking inspiration from different eras and movements, because in the end it is important that you are happy with your kitchen for years to come.



DANNY BORGE: Director, Artisan Interiors

BORA Extractor Hobs

Finally Arrive in Wales!



At the beginning of September, Andy and I flew to Germany to attend a training course at **BORA** headquarters. We spent our two days there learning about the functions of the hobs, watching cooking demonstrations, trying out the hobs for ourselves and sampling the food...oh, and drinking copious amounts of beer at the Rosenheimer Beer Festival, of course! We were both completely blown away with the quality of the extractor hobs and couldn't wait to get them installed in our showroom back in Cardiff.

What's the **Big** Deal about BORA?

BORA hobs eliminate the need for

overhead extractors as they draw the steam and cooking smells down into their integrated extractor. Here's the science bit: The cross flow of the air in the extractor is four times greater than the rising speed of the cooking vapour, which results in highly effective steam and odour removal when cooking.

How do they Compare to an **Extractor Hood**?

The cleanrate method was developed to allow the direct comparison between the air-cleaning performance of extractor hobs and conventional extractor hoods. Measurements using the cleanrate method show that **BORA** has a cleanrate of **100% - you can't get better than that!** A conventional extractor hood can only dream about a cleanrate score like that!

The comparisons don't stop there though. Here are 6 more benefits of opting for a BORA extractor hob instead of a standard induction hob with separate overhead extractor...



1. Quiet: BORA hobs are significantly quieter than conventional extractor hoods. This is thanks to the sophisticated technology with quiet motors and installation of the products in the kitchen plinth.

2. Clear Vision: BORA gives you freedom from the constraints of conventional hoods – No annoying head height extractor hoods means no more banging your head on the corner of the hood and no more stooping when you're using your hob. There's also no steam to block your view or cloud up your glasses.

3. Fresh Air: BORA draws off odours and grease particles directly from the pans which prevents cooking vapours from rising up and spreading throughout the room. The grease particles released when cooking are also trapped in the (easy to clean) stainless steel grease filter.

4. Quality Materials: High-quality materials ensure an excellent degree of functionality and a long service life. BORA set design standards by using pure stainless steel and heavy-metal-free glass ceramic.

5. Easy to Clean: Cleaning conventional extractor hoods can be time-consuming. BORA products boast outstanding everyday advantages, including their cleaning and maintenance. All three movable

parts can be easily dismantled without any tools and effectively cleaned in the dishwasher.

6. Freedom for Kitchen Design: BORA opens up a whole new range of kitchen design options as virtually everything is possible: cooking by the window or under eaves, islands with no hoods, more room for wall units in small kitchens and seamless minimalism.

Just two weeks after we returned from Germany, we installed our first BORA Hob in the island of the Schüller Showroom and proudly became the only BORA dealer in Wales. Three more BORA hobs (one from each of their ranges) will soon be installed side by side in their own space upstairs, adjacent to the NEXT 125 Showroom. We can't wait to get the appliance showroom finished so that we can demonstrate the full range of BORA hobs because... **we're a little bit in love with them!**





ANDREA CHAPMAN: Designer, Artisan Interiors

Light Up Your Life Bright Ideas



There are various ways in which you can illuminate your space from spot lights, pendant lights or warm hue floor lamps. Lighting can give your space an unique touch as well as injecting personality, different colours and textures.

Pendant lights have continued to gain popularity over the past few years and have been illuminating more than just kitchen islands. Dining areas, hallways, living rooms and even above side tables in the bedroom have seen pendant lighting used to brighten the desired area, as well as being used as a design feature to add interest to the space.

It's not hard to see why pendants are so popular, they're easy to install and instantly update a space by adding a decorative flair. Whilst glass pendants are the most popular, there's also a wide variety of other materials to choose from, such as wood, spun metal and plastic. If your furniture is mostly

angular, consider curved shapes for your lighting to soften the space and vice versa. This adds additional interest and depth and can make your space look larger as well as taller. You can experiment with different shapes and sizes to complement your furnishings and complete the look of your space.

