



60 *for* 60

Honouring future leaders



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Welcome to the 60 for 60 ceremony

For over 60 years, The Furniture Makers' Company, the City of London livery company and charity for the furnishing industry, has brought together some of the most influential people and recognised brands with the purpose of cultivating bonds of fellowship and fortifying the industry through charitable endeavours.

2023 marks the 60th anniversary of the Furniture Makers as the 83rd livery company of the City of London. Rather than reflecting on past achievements, we wanted to use this significant milestone to focus on the future and celebrate some of the young individuals who will shape the industry going forward.

'60 for 60' was launched to recognise 60 exceptional young people working in the UK furniture and furnishing industry who are demonstrating dedication to their careers and show promise as future leaders in their field.

Launching the call for entries in June 2023, we were overwhelmed by the positive response to the campaign. The 60 people in the following pages were selected by an expert panel from hundreds of applicants that showed interest in the award.

Tonight, we are here to honour these individuals who come from all corners of the wider industry.



The Judges

Encouraging applications from people from all sectors of the industry, we assembled a panel of judges with expertise covering design, manufacture and retail, who would ensure we selected 60 outstanding young people who represent the diverse spectrum of roles in the industry.



Amanda Waring
Master
The Furniture Makers' Company



Carla Barnett
Group HR director
Sanderson Design Group



Sue Kemp
Managing director
Associated Independent
Stores



John Makepeace
OBE FRSA
Award-winning designer-maker



Edward Tadros
Former chairman
Ercol

And the 60 for 60 are...

We are thrilled to introduce the winners of 60 for 60, a celebration of 60 exceptional young individuals working in the UK furniture and furnishing industry. These remarkable talents are not only demonstrating outstanding dedication but are making significant strides in their respective careers.

There are a myriad of roles in the industry, each vital to the creation and enhancement of living and commercial spaces. From imaginative furniture designers who breathe life into ideas, to skilled craftsmen and women who meticulously craft every curve and joint, to the ingenious engineers and technologists who push the boundaries of materials and functionality – the diversity of expertise is awe-inspiring.

Beyond the creative realm, there are logisticians orchestrating the seamless flow of products, marketers crafting compelling narratives, and sustainable pioneers leading the charge towards a greener future. Upholsterers, interior architects, and retail specialists all play pivotal roles, ensuring that every aspect of the industry is finely tuned and customer focused.

In this celebration, we honour not only the individuals themselves but also the extraordinary range of professions that constitute the furniture and furnishing sector. 60 for 60 showcases the industry's breadth and depth and reminds us that the future is bright.



Abby Baker

**Customer Care Manager
Furniture Village**

Abby's journey at Furniture Village is a testament to her dedication and growth. She began in 2013 with little knowledge of furniture but has since transformed into a customer care manager. Her team excels in post-purchase customer support, striving for industry-leading experiences. Under her leadership, several crucial metrics have been consistently met, including a remarkable 2,500 reduction in service requests. Abby's improvements have slashed average call waiting times from 20 minutes to just three minutes. Her unwavering commitment and constant pursuit of excellence earned her a dedication award in 2017, recognising her vital contributions.



Amy Curtis

**Head of Marketing
Sleeppeeze**

In the past year, Amy has played a pivotal role at Sleeppeeze, contributing significantly to the research, design, and launch of new product ranges. One of the recently launched products even achieved runner-up status in the NBF Product of the Year award category. A standout project led by Amy involved the creation of a direct-to-consumer brand and shopping experience named MattressStoreUK. This venture entailed developing a new consumer-facing brand and a shop-in-shop store concept. Alongside the store design, Amy oversaw the development of a dedicated e-commerce website featuring a unique functionality to assist consumers in choosing their ideal mattress. The MattressStoreUK concept was successfully rolled out to 10 stores nationwide, leading to increased turnover.



Andrew Gofton

**Contracts Manager
Damian Cronin**

Over the past few years, Andrew has demonstrated exceptional leadership and management skills beyond his years. He's worked on numerous high-profile projects including the new Making of Harry Potter Studio Tour in Tokyo, a venture his team had diligently crafted for two years, and the creation of the Masonic Grand Lodge's retail store in Covent Garden, which later won an award. His management of the Harry Potter project earned him praise from Warner Bros. presidents, vice-presidents, and client team leaders.



Anna Parkinson

Operations Manager Make An Entrance

Starting as customer service and marketing personnel five years ago, Anna now manages the intricate operations of Make An Entrance and has done so amid the business's evolution from an online sales and marketing company to a thriving, expanding manufacturer. While the directors focused on strategic government collaborations, Anna's pivotal role has ensured the company's expansion from a UK-based bespoke coir mat manufacturer to a multinational entity that's poised for a remarkable growth from £2m to £40m turnover over the next decade.



Anthony Goodwin

Technical Manager Hypnos Contract Beds

Anthony joined Hypnos Contract Beds in 2013 as an apprentice specialising in value stream engineering. In a decade, he has earned a mechanical and manufacturing engineering degree, an NVQ in mechanical engineering, and excelled in setting up partner factories in Bulgaria, Spain, and Dubai. His meticulous approach involved audits, compliance testing, and value engineering. Achieving a 2:1 degree while working full-time, he became the technical manager for Hypnos' hospitality division in 2019. He is set to pursue a level 7 apprenticeship in 2024 through Hypnos' future leaders programme.



Audrey Fasquelle

Bespoke Wood Specialist/ Marquetarian Rolls Royce Motor Cars

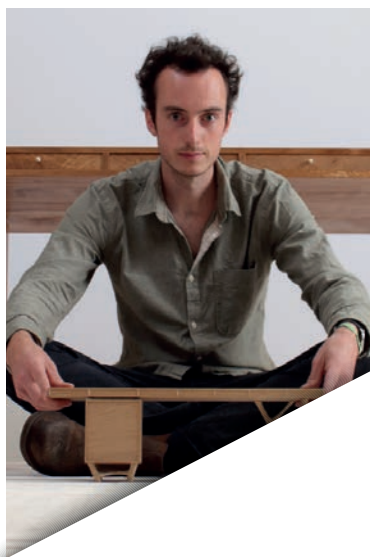
Audrey, a bespoke wood specialist at Rolls Royce, excels in parquetry and marquetry work for the cars, innovating techniques and materials. She crafted 12 marquetry pieces for International Women's Day 2023, inspired by the Spirit of Ecstasy and Phantom Rose, celebrating craftswomen. These pieces were gifted to journalists, leaving them with a memorable experience. Her role at Rolls Royce has allowed her to thrive, share expertise, and connect with talented craftspeople, offering new opportunities and avenues for exploration.



