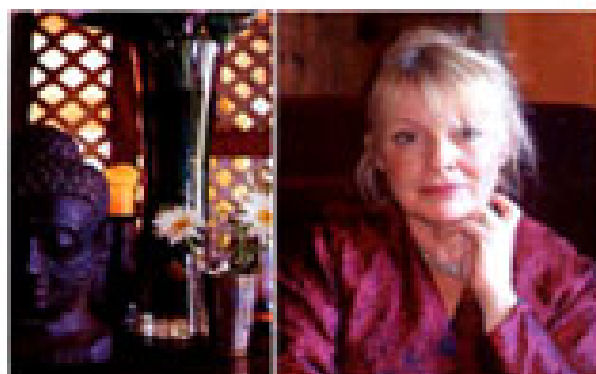


the SOURCE

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Shop with a difference...

Planning a visit to Norfolk's Burnham Market? Angela Linforth finds a treasure trove of ideas at House Bait I and House Bait II



MIV WATTS'S SHOP IN NORFOLK'S ARCHLY trendy "London-on-Sea" resort of Burnham Market is full of quilts from India, velvet scarves and French crochery this week. But that could all change. And that is what sets Miv's shop apart from the slew of painted furniture emporia with their spriggy floral accessories that is sweeping the land. She is forever moving on, so is the shop and so is the 'look'. 'I love constant change,' she explains from Norfolk before dashing out to an auction, having come back from the Newark Antiques Fair the previous day - 'I can't bear routine.' And it's that lack of routine that sees her in India a couple of times a year, in Australia for a couple of months over the winter, in the States commissioning a line of furniture, in France waffling the sort of decorative pieces that are her trademark, and generally here, there and everywhere seeking inspiration and products that are just a bit different.

House Bait I, in a unique location above the fishmonger, came first four years ago; then House Bait II arrived shortly afterwards, around the corner in the equally bizarre location of the kerosene of the local petrol station. It was a necessary extra to store the over-spill from the first shop. The shops have products that are very distinct from each other, and different roles. Whereas the first is for gifty bits and pieces - textiles such as velvet tea dresses, painted glassware and cashmere bed works (which have all been bought in Europe,

further afield or one made by local talents) - the shop at the garage stocks furniture and larger pieces, and also acts as showroom for Miv's flourishing interior design business. It's there that you can see fabrics from companies such as Brunelberg & Fils and Kathryn Ireland, see the selection of bespoke furniture that House Bait II offers, and generally soak up the energy of a place that exudes a passion for all that is happening there.

• House Bait I, Market Place (01208 730587); House Bait II, Garage Forecourt, Crake Road, Burnham Market, King's Lynn, Norfolk (01208 730582) www.mivwatts.com. Call for opening times.

At House Bait I, every bag, chair and parcel has been lovingly sourced by Miv Watts from a variety of exotic locations. Find embroidered slippers for £16, shirts adorned with Indian goddesses for £25, or a Victorian parasol for £120



HOMES & ANTIQUES

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