



New trends revive age-old skills



A RESURGENCE in traditional skills means the talents of Master upholsterer Crowther and Sons are in demand. Techniques in the upholsterer's craft passed down through the generations remain the backbone of small family business.

Set on the outskirts of Nettleham, Crowther and Sons now has a diverse customer portfolio from the loyal local clients returning to have treasured furniture re-upholstered through to London based interior designers requesting bespoke innovative pieces to furnish multi-million pound properties.

Commercial projects such as the current refurbishment of the Lincoln's White Hart Hotel can also be undertaken in the workshop, next to the showroom.

"The UK used to be full of people making things.

Everything could be sourced and produced locally. Mass production and international importing weren't issues and so a thriving specialist craft industry flourished here in Lincolnshire," explained founder Edward Crowther.

He, along with sons Edward and Daniel and a team of fellow master upholsterers, have welcomed the revived interest in craftsmanship.

"The upholsterer was one of the key crafts at the heart of local business. A renewed interest in handmade, one-of-a-kind items, vintage styles, and environmentally conscious consumption is now driving a tremendous resurgence in upholstery and we are proud to be at the forefront of this from our workshop here in Nettleham," he added.

"While the high street has become flooded with poor quality furniture we have found that there is a real thirst for something more individual and handmade and a desire to upcycle a loved item of furniture with a quality frame.

"We have just completed the re-upholstery of furniture for a whole house in the South of France, a holiday home of a UK client, using some wonderful combinations of shocking pink and orange with fabrics from Linwood, Harlequin and William Yeoward and an elegant sofa now covered in two complementary fabrics from Fermoie."

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