Ben Waters

**Operations Director
HSL**

Ben has been instrumental in establishing HSL's in-house logistics function, operating from two distribution centres serving the entire UK. Under his leadership, this logistics operation has grown from a small unit in Batley to a vast operation delivering 98% of orders. His efforts have resulted in significantly increased customer satisfaction, with over 100 five-star Trustpilot reviews per month. Ben also achieved key milestones such as implementing route planning and stock management systems, expanding the delivery fleet, and introducing a nationwide three-day express delivery service. Ben was promoted to operations director in January 2023, making him the youngest-ever board member at HSL.



Charles Byron

**Designer-Maker
Byron & Gomez**

Charles's furniture design and making career is distinguished by remarkable accomplishments. Co-founding Byron & Gomez with Maria Gomez in 2015, their work has earned them esteemed accolades such as the Bespoke Guild Mark and Design Guild Mark. His dedication to crafting high-quality furniture is evident in each piece, harmonising traditional cabinet-making skills with contemporary design. Charles's journey symbolises a relentless pursuit of excellence in the realm of furniture craftsmanship, with pivotal moments like producing the first batch of Embrace Benches by John Makepeace OBE, signifying significant leaps in his skills and career.



Charles Dedman

**Head of Design
Gaze Burvill**

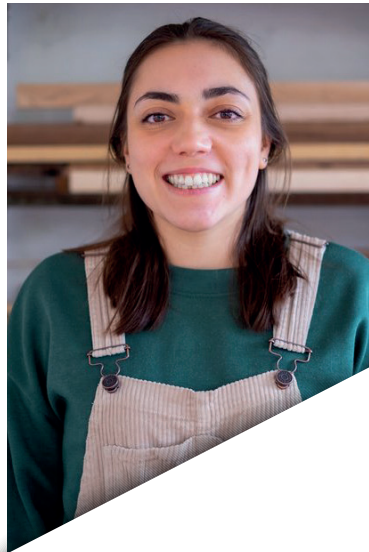
January 2024 will mark the eight-year anniversary of Charles joining Gaze Burvill as a design assistant. Now head of design, Charles oversees design projects with top garden designers, national parks, events and charity organisations, working closely with teams across the company, from marketing & sales to purchasing, production, craftspeople and logistics. Among these was the successful design and launch of the Amity Seat, which was awarded a Design Guild Mark in May 2023. He has also won a Design Guild Mark for his Turner Carver.



Chelsea Appleford

**Head of Commercial
AMX Design**

Chelsea is an experienced and commercially focused senior buying professional with a demonstrated history of working in the retail industry across upholstery, including Harveys, Arlo & Jacob and, where she currently works, AMX Design. Skilled in trend analysis, product development, pricing, margin management, negotiation and range development as well as building strong relationships with suppliers, she has progressed quickly in every business she has worked at.



Daisy Lula Brunson

**Furniture Designer-Maker
and Tutor
Lula James -
Woodworking Creative**

In the past year, Daisy has transformed her business, Lula James - Woodworking Creative, from bespoke commissions to a venture offering woodwork experiences, inspiring others to engage in woodworking. Utilising her teaching background, she successfully introduced woodworking workshops, welcoming over 50 students, with some inspired individuals pursuing full-time furniture making studies. Daisy, a first-class honours graduate from Rycotewood Furniture Centre, has gained recognition as a furniture expert on two television shows, including the BBC's 'Saved and Remade.'



Daniel Mesecke

**Sales & Account Manager
Microvellum**

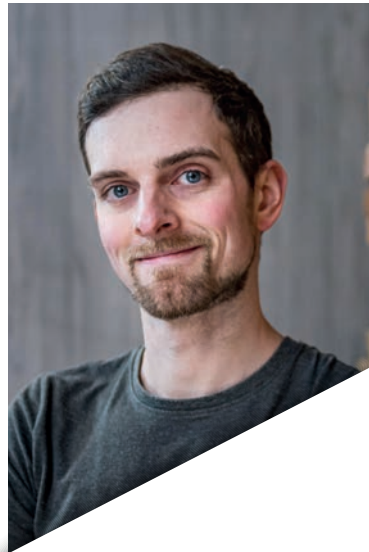
Daniel has a diverse career spanning various roles in the manufacturing and design industry. Currently serving as a sales & account manager at Microvellum UK since October 2020, he excels in educating business owners on lean manufacturing and optimising design and manufacturing processes with technology. He manages service providers, coordinates marketing strategy, and hosts educational sessions for Microvellum users. His prior roles as design manager and then technical director at Martek Contracts highlight his leadership and design expertise. With experience in Microvellum CAD and cabinet making, Daniel has a comprehensive background in the industry.



Duncan McGrath-Simpson

**Cell Leader - Machinist
Ercol**

Duncan's dedication to preserving Ercol's legacy while enhancing efficiency and safety is evident, especially in his role as cell leader, where he leads a team and mentors apprentices. His journey at Ercol, which has included an extended apprenticeship due to pandemic-related delays, has been characterised by a focus on continuous improvement, training, and passing on his knowledge to the next generation of craftsmen. His ability to adapt to challenges and mentor apprentices is a testament to his dedication to his craft.



Edward Hornsby

**Director and Workshop
Manager
Tom Maxwell Furniture
& Cabinetry**

Edward has had a lifelong passion for woodworking. Having worked at Longpré, Sherborne Upholstery and Curtis Furniture early on in his career, Edward started working as a cabinet maker at Tom Maxwell Furniture & Cabinetry in 2017 and was made a director and co-owner in 2020. Edward's vision for the future involves leveraging his expertise and enthusiasm to advance the company, bolster resilience in a challenging industry landscape, and maintain consistently high standards. His commitment to a 'hands-on' role ensures quality remains paramount.



