



WOVEN

A BI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION



**CATCH
A LITTLE
HAPPY**

Read more on p.4



WELCOME

TO WOVEN, OUR VERY FIRST EDITION!

Think of it as your insider's guide to everything happening at Ashfield Mill. Inside, you'll find the latest from our two brands, Ian Mankin and Northern Woven each with its own story, heritage, and fresh new designs.

We'll take you behind the scenes to show you where it all begins from sourcing the finest yarns with sustainability in mind, to the inspirations that spark our collections. And of course, we couldn't resist giving you a sneak peek at what's hot off the looms, ready to land in store.

So, grab a coffee, take a moment, and enjoy exploring what's new. We're thrilled to have you with us for this first issue of *Woven*, we can't wait to hear what you think.

THE ASHFIELD MILL GROUP TEAM

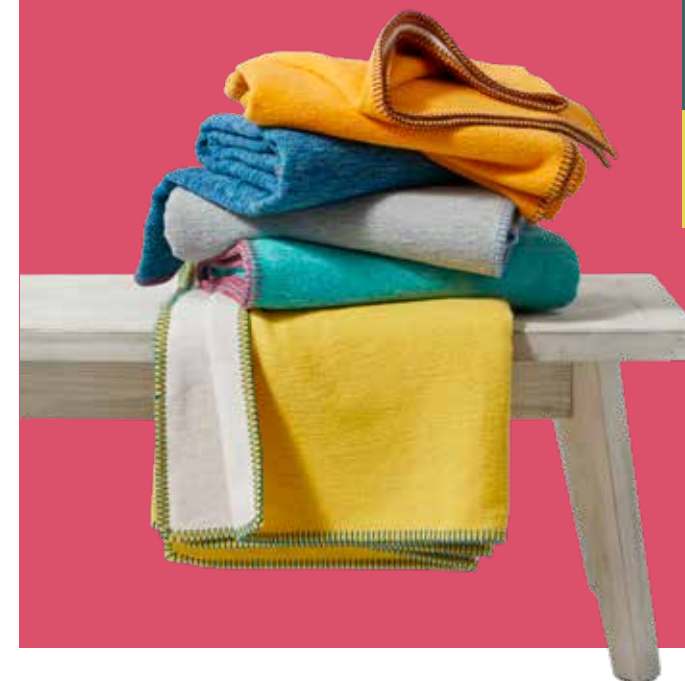


LOOKING FOR SOMETHING UNIQUELY YOU?

From as little as 25 throws per order, it can be more affordable than you think!

Talk to our design team about our bespoke service.

T. 01282 423111
design@johnspencer.com



TREND REPORT

CATCH A LITTLE HAPPY 

We've all heard of dopamine decorating – bringing joy into your spaces through bold prints and playful slogans.

But what's happening now is less about chasing trends and more about rejecting them. This is the rise of the anti-trend: a move away from prescriptive styles and toward spaces that feel deeply personal.

Instead of layering clashing patterns or following the latest "Catchy Slogan Here" wall art craze, dopamine decorating has matured into something richer. It's about creating rooms that evolve with you, where foundational pieces remain constant and trends ebb and flow around them. In this way, your space is never dictated by fashion, it's always authentically yours.

The Colour of Joy

Bold hues remain central to this movement (we can't bring ourselves to use the word trend here), but they're taking on a new sophistication. Greens lean toward mossy tones, oranges carry a gentle burnished note, and bright reds shift toward peony or purple shades. These richer, more livable colours suggest longevity. The more timeless the palette, the more it reflects something uniquely you, and what could be more enduring than that?



1. Summit Fever Large Throw - Teal

Curated, Not Contrived

This isn't about colour for colour's sake. Instead, it's about the thoughtful layering of cherished items; souvenirs from holidays that feel "a bit of you," treasured family heirlooms you've long admired, and pieces that tell stories of lives lived through travel, love, and friendship. It's an anti-consumerist stance: buy what you truly love, not what you think you should have.

Dopamine décor is here to stay.

How are we Buying?

Consumers are looking for a deeper connection with the pieces they bring into their lives - items rooted in craftsmanship and authenticity. "Oh, that blanket? Isn't it gorgeous, it was woven in Lancashire at a mill that's been there for over 150 years." Or, "I bought this throw for myself while travelling, the design traces the contour lines of the hill I've climbed."