Size Matters

It's important to take into consideration the size of your space that you want to light up as this will dictate the size of your lighting sources to ensure it is illuminated correctly. There's nothing fundamentally different about lighting large spaces but, some of the qualities of big rooms make designing the lighting trickier than usual. Big spaces require much more attention to effective lighting, whereas smaller spaces call for lighting sources to maximise its size or to make it an intimate space. Tones of lighting can impact on colours and the feel in a space, for example a yellow or red tone in a smaller space makes the room feel intimate and warm. Whereas, a blue or crisp white



light can be used in both large and small spaces and to make a space feel bigger and brighter.

Whether you want to hang a line of smaller pendants or have a cluster of large pendants, there are various options to choose from. Take into consideration the size of the lighting in comparison to the size of the space to help you choose which kind of lighting will be best suited to the space.

With kitchen islands, there has been a shift towards the trend of using larger pendants to make a more powerful aesthetic impact in the home. Another trend that has found its way into our spaces is to group pendants to stylishly replace the traditional chandelier over a dining table. Balancing scale and size of the lighting fixtures with the size of the room creates a tranquil living space.

Set the Mood

Setting the right mood in your room is paramount to create a comfortable and welcoming environment and it can make all the difference to a space. Whether you want to entertain or relax, the right lighting is essential as it can have a massive impact on the room's atmosphere and ambiance. Light has a complex, unseen effect on

the human body and acts a stimulus that influences our daily mood, emotions, and cognition. Optimising artificial light can help prevent negative effects on a person and help with the sense of health and wellbeing.

Lighting is designed for visual, emotional and aesthetic purpose. Research has shown that different colours and hues have effects on the body so, installing the correct lighting can help in a variety of situations. The right lighting can improve patient recovery rates, enhance productivity in the workplace or improve sleep quality. Lighting with a blue hue can help reduce high-blood pressure, have a calming effect and help treat migraines, whilst yellow lighting is said to help with depression and digestion problems. Being the colour of nature, green light therapy stimulates the creation of growth hormones and strengthens muscles, bones and other tissues and can also boost your body's immune system.

Whichever room you need to illuminate, remember the effect and impact you wish to achieve. Lights can make spaces look bigger or cosier and can affect our well-being and serenity. By choosing the right colour of lighting, you can set the atmosphere and ensure the right ambiance is created in the space.



20 QUESTIONS WITH.... **REBECCA**

A LITTLE PEEP INSIDE THE MIND OF A MEMBER OF THE ARTISAN TEAM
WITH 20 QUICK-FIRE QUESTIONS



Q1. How would you describe your job to a child?

A. I make things look pretty.

Q2. Where did you go on your last holiday?

A. Vienna.

Q3. Would you rather eat a raw onion or a whole lemon?

A. Lemon.

Q4. What's your favourite cocktail?

A. Margarita.

Q5. What would your autobiography be called?

A. KLEIN | A Small Autobiography (Klien means 'small' in German)

Q6. What's your favourite season?

A. Late Spring.

Q7. Scones – Jam or cream first?

A. Jam.

Q8. Which song always gets you on the dancefloor?

A. Africa by Toto.

Q9. What was the last thing you ate?

A. A bagel.

Q10. Starbucks or Costa?

A. Costa (because they pay their taxes!)

Q11. Have you got a nickname?

A. Becky.

Q12. Is a hotdog a sandwich?

A. Yes.

Q13. Who did you last WhatsApp?

A. My mum.

Q14. Cats or Dogs?

A. Cats.

Q15. Would you rather be invisible for a day or be able to fly for a day? ?

A. Fly.

Q16. Who would play the lead role if Hollywood were to make a film about your life?

A. Drew Barrymore.

Q17. What's the best type of cheese?

A. Mozzarella.

Q18. Pineapple on pizza – right or wrong?

A. Wrong. Very wrong.

Q19. If animals could talk, which would be the rudest?

A. Cats.

Q20. How would you describe yourself in 3 words?

A. Funny. Creative. Honest.



NOW AVAILABLE AT ARTISAN CARDIFF

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