Emilia Marekwica

**Head of Purchasing and
Sourcing
Ocee & Four Design**

Emilia has showcased exceptional expertise at Ocee & Four Design. She spearheaded a cost-saving initiative by revamping a high-cost meeting table system. Emilia sourced new components from a Chinese supplier, ensuring a seamless transition without supply disruptions. Her efforts resulted in remarkable savings. In her nine-year career, she has advanced from an administrator to purchasing manager, demonstrating outstanding leadership and communication skills. Emilia's proactive approach and remarkable achievements have established her as a respected figure earning admiration from colleagues and suppliers alike.



Etienne Pierre Cauley

**Lead Maker
Inglis Hall**

Etienne has worked at Inglis Hall for six years, initially joining as a joiner having been through the French apprenticeship system. Etienne has risen to be Inglis Hall's lead maker, leading a team of six to produce 25 high end bespoke kitchen projects a year, in a 10,000sq ft purpose-built workshop facility. Last year Etienne spearheaded a unique project for Inglis Hall from developing prototypes with the design team, to overseeing the final installation within the fully moated grounds of manor house Plumpton Place.



Finlay Champion

**Cabinet Maker
Edward Johnson Ltd**

Finlay has established a remarkable career at the Edward Johnson workshop, where he has successfully tackled complex bespoke commissions. Notably, he recently excelled in crafting a pair of free-form laminated coffee tables for an international client and a challenging dovetailed desk for an architectural practice. In addition to his cabinet work, Finlay has contributed to the School of Craft woodworking classes, showcasing his excellent instructional skills. Early in his career, he participated in the WorldSkills UK competition, gaining invaluable experience and skills that continue to benefit his career.



Freya Whamond

**Designer
J Carey Design**

Joining J Carey Design in 2022, Freya has rapidly become an integral team member. Her promotion to a senior role reflects her dedication and adaptability. Freya's background in small-scale making has complemented her design work and provided a unique perspective on the furniture industry. Notably, her chair design project from the Celebration of Craftsmanship exhibition in Cheltenham and her woodworking courses, including a successful participation at the Make It Festival 2022, demonstrate her creativity and commitment to sharing her knowledge and skills.



Greg Stone

**Production Lead & Lead Maker
Matthew Cox Ltd**

Greg is a dedicated production lead with a unique blend of design and craftsmanship expertise. He has a passion for creating high-quality, bespoke furniture and lighting from solid materials. Currently at Matthew Cox Ltd since March 2019, he has transitioned from lead maker to production lead, overseeing a team of 14 and freelancers. Greg's focus on nurturing new talent has led to recruiting, training, and mentoring juniors and apprentices. Greg is known for fostering a culture of mentorship, collaboration, and continuous improvement.



Hannah Shore

**Sleep Knowledge and
Research Manager
Silentnight Group**

Hannah's career is dedicated to knowledge-sharing. In her role as sleep knowledge and research manager, she has been pursuing a degree while simultaneously working full-time. Her focus on expanding her own knowledge has been accompanied by an equally important goal of embedding these processes into her organisation's growth. Notably, Hannah has been instrumental in developing a new learning platform, initially designed for internal use but expanded to include external customers, suppliers, and partners. Her efforts have led to the creation of modules that educate individuals about product materials, innovative testing, and the quest for better sleep. Hannah's remarkable journey took her to the World Sleep Conference in Vancouver, where she presented research on determining ideal mattress firmness based on anthropometric measurements.



Hattie Speed

**Occupational Therapy
Technical Instructor and
Designer-Maker
This Girl Makes**

As an occupational therapy technical instructor, Hattie facilitates therapeutic woodwork sessions for neurological rehabilitation patients, aiding furniture makers' return to work and introducing non-makers to woodworking joy. In the past year, she completed an Artist Residency at Ebor Studio, leading to her first solo exhibition since 2019. She shares her career and therapeutic craft approach at various events and, as a qualified teacher, observes the positive impact of her craft tuition, inspiring young women in the field through 'This Girl Makes'. Through her work, she witnesses the transformational effects of woodworking on patients' wellbeing, from skill relearning to newfound purpose after strokes.



Helen Ciastek

Operations Director Karpet & Furniture Kingdom

Helen's career has seen significant advancement over the past year. She took a proactive approach to professional development and successfully completed her ILM Level 3 diploma in Leadership and Management, demonstrating her commitment to growth. With a background in Karpet Kingdom, where she has accumulated extensive experience, Helen was offered a directorship in the family-run business. Despite being one of the youngest team members, her skills and creative mindset have driven her to enhance the brand's digital presence and maintain a visual edge in the retail furniture industry.



Henry Gardner

Director Edmund & Co Ltd

Henry is a passionate furniture designer and manufacturer who runs his bespoke furniture business alongside a full-time career as a structural engineer. With nearly a decade of experience, he has crafted a diverse range of bespoke furniture, from executive desks to kitchens and ornate wooden surfboards. Henry takes a hands-on approach, managing the entire process, from design to installation, emphasising time management and collaboration with clients. He recently launched his company, Edmund & Co Ltd, focusing on high-end sustainable furniture design and showcasing his work at the London Design Fair 2023.



Huw Evans

Product Developer The Conran Shop

Huw Evans, the celebrated winner of New Designers 2019, was initially recognised by The Conran Shop as a rising star when he received their sponsored award. His creation, the Iris Lounge Chair, has since not only been successfully developed for commercial use but also earned a prestigious Design Guild Mark. Now an integral part of The Conran Shop's team, Huw, as a product developer, has played a pivotal role in significantly elevating the percentage of in-house design. Furthermore, his collaboration with Campbell Thompson on the AD11 Lounge Chair resulted in winning both a Design Guild Mark and the coveted Jonathan Hindle Prize in 2023.



Jade Farthing

Managing Director Haskins Furniture

Jade, as the fourth generation of the Haskins family and the first female director, achieved a significant milestone in 2023 by winning the Family Business of the Year award at the Somerset Business Awards. Her dedication was evident as she showcased the family's profound influence on the business. Jade presented compelling evidence of financial success, a clear long-term vision, and meticulous succession planning, impressing judges. Jade's strategic restructuring and refocusing efforts, informed by her retail experience and academic background has set the business on a positive trajectory.