As long as these pieces remain beautiful examples of design, we're not talking about novelty here, well, maybe just a touch of it. Self-gifting like this is on the rise, with people seeking pieces that reward and affirm their individuality.



2. Heartbreaker Standard Throw - Denim Blue 3. Toyland Standard Throw - Brights 4. Heartbreaker Standard Throw - Candy Pink 5. Watermark Large Throw - Confetti 6. Toyland Standard Throw - Pastel

DREAM IN DENIM

Cool, calm, and effortlessly stylish, blue is the shade we can't stop dreaming about.

Inspired by the timeless appeal of denim, these throws bring a relaxed, lived-in feel to any space, with subtle pops of red that add just the right amount of edge.

CASUALLY COOL



1.



2.



3.

NEW!
NEW!
NEW!



4.

1. Burnout Standard Throw - Denim Blue 2. Wildside Large Throw - Denim Blue 3. Heartbreaker Standard Throw - Denim Blue 4. Good Boy Standard Throw - Baxter

GRAPHIC IMPACT

Pattern that plays by its own rules.



Forget basic black and white, this is monochrome with attitude.

Bold patterns, graphic stripes, and unexpected pops of colour bring energy to every throw. Layer them up in store for a look that's striking, modern, and anything but ordinary.

5.



NEW!
NEW!
NEW!



6.

NEW!
NEW!
NEW!



7.



8.

NEW!
NEW!
NEW!

5. Traverse Large Throw - Charcoal 6. Building Blocks Large Throw - Rave 7. Filament Large Throw - Soot 8. Static Large Throw - Rave

JOHN SPENCER TEXTILES

A future
shaped
by design.

A WEAVING HERITAGE FROM 1871

In the heart of Lancashire, Britain's historic textile region, sits John Spencer Textiles, a mill that's been weaving cloth for generations. While many mills have disappeared, John Spencer has endured, combining traditional skill with modern innovation.

Today, it is the force behind two distinct but connected brands: Northern Woven, its own identity, and Ian Mankin, the design house founded in 1983 by Ian Mankin himself.

Our mill's story begins even further back in 1871 in Lancashire at the heart of Britain's historic textile region, which was at the helm of a global industry that transformed Britain. The industrial revolution ushered in extraordinary innovation that changed the region forever. However, the realities of long working hours, unsafe machinery, and unequal global supply chains highlight another side of the story, one defined not only by progress, but also by the people who bore its weight.

For over a century, our mill has been part of a community defined by resilience, resourcefulness and craftsmanship. Families here passed down knowledge like others pass down heirlooms; the rhythm of weaving, the precision of finishing the instinctive understanding of how a fabric behaves.



Those skills built our towns, supported our families and created a culture of ingenuity still felt across Lancashire.

Being a Northern Maker means being part of a long line of people who built their communities through hard work, skill and quiet pride. Our mill is rooted in that spirit, practical, resilient and committed to making things that last.

As the industry changed, our mill adapted. Machinery modernised. New disciplines emerged. The roles within our team evolved as technology, sustainability, and creativity reshaped what textile manufacturing could be. But through every transition, one thing has remained constant: a deep respect for the people whose work gives meaning to this place.

Today, we see ourselves as custodians of Lancashire's manufacturing legacy, but with a responsibility to do better than the generations before us. That means safer workplaces, better ethical sourcing practices, and a commitment to sustainability that recognises the environmental lessons of the past. It means valuing craftsmanship while embracing innovation. And it means continuing to support our local community, just as this mill has done for decades.

We're proud to carry Lancashire's skills forward, not just preserve them. That's why we invest in apprenticeships that train young people in the fundamental craft of weaving, the same techniques that built this region's reputation, now taught with modern insight and care.

