



The couple who grew up in Grassington, have four grown up children and a six-month old granddaughter. Richard, a computer systems analyst and Ruth a talented painter, love sourcing beautiful and individual products and have sold them online for quite some time. Natural progression and the increasing success of this led to them taking on a tiny shop in Grassington in 2011 and Burnt Rock was born.

As their inventory and loyal clientele grew, they realised they were outgrowing it, so relocated to larger premises just off the main cobbled square, opening over the Easter weekend this year.

The ground floor of the new shop has low beams, brightly painted walls and lots of nooks and crannies, perfect for displaying their vibrant range of Kilim rugs and rag rugs, ceramics, recycled ex-army canvas bags and a variety of stonework; the focal point being a rather resplendent wall-mounted T-Rex skull.



Not perfect, *just different!*

To say that Burnt Rock is quirky would perhaps be an understatement but owners Ruth and Richard Shepherd delight in stocking an eclectic and unusual array of products in their characterful shop in the heart of the Dales.

Upstairs is airy and spacious with high ceilings and large windows, an ideal gallery space for exhibiting Ruth's contemporary paintings, which in a variety of media, are full of colour and energy. Also displayed is a range of Indian Kadais. As one of the largest stockists in the country, Richard knows everything there is to know about these traditional firebowl style barbeques. Indonesian furniture, Arabian and Moroccan lanterns sit happily alongside one another and a considerable amount of shelf space is given over to fents, large off-cuts of fabric that were popular in the shop's former life as an interiors stockist.

Ruth and Richard aim to please their customers by continually sourcing new stock to excite and surprise, striving to find treasures

to suit every purse. They welcome tourists from every part of the country who return time and time again when visiting The Dales and have an ever-increasing number of loyal local customers. Their enthusiasm shines through and they want people to walk through the door to enjoy the fun and the unusual. As the couple themselves say: "We're not perfect, we're just different."

Burnt Rock

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