James Eddy

HSEQ Manager Ercol

James has had a remarkable career journey, ascending to the role of health, safety, environment, and quality manager at Ercol in September 2022. Beginning as a compliance officer, he swiftly embraced various responsibilities, including Brexit preparations, managing the new B2C website, and leading health and safety initiatives. James's career highlight within the last year was spearheading an environmental project at Ercol, which culminated in securing Forest Stewardship Council, Grown in Britain, and Furniture Industry Sustainability Programme certifications for the first time in the company's history. James's initiative also enabled the use of British timber after more than three decades, reducing the carbon footprint and supporting the national supply chain.



Jarrad Belton

Furniture Maker / Tutor Aidan McEvoy Fine Furniture / Farnham School of Furniture Making

Jarrad is an accomplished emerging maker based in rural West Sussex, renowned for creating distinctive, sustainable pieces from locally sourced timber. With an academic background that boasts distinctions in carpentry, joinery, and furniture making and design from Chichester College, Jarrad's talents have earned him notable recognition. He is a proud winner of a prestigious European Product Design Award in the interior furniture category, a two-time finalist for the Young Furniture Makers Bespoke Award, and the recipient of a Commended certificate in the Maker of The Year awards presented by Wood Review.



Jason Perry

**Senior Cabinet Maker
Artichoke Ltd**

Jason is a highly skilled carpenter and joiner with over a decade of experience crafting bespoke furniture. He honed his talents at companies like Princess Yachts, Moon Architect, and Artichoke Ltd. Jason excels in interpreting technical designs, precise measurements, and safe machinery operation. As a senior cabinet maker at Artichoke Ltd, he works on intricate period-style projects, including kitchens, detailed doors, and curved furniture. His work has been featured in Country Life Magazine and graces homes in the UK, Switzerland, Italy, and the USA.



John Gulian

**Founder/Maker
John Gulian Design**

John has transformed properties in South London into functional family homes, incorporating clever built-in storage, local hardwoods, and sustainable processes to maximise both beauty and practicality. John's work reflects his clients' personalities while adhering to his vision, resulting in sustainable, durable, and aesthetically pleasing homes. His unique design talents shone through when he adapted an IKEA/Tom Dixon modular sofa into a versatile indoor/outdoor version, gaining global recognition and the opportunity to exhibit his work at Milan Design Week.



Jordan Hargadon

**New Product Development
Team Leader
Silentnight Brands**

Jordan began his career with Silentnight in 2014 as a manufacturing apprentice, where he gained a wide range of skills in bed manufacturing, earning qualifications in furniture manufacturing and leadership. In his current role as new product development team leader, he manages a team of experts in mattress, divan, and headboard design. He collaborates with various stakeholders, balances customer expectations and operational capabilities, fosters a positive work environment, and ensures safety standards are maintained. Jordan's journey at Silentnight, from an apprentice to a team leader, reflects his strong work ethic and leadership skills.



Joseph Ullmann

**Commercial Director
Shackletons**

Joseph has propelled Shackletons' sales, focusing on senior living spaces, particularly care homes, since joining the company as commercial director in 2018. Through strategic efforts, he has fostered a remarkable 220% growth over five years, a testament to Shackletons' dedication to innovation and excellence. Joseph's initiatives led to the establishment of two new factories, meeting growing demands and bolstering local employment. He recognised the transformative potential of furniture in care homes, driving a design initiative that enhances residents' daily lives, promoting independence and ease of mobility.



Josh Stancer

**Sales Manager
Mundy Veneer**

Josh is a highly ambitious and results-driven sales manager with six years of valuable experience at Mundy Veneer. With a Master's Degree in Business Management, he has effectively led and developed high-performing sales teams, propelling growth in a fast-paced and dynamic market. Josh's journey at Mundy Veneer began as a project coordinator, demonstrating dedication and hard work that led to his role as sales manager. His responsibilities encompass implementing and managing customer relationship management software, streamlining sales and warehouse processes, and championing the company's sustainability goals.



Kathryn Hall

**Marketing Manager
Crofts & Assinder**

Kathryn is a dynamic creative marketing manager with extensive B2B marketing expertise. Her current role at Crofts & Assinder, from May 2021, involves developing marketing strategies, overseeing product launches, managing PR, and planning trade shows. As a marketing executive at the same company, she successfully orchestrated a complete rebrand, website overhaul, and content creation. Kathryn's contributions have been invaluable to the company's success and growth.



Katryn Furmston

**PhD Student/ Head of Design
and Research
Nottingham Trent University/
Design Conformity**

Katryn's career is focused on championing sustainability. She embarked on a PhD dedicated to enhancing the sustainability of fast furniture, filling a void in academic research. Her commitment earned her the Nottingham Trent University vice chancellor's scholarship. Through her PhD, she has educated peers in art and design and engaged with key figures in the furniture industry, presenting at research events. Since September 2023, Katryn has been working as head of design and research at Design Conformity, which helps to reduce the carbon impact of fixtures and furniture in commercial store interiors.



Kayleigh Anderson

**Transport & Logistics
Coordinator
Jay-Be**

Joining Jay-Be as operations administrator in 2019, Kayleigh was promoted to the position of transport and logistics coordinator in 2021 and has been invaluable in helping the business make huge improvements in this area. Since taking on the new position, Kayleigh has introduced significant changes at Jay-Be, and gone beyond the expectations of her role. She has facilitated the purchase of two internal HGV vehicles, overseen driver recruitment, training, and management, which has contributed to substantial savings of over £100,000 annually.



Kieran Moore

**Group Head of Logistics
Harrison Spinks**

Having joined Harrison Spinks as a returns manager in 2016, Kieran has been supported to build a successful career in logistics, having been promoted to group head of logistics at the bed manufacturer in 2021. He oversees the transport, warehouse and goods in team and has ultimate responsibility for the compliance of the business's fleet. Kieran has made some remarkable achievements, such as undertaking a full logistics review which resulted in over £250,000 in savings within a span of six months. He has continued to develop and last year completed the Transport Manager CPC course.



Lauren Taylor

**Design Manager
Guild Anderson**

At Guild Anderson, Lauren ensures that conceptual designs are accurately interpreted for the cabinet-making teams and presented in a clear and understandable manner to clients. Over the past year, she and her team have meticulously detailed 50 domestic spaces, from kitchens to bars, allowing Guild Anderson's projects to be consistently delivered on time and within budget. Lauren excels in translating intricate creative visions into practical drawings, even when dealing with third-party creatives and complex briefs, such as a Grade I listed house project in Dorset. Her adept management of client demands and high-pressure situations has earned her well-deserved admiration.



Louisa Gao

**UK Financial Controller
Tempur UK**

Louisa, a senior member of the Tempur UK team, oversees a team of eight and plays a crucial role in managing accounts receivable, accounts payable, and the management accountant team. Being part of the New York Stock Exchange-listed Tempur, she navigates complex business and compliance requirements. Joining the UK subsidiary in 2022, Louisa swiftly adapted to the UK business landscape, fostering a culture of dedication and high performance. Her adept analysis of financial data informs strategic decisions, contributing significantly to the company's growth. Louisa is integral to fostering strong relationships within the UK management team and beyond.



Lucy Bradshaw

**Senior Technical Developer
Camira Fabrics**

Lucy has progressed to the position of senior technical developer at Camira Fabrics. In parallel with her demanding full time role at Camira, she achieved a distinction in the Society of Dyers and Colourists Certificate of Textile Colouration, enriching her role as a textile technologist. There have been many highlight moments in Lucy's career to date including taking a leading role in Camira's revolutionary 'Oceanic' fabric development from concept to launch, with Oceanic having received multiple awards, including a Design Guild Mark.



Mark Denby

Head of Sales Saxon Furniture

Mark has made some extraordinary accomplishments in the last year. His strategic vision, dedication, and experience drove an impressive expansion of Saxon Furniture into the United States, with two showrooms in New York and Dallas. This ambitious endeavor, supported by government funding and collaborations, positions the company to become the largest UK chesterfield exporter to the US market. Mark's outstanding career journey, from a recent graduate with no sales experience to head of sales for a leading manufacturer and retailer, serves as a testament to his perseverance, continuous learning, and unwavering dedication.



Matthew Hill

Product Designer deVOL Kitchens

Matt's commitment to learning and adapting has seen him advance to co-managing the research and development team at deVOL, steering the evolution of the company's new and existing product development. Over the past year, Matt has optimised deVOL's in-house manufacturing processes for metalware and ceramics to meet growing demand. His focus extends beyond in-house production; he scrutinises costs and labour times, aiming to elevate profit margins while maintaining quality. He's become known for innovative problem-solving and played a pivotal role in transforming the ceramics department, driving remarkable growth.



Meg Redman

Administration and Project Manager Momentum Contract Furniture

Initially joining Momentum Contract Furniture as procurement and logistics coordinator in 2019, Meg was promoted to the position of administration manager in 2021. She has since taken on the additional role of a project manager. Her exceptional project management skills were demonstrated when she took control of a complex 645-bed student apartment project in Swansea. Meg skilfully negotiated deadlines with the client, contractors, and suppliers, orchestrating the installation of thousands of items, meeting a crucial deadline, securing funding, and earning praise.



Nathan Whiffing

**Design and Technical Manager
Redwood TTM**

In the last year, Nathan has been instrumental in the successful launch of over 100 unique product developments for customers in his role with Redwood TTM Ltd, primarily as a white-label manufacturer. These innovations include pioneering sustainable product solutions, some of which are groundbreaking in their respective markets. Additionally, Nathan achieved a significant milestone for Redwood TTM Ltd by diversifying into healthcare products.



Nicolle Hockin

**Managing Director
Devonshire Living**

Since taking over independent furniture supplier Devonshire Living in August 2019, Nicolle has been working diligently to modernise and update processes, product development, marketing and the company's culture. In the last 12 months, Nicolle has had to navigate numerous business challenges, including increases in shipping rates, supply chain issues due to the Ukraine war, increased fuel and electricity costs. This work has paid off, as the company has won three awards.



Paulo De Vasconcelos

**Fine Woodwork Tutor
The Building Crafts College**

Paulo was forced to rethink his own career path following a knee injury. Over the past three years, Paulo has transitioned into a teaching career at the Building Crafts College, where he can share his expertise. Paulo's teaching prowess has revitalised woodworking education, garnering well-deserved recognition. He's mentored many students to success, including award nominations and coveted apprenticeships. In his own words, guiding the next generation of craftsmen and women has been the pinnacle of his career.



Rollie Attard

**Chief Executive Officer
Panaz**

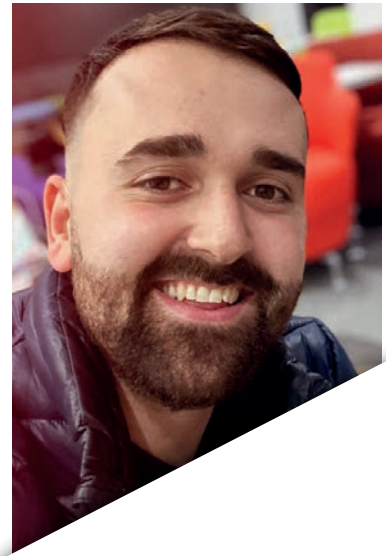
Rollie has held several positions within Panaz and other organisations before becoming CEO of the fabric business in December 2021. Since then, Rollie has spearheaded a comprehensive strategic plan for Panaz, driving future growth through extensive consultation with management. This plan has led to the recruitment of key personnel, including a new UK sales director, international sales director, general manager in Germany, and a supply chain manager. The restructure of the UK sales team and the establishment of a London showroom are integral components of the business's growth plans.



Rosie Hodgson

**Cabinet Maker and Workshop
Coordinator
Artichoke Ltd**

Trained at the Williams & Cleal School, Rosie is a highly skilled cabinet maker with four years of experience, who is passionate about bringing design drawings and concepts to life. Working as cabinet maker and workshop coordinator at Artichoke Ltd since 2021, she has orchestrated the completion of some spectacular projects including a large double-height library project for a private client in the UK. Her skills and expertise have seen Artichoke Ltd entrust Rosie with a leading role in designing and assembling three rooms at St Karlshof, a historical house in Switzerland.



Sam Coggin

**Company Director
Coggin SOS**

Having been appointed as a company director of Coggin SOS about three years ago, Sam has systematically grown the business to a near £1 million turnover with 10 employees. Over the last year, he has generated significant interest in the reuse and recycling of office and contract furniture and made a substantial contribution to this emerging industry. Sam is extremely active on social media and become an influencer in the sector. Already this year, the company has refurbished over 4,000 items of furniture and recycled over 8,000 items of furniture and diverted them from landfill.