Innovation sits alongside tradition here: our team works in an agile, forward thinking way, continually refining processes, exploring new technologies

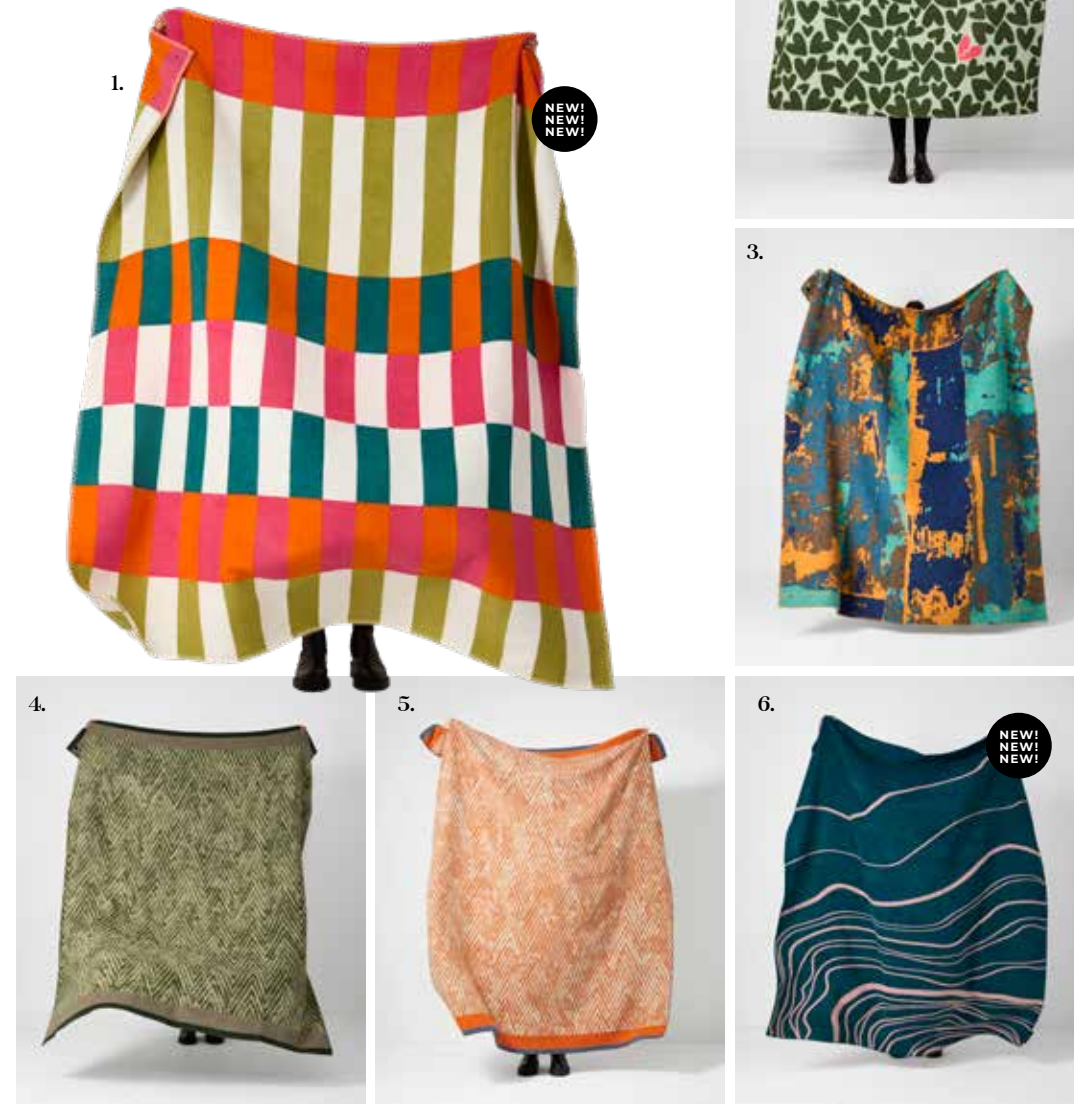
and adapting to the needs of today's textile industry. We honour our heritage by refusing to stay frozen in it, ensuring the knowledge of the past becomes the foundation for a more sustainable, creative and resilient future.

Our heritage is not a tale of polished nostalgia; it's a story of progress, people, industry and impact, and of the pride that comes from building something real. We are part of Lancashire's textile past, but we're also shaping the next chapter with honesty, purpose and a belief in the value of making things well. In doing so, we honour the generations who came before us, ensuring their hard work and determination become the foundation for a future they would recognise, respect, and be proud to see carried forward.

