

GODSTONE EMPORIUM NEWS

Road Trip arrives in town

ITALIAN CHEF Aldo Zilli and art expert Natasha Raskin popped into The Emporium on 7 June while filming a new series of *Celebrity Antiques Road Trip*.

The special guests arrived late in the afternoon to be welcomed by sellers Cecilia Wiseman and Claire Truscott. Claire, who sells “the retro, the kitsch, ugly cute, odd, useful and mysterious”, didn’t have the best start to the day when her ‘chestnut’ hair dye turned orange. “There I was, ‘Belisha beacon head’, stuck at the counter while the expert and celeb trawled about the shop. I was more than a bit bemused, and found the minor television experience slightly terrifying,” she said.

Aldo bought a rushwork chair from seller Barbara Ings’ section of the shop. The episode is due to be aired on the BBC in the autumn – so you’ll have to wait to find out whether they made a profit or not!

It’s not the first time the TV crews have descended on The Emporium during 2016. Back in April, Anita Manning of *Bargain Hunt* and *Flog It!* fame, was in search of something



• Celebrity chef Aldo Zilli and art expert Natasha Raskin meet seller Claire Truscott

special for *Antiques Road Trip*. After chatting with sellers Cecilia Wiseman, Jacqui Hutchings and Gloria Whiting, her eye was ultimately caught by a pair of Scottish brooches in Maria Fernanda’s display.

This show is also due to be aired this autumn – watch this space for further details.

Meet the seller: Jacqui Hutchings

Emporium News talks to a different seller each month...

Jacqui Hutchings and her husband moved to Outwood in Surrey from Hertfordshire seven years ago. They have two grown-up children.

“For years I was selling furniture in a department store and then I was a teaching assistant in a school. I had a tiny space here at The Emporium to start with and slowly got more and more!

“I’m into shabby chic – I buy things and think ‘What could I do with that?’ I repurpose things and give them a new look – for instance, the



dresser in the shop at the moment is pine but I’ve painted it. I do like

to sell a story – so, for example, the bureau has a vintage typewriter on it and I might put a clock or a radio on it.

“Actually, my very first job was as a window dresser and it’s always been a fascination for me. I’m always looking at how things are displayed – I think, ‘That’s a good look with those colours together.’

“The people here are lovely and I love interacting with customers – I’m a real chatterbox. I love helping them find what they’re looking for when they come in. I’m here all day every Friday and some Saturdays and Sundays depending on the rota.”

ALL ABOUT US...

The Emporium is open 10am-5pm Monday to Saturday and 1pm-4pm on bank holidays (apart from Christmas Day and Boxing Day when the shop is closed).

It is also open on Sundays from April to the end of August from 1pm-4pm.

Tel: 07766 193126 (opening hours only)

Web: www.godstoneemporium.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/godstoneemporium

History

The Emporium, at 100 High Street, Godstone, is one of a row of properties dating back to XXXX. It was originally the local post office and grocers but has been the home of a multitude of antiques, collectables and curios for the past quarter of a century. The shop is run as a co-operative of more than a dozen sellers specialising in everything from glass and ceramics to antique tools and shabby chic furniture.

Feedback Forum...

One happy customer had this to say after visiting the shop recently: *"Five Stars! Went there today—what a fantastic place and the staff there were lovely too. I'll defo be going again!"*
—**Emma via Facebook**

Meet the seller: Cecilia Wiseman

Cecilia and her husband moved to the area from Surbiton in 2010 [CHECK]. She deals in soft furnishings, cushion covers, handbags and more...

"I am originally from Colombia but I have been in England for 42 years – I came here to learn English and I am still here!

"I started off doing soft furnishings in the 1980s and 90s and I worked with interior designers doing things up in London and Wimbledon village. I stopped that and went into business with my husband importing flowers from Colombia.

"We did that for about 20 years.

"I always liked interior design and I needed a project so we bought a period house and did it all up. And when we had finished that I opened my workroom again on a smaller scale, doing cushion covers. Then the idea came of doing more sewing – making small dolls and things like that and doing fairs. So in 2010 I started doing boot fairs. I also sell leather handbags from Colombia.

"I've been in the Emporium for a year and a half – I like meeting the



people, they're lovely. I like everything everyone sells in here – it's different, it's quirky. It's really very enjoyable. I do two afternoons in the shop or a full day, which is perfect."

Shop window



- A selection of beautiful objects from the Emporium this month

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