Samantha Foster

**Distribution Manager
Furniture Village**

Samantha joined Furniture Village as an administrator and has worked her way to general manager of its largest customer fulfilment site. Over eight years, she has contributed significantly to achieving a remarkable milestone, delivering over seven million items during the Christmas period in just five weeks. Her leadership ensured not only operational efficiency but also cost savings. Samantha's hard work has been recognised by winning the 'Leads by Example' award in 2018. Spearheading an operation delivering over 70 million annually, she continues to propel both her team and Furniture Village to greater heights.



Sean Evelegh

**Designer-Maker
Sean Evelegh**

At the age of 19, Sean was crowned 'Britain's Top Woodworker' when he won 'The Chop' television show, having completed over 24 challenges against top, older makers from around the country. Sean has continued to fuse his passion for furniture and design with media and has developed a successful YouTube channel with over 37,000 subscribers. Sean was a speaker at the New Makers' Conference, organised by The Furniture Makers' Company and Artichoke, in 2023.



Tab van der Lande

**Designer-Maker
Sebastian Cox**

Joining Sebastian Cox Limited as an apprentice in 2018, Tab has been a designer-maker at the business since 2022. During that time, Tab has worked on some major projects including a shop fit for client Aesop. This project required Tab to acquire new skills in working with timber, bending it to shape, and applying intricate wood finishing techniques. Tab continues to exceed her clients' and employer's expectations. Tab's dedication has been recognised through numerous awards and commendations.



Thomas Acland

**Furniture Craftsman
Richard Williams Furniture**

Thomas has five years' experience as a fully qualified furniture designer and maker, working to the highest level in the fine furniture industry alongside Richard Williams, a multi award winning designer and experienced craftsman. His ability to conceive, prototype, and execute innovative solutions, even beyond the expertise of experienced colleagues, highlights his remarkable skills. Thomas's lead designer has praised his unwavering dedication to delivering not just solutions but superior results for their clients.



Thomas Cornick

**Senior Cabinet Maker and
Apprenticeship Mentor
Simon Thomas Pirie Ltd**

Since joining Simon Thomas Pirie Ltd as an apprentice in 2015, Thomas's dedication and passion have shone. His insightful suggestions and hard work have continued to impress. He was recently appointed as an apprenticeship mentor, being a guide to the new apprentice. A pivotal career moment was a 2018 solo project, crafting an exquisite altar table for a local church, showcasing his exceptional woodworking skills, attention to detail, and reverence. His work stands as a testament to his talent and dedication.



Thomas O'Neill

**Senior Projects and
Design Engineer
Race Furniture**

Thomas's journey at Race began with a speculative work experience inquiry in 2022. Impressed by his potential, Race offered him a design and projects engineer role. Soon after joining, he took charge of a high-profile project involving the creation of bespoke VIP high seats with unique tipping footrests for the Manchester Arena. Thomas has since been promoted to senior design and projects engineer where he now oversees the team's day-to-day operations and workload.



Thomas Winfield

Operations Controller Blum UK

In the past couple of years, Thomas has been a key driver of change at Blum UK as new leadership and management structures has taken shape. Over the last 12 months, Thomas has taken on additional management responsibilities alongside his primary role, supporting the change initiative. His dedication and rapid learning curve have made him a shining example of excellence in the company. In January 2024, he will officially step into a managerial role, becoming one of the youngest managers at Blum UK. Thomas's journey, from starting as an 18-year-old trainee to a manager, highlights his remarkable career progression.



Tom Addison

Designer-Maker Tom Addison Fine Furniture

Tom has spent the past few years growing his business, Tom Addison Fine Furniture. Since its inception, the business has thrived, consistently generating profit and he has now taken on a member of staff. Solely reliant on commissioned work, Tom has expanded his reach by successfully utilising social media, which has translated into commissions from both the UK and abroad. As he enters his third year, Tom is determined to further enhance his reputation both within the UK and globally.



Tom Kaye

Manufacturing Manager Global Doors and Interiors

Tom's leadership at Global Doors and Interiors has revolutionised manufacturing processes, ensuring control and efficiency. In the past year, he has orchestrated a remarkable turnaround in the manufacturing and warehouse divisions, preserving jobs, boosting capacity, and fostering new business prospects. Recent innovations, such as high-definition photography and FourJaw software, have reduced customer claims and optimised production machinery. Tom's growth as a leader is evident, as he proactively addressed development areas, seeking guidance and enhancing people management skills. His efforts have positively impacted departmental culture and team performance.



Will Hudson

**Commercial Designer
Habitat**

Currently at Habitat as a commercial designer, Will has been designing products for the whole home, including Akio, a Japanese inspired pine timber bedroom range, which has become a bestseller. He heads up furniture as his day-to-day role, but has also designed items for kitchen, lighting and home accessories. His proactive approach shines through in forward thinking designs, including a groundbreaking lounge chair made from natural hemp, set for a 2024 launch. Working alongside Sir Kenneth Grange at Modus marked another career highlight to date.



William Purves

**Director
David Lawrence**

Over the past four years, William has progressed from someone with no experience in the furniture making industry to the manager of a respected furniture business with 10 employees, crafting high-end bespoke pieces. Amid unprecedented challenges, he revamped production processes, expanded clientele, and helped steer the company to profit. Confronted by unreliable supply lines and rising costs during and after the pandemic, William directed the business to bring production in-house. Despite initial hurdles, this move has enhanced the business's versatility, efficiency, and profitability.



Wilma Wyatt

**Self-Employed Cabinet Maker
and Designer
Studio Wilma**

Wilma has achieved significant accomplishments in her career to date. Her inaugural whole-room project entailed crafting an en-suite bathroom for a Georgian property in Bath, demanding innovative solutions for curved components and adapting to a new workshop environment. Another notable milestone in Wilma's journey was receiving the Building Craftsperson of the Year 2022 award from The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB). Her role as a leader at The Artichoke School of Furniture has allowed her to inspire and educate young participants about the relevance and significance of traditional craftsmanship.



Principal Partners

Thank you to the following companies that have supported 60 for 60.



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Sponsors





Associated Independent Stores

Associated Independent Stores (AIS) is a leading buying and services membership group for independent retail in the UK, with both furniture retailers and suppliers forming an integral part of the business. AIS members, primarily family-owned businesses across the UK and Ireland, have a longstanding presence in the furniture industry. AIS is committed for both its members and supplier network to thrive and achieve success through a collective synergy of our strengths, creativity, and expertise.