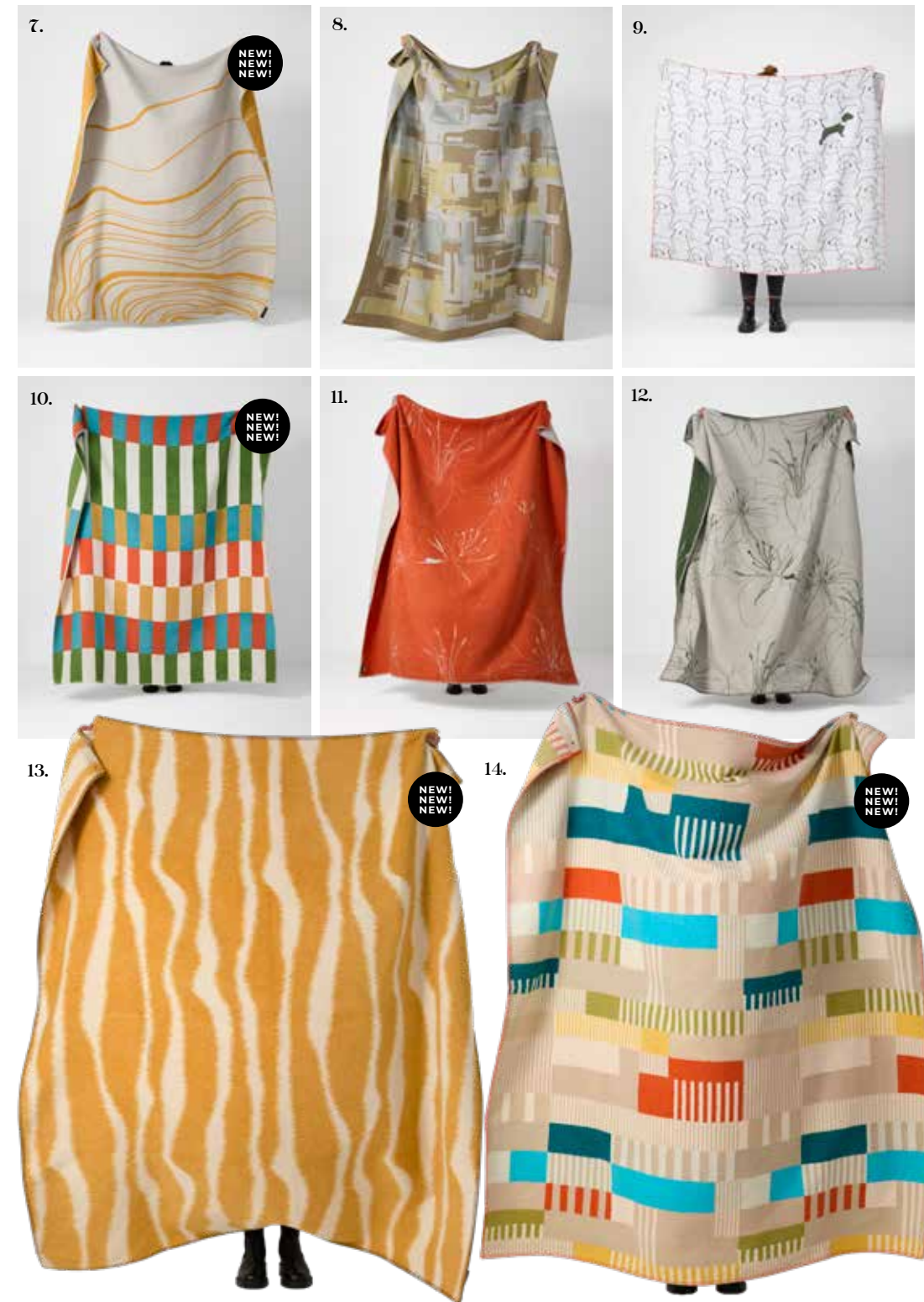


TAKE A WALK...

Step into a world where colour meets the great outdoors. Inspired by the rugged beauty of Northern England, these designs bring the landscape to life in-store. Delicate line sketches dance alongside bold, blocky patterns, creