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KBN

KITCHENS & BATHROOMS NEWS

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The business magazine for kitchen & bathroom professionals

KBB Retail Hall of Fame 2025 inductees

Kitchens & Bathrooms News proudly announces the very first inductees into the newly-founded KBB Retail Hall of Fame

Established to recognise and honour KBB retailers who have made significant contributions to the industry, the KBB Retail Hall of Fame – sponsored by Wodar - welcomes its first inductees in 2025. Marking a milestone for the kitchen and bathroom retail industry, the inductees will be listed on a roll of honour for in perpetuity, creating a lasting legacy of excellence in the KBB retail sector.

Each of the inductees will be presented a limited edition KBB Retail Hall of Fame insignia and will be profiled in future issues of Kitchens & Bathrooms News (KBN).

By and for the industry

Nominated by their peers, and chosen by industry experts, the final selection was made by an esteemed panel, comprising sales director of MHK UK David Morris, membership director of the Kbsa Malcolm Scott and CEO of the British Institute of

Kitchens, Bedrooms, Bathrooms (BiKBB), Damian Waters.

Editor of KBN Philippa Turrell commented on the launch of the KBB Retail Hall of Fame and the first four retailers to be inducted: "From the arts, through to sports and science, there is a Hall of Fame to honour excellence for individuals in perpetuity. We have now introduced this concept to KBB retail. While KBN will be a custodian of the Hall of Fame, it is curated by the industry and belongs to the industry. We are absolutely thrilled to reveal the names of the inaugural inductees, commending them for excellence in setting and maintaining standards, and creating a legacy. We welcome them to the elite club of ambassadors for the KBB retail industry."



Managing director of Ripples, Paul Crow

Established in Bath in 1988 by Roger and Sandra Kyme, the business was founded on delivering bathrooms with personal service. Now led by their son-in-law Paul Crow, who has been with the business for 26 years, he has continued this ethos. He oversees the development of the franchise, which currently stands at 21 showrooms nationwide. The group has won 70 industry awards, and been named one of the top franchises in the UK.

However, Ripples is always evolving, as the group continues to upskill in design and sales training and improve product knowledge through manufacturer visits. Ripples has also boosted its marketing efforts through working with influencer Lily Pebbles, growing both its website traffic and downloads of its Style Guide. Looking ahead at how future legislation may impact bathroom design and recognising the role of retailers to protect the planet, Paul Crow has supported the Unified Water Label. He has also raised money for charity The Cycle, building toilets in India and Africa recently winning an award for the charitable work.

The panel chose to induct Paul Crow for continuing to raise the profile of bathroom retail, setting and maintaining quality standards, and his wider, holistic work with charities.





Managing director of Roundhouse, Craig Matson

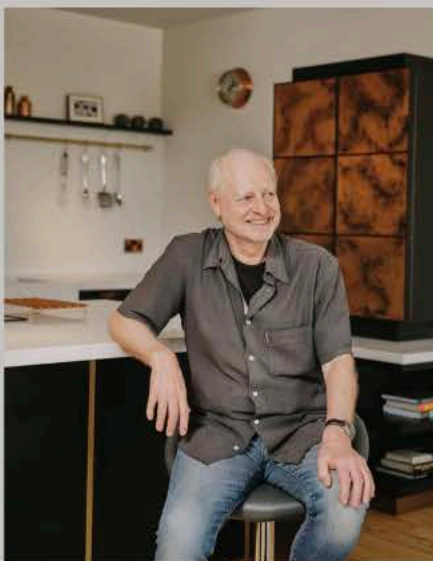
Trained architect, chair of The Kitchen Education Trust (TKET) and managing director of independent bespoke kitchen retailer Roundhouse Design, Craig Matson has a passion for professionalism. Such is his belief the industry should be seen as more professional, with formal education pathways and qualifications, he helped establish the foundation degree in kitchen design in 2014. Craig Matson also set up the registered charity TKET to bridge the gap between education and industry.

He has even developed an apprenticeship degree, which has gained approval from the Institute for Apprenticeships & Technical Education. Craig Matson runs multi award-winning British kitchen maker and retailer Roundhouse Design and together with the acquisition of Day True, the business totals seven showrooms in the UK. The judges chose to induct Craig Matson for his impact not only on kitchen retail but his broader work in improving professionalism in the industry with formal qualification ambitions.



Owner and design consultant of Anglia Interiors, Arron Bird

Heading up the family-run business, founded by his father Peter Bird 50 years ago, Arron Bird embarked on his career starting out as a cabinet maker for Anglia Interiors in 1987. Now owner and senior design consultant, he leads the business which makes kitchens, bedrooms and office furniture. While he steers the business, he acknowledges its success rests on the shoulders of his dedicated staff who provide great service. Arron's commitment to excellence extends beyond his enterprise, as regional director of trade association, the Kbsa. Arron Bird is not only a business leader but an industry visionary. The judges chose to induct Arron Bird because of his overall success in kitchen retail, demonstrating the prowess of regional businesses, and his work in helping raise industry standards.



Chairman and head designer of Ledbury Studio, Charlie Smallbone

Working in the industry for the past 40 years, Charlie Smallbone founded Smallbone of Devizes in 1976, which created a British kitchen as an alternative to German furniture. After a period of uncertainty, Smallbone was sold to Canburg, then Sapphire 700. His association with the business stopped in 2019 and Charlie Smallbone joined La Rock specialist joinery company, creating a six-strong signature collection Rock & Bone before establishing Ledbury Studio. Now, he has Ledbury Studio showrooms in Notting Hill and Weybridge in Surrey. The business creates bespoke, home

interiors spanning home bars, media rooms, dressing rooms, kitchens and bathrooms, all with a focus on improving people's times spent at home. The kitchens are designed to combine the integrity of materials, with the best of modern technology, and have an emphasis on space to cook, live and entertain. Ledbury Studio continues to lead in design, winning an International Design & Architecture Best Kitchen Award 2024. The judges chose to induct Charlie Smallbone for his legacy on British kitchen furniture design and retail, and demonstrating true resilience, a trait required by all successful independents.