Sue Kemp, managing director at Associated Independent Stores, said: "In alignment with The Furniture Makers' Company's focus on celebrating its heritage while acknowledging and preparing for the future, AIS recognises the significance of succession planning and future talent management - which is why we support 60 for 60 and its focus on celebrating exceptional young individuals working in the furnishing industry. AIS extends its heartfelt congratulations to The Furniture Makers' Company on its remarkable 60-year legacy as a City of London livery company. We are honoured to be a part of this inspiring initiative that recognises and celebrates the next generation of talent driving the furnishing industry forward."



aistores.co.uk





Biesse UK

Biesse is a leading manufacturer of woodworking, glass, stone, and advanced materials processing machinery. With a rich history dating back to 1969, Biesse has consistently demonstrated its commitment to innovation, precision, and excellence, establishing itself as a trusted partner in the woodworking and manufacturing industry worldwide. Biesse proudly upholds this legacy in the United Kingdom with cutting-edge solutions and expert support.

At the heart of Biesse's success is its dedication to delivering top-of-the-line machinery and technologies to a diverse range of businesses, from small woodworking shops to large industrial enterprises. Whether it's CNCs, edgebanders, beam saws, sanding machines, or associated software solutions, Biesse offers a comprehensive suite of products designed to streamline production processes, increase efficiency, and enhance the quality of finished products.





What truly sets Biesse apart is its unwavering commitment to customer success. The company's team of highly skilled professionals provides not only machinery but also extensive training, support, and consultation services. This approach ensures that customers can harness the full potential of their investments and stay competitive in an ever-evolving industry.

Biesse UK said: "We want to support the 60 for 60 campaign as we feel it is important to recognise and celebrate the contributions and excellence shown by the younger workforce in the furniture and furnishing industry. In addition, we hope that this will also raise the profile of the industry to the future leaders and innovators and will encourage them to become part of UK furniture and furnishing manufacturing."

[biesse.com/uk](https://www.biesse.com/uk)



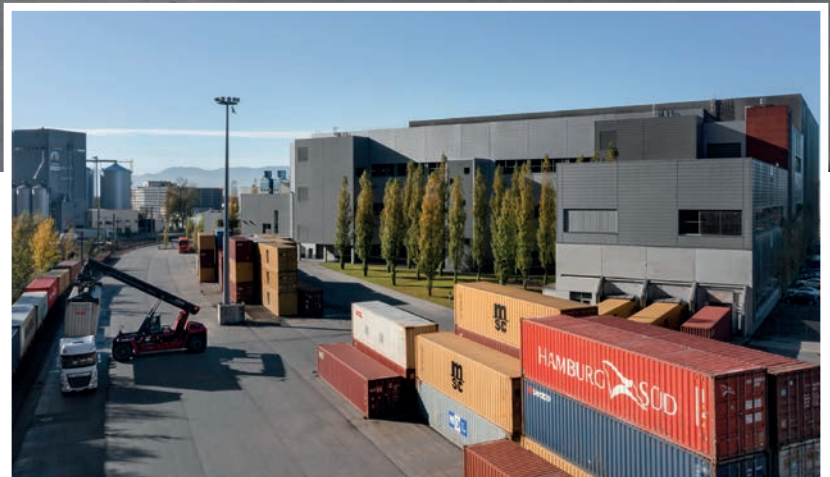
Blum UK

Blum UK is a leading company specialising in high-quality kitchen and furniture fittings, transforming everyday living spaces into functional and aesthetically pleasing environments. Founded in 1952, Blum UK is a subsidiary of the internationally acclaimed Blum Group, a family-owned company headquartered in Austria. With nearly seven decades of experience, Blum has established itself as a key player in the global market for innovative furniture hardware solutions.

At the core of Blum UK's success is its commitment to enhancing the functionality and design of kitchens and furniture. The company offers a wide range of products, including concealed hinges, drawer systems, lift systems, and innovative assembly devices. Blum's products are renowned for their durability, precision engineering, and the ease with which they can be integrated into various furniture designs.



Blum UK is dedicated to sustainability, emphasising responsible production processes, and the use of eco-friendly materials. The company has also been recognised for its commitment to innovation, with numerous awards and patents for its groundbreaking technology.



Beyond its innovative products, Blum UK is known for its exceptional customer service. A team of experts is readily available to provide guidance, technical support, and product training to customers, ensuring that they get the most out of Blum's offerings.

Mark Richardson, managing director of Blum UK, said: "Blum is proud to be a principal partner of the 60 for 60 campaign with The Furniture Makers' Company. We have a long-standing relationship with the Company, and are delighted that in this, their 60th year, they are celebrating young people in the industry. Blum have a thriving apprentice scheme as we acknowledge that investing in young people is key to the future. We wish all the young people nominated the best of luck."

blum.com/gb/en/



Castelan Group

Castelan Group is a dynamic and innovative company that has redefined the way we protect and maintain our furniture investments. Established in 2011 through a management buyout, Castelan Group built on what had previously been created and quickly became a trusted name in the industry, specialising in providing comprehensive furniture protection and care solutions to both consumers and businesses.

At the heart of Castelan Group's success is its commitment to preserving the beauty and longevity of furniture. The company offers the most comprehensive range of protection plans with customisable coverage options and efficient claims processing. This ensures that customers enjoy peace of mind against life's mishaps, big and small, while cherishing their valued possessions.



The Castelan Group difference lies in its dedication to sustainability and customer satisfaction. The company employs eco-friendly methods and materials in its furniture care and restoration services. By promoting responsible practices, Castelan Group contributes to a more sustainable and eco-conscious future.



Castelan Group's offerings extend beyond protection plans, with a suite of additional services. From professional cleaning and repair services to bespoke furniture care solutions, the company's experts take pride in extending the life and beauty of furniture.

With a strong emphasis on customer service, Castelan Group is renowned for its responsive support team, ensuring that customers receive quick and efficient assistance whenever needed. Their commitment to excellence has earned them a reputation for delivering first-class service.

Martin Napper, CEO at Castelan Group, said: "Castelan Group is pleased to be a principal partner of 60 for 60 in partnership with The Furniture Makers' Company. While some see us as an insurance business, a huge, and vital, part of our work involves a deep knowledge and high skill set around the repair and restoration of furniture. We are constantly keeping up to date with the latest techniques that can be applied to all types of furniture and see ourselves as an extension of our client's service offering. We thoroughly encourage the design and creation of well made, great quality furniture which is not only enjoyed by the customer but a pleasure to work with in the event that our services are required. We look forward to seeing who emerges from this initiative and to encourage them in their future careers."

[castelanguroup.com](https://www.castelanguroup.com)





Furniture Village

Working hard to deliver the best for its customers, Furniture Village relies on the industry having a rich pool of talent, innovators and craftspeople who have shaped its past and will continue to shape its future.

Furniture Village is delighted to become a principal partner of the Furniture Makers' anniversary campaign, '60 for 60', to support its goal of honouring and championing the hard-working, young people who are emerging as future leaders in their field.



Partnering with the Furniture Makers on this anniversary campaign isn't just about recognition and reward, but also about supporting and reinforcing the strength of the industry. Furniture Village is proud to be celebrating craftsmanship and those who continue to break the boundaries.

Since Furniture Village opened its doors in 1989, it has remained true to its founding principle of offering high quality, stylish and affordable furniture and



accessories to customers nationwide. With 55 stores across the country, Furniture Village is the largest privately-owned furniture business in the UK, yet at its core, it retains the ethos and values of a family-run business.

Offering the best of British furniture and accessories from a selection of brands that share Furniture Village's vision and passion, such as Ercol, Harrison Spinks and Alexander & James to loved and trusted brands from further ashore, like Nicoletti and Habufa. Furniture Village knows what makes great furniture and that's why it's the one-stop-shop for consumers who are looking to make a house a home.

furniturevillage.co.uk



Land of Beds

Land of Beds is proud to support The Furniture Makers' Company's 60 for 60 campaign - an initiative that celebrates the vibrant talent within the industry. As a company deeply invested in the furnishing industry, Land of Beds believe in the power of nurturing new talent and fostering excellence.

Mike Murray, Land of Beds CEO, said: "Land of Beds understand that the success and growth of our industry depend on the passion, dedication, and innovation of young professionals who bring fresh perspectives and ideas. The Furniture Makers' 60 for 60 campaign serves as a vital platform for recognising and supporting these talented individuals, empowering them to thrive and make a significant impact. By recognising and supporting exceptional young professionals, we can actively contribute to the development and sustainability of our industry."



land of beds®

"Land of Beds' commitment to giving people a helping hand and nurturing emerging talent aligns seamlessly with the objectives of the Furniture Makers' 60 for 60 campaign. This powerful initiative celebrates the achievements of exceptional young professionals, acknowledges their potential, and nurtures their continuous growth and development. By lending our support to this campaign, we aim to foster a culture of excellence and inspire others to follow in their footsteps."



Land of Beds CEO, Mike Murray

“Endorsing the Furniture Makers’ 60 for 60 campaign enables Land of Beds to actively contribute to the betterment of the furnishing industry. We recognise the significance of investing in the next generation of talent, as they hold the key to shaping the future of our industry. This campaign provides an exceptional platform for these young individuals to showcase their skills, talents, and unwavering commitment, promoting innovation, creativity, and excellence within the sector.

“Moreover, this campaign presents us with a unique opportunity to connect with like-minded individuals and organisations who share our passion for nurturing talent. By uniting forces with the Furniture Makers’ 60 for 60 campaign, Land of Beds can cultivate a supportive community that celebrates and uplifts emerging talent. Together, we can drive the growth and success of the entire furnishing sector, ensuring a bright future for all.”

landofbeds.co.uk



The Land of Beds team at a Tough Mudder



The Tempur team

Tempur UK

Tempur is a renowned and pioneering company dedicated to improving the sleep of more people every night, all around the world. With a legacy of over 30 years in the UK, Tempur has consistently set the standard for comfort and support and is the number one recommended mattress brand. Established in 1991, Tempur UK is part of Tempur Sealy International, a global leader in premium mattresses, pillows, and sleep accessories.



At the heart of Tempur's success is the groundbreaking Tempur material, originally developed by NASA. This innovative material, combined with extensive research and development, forms the core of Tempur's product range. Tempur's proprietary material conforms to the unique contours of your body, providing unparalleled support and pressure relief, ensuring you wake up refreshed and rejuvenated.



Tobin James, managing director of Tempur UK, said: "We are delighted to support The Furniture Makers' Company and their 60 for 60 initiative. We look forward to working together to continue to help recognise, support and develop the young talent in the UK furniture industry to ensure future prosperity for both individuals and the industry as a whole."

uk.tempur.com





Our history

The Furniture Makers' Guild was founded in 1951 and its first Master was Stanley Wharton, a director of Maples, a prominent retailer in Tottenham Court Road, the then 'street of the furniture shops'. The first Wardens were Sir Herman Lebus and Alderman Ralph Perring, who was later knighted.

In 1963 Sir Ralph, the 635th Lord Mayor of London, presented Douglas French, the Master that year, with the Grant of Livery. And so the Worshipful Company of Furniture Makers became the 83rd livery company of the City of London and only the sixth to be formed since the reign of Queen Anne.

In 2005 the Furniture Makers became only the fourth livery company to acquire its first hall since the Apothecaries in 1632. The Company was granted a Royal Charter in 2013.

Today The Furniture Makers' Company supports the industry by supporting those in need, nurturing skills and expertise, and inspiring excellence.

Membership

The Furniture Makers' Company is a modern livery company whose membership comprises of individuals and businesses that make up the diverse, vibrant and creative UK furnishing industry. It is a force for good and our members are the fuel that fire the engine and help us fulfill our vision. On joining The Furniture Makers' Company, you will be warmly welcomed into a friendly and supportive community of furnishing industry colleagues and professionals.

Unlike some other livery companies, all our members must be associated in some way to the furniture and furnishing industry, including beds, fabrics, kitchens, carpets and floor coverings. This helps us maintain industry relevance and facilitate meaningful business connections among our membership.

You could be a designer, manufacturer, distributor, craftsperson, retailer, supplier, lecturer, PR practitioner or journalist – all are welcome. We encourage and welcome diversity – sectoral and cultural – within our membership and would be happy to hear from you.

For more information about membership, go to **furnituremakers.org.uk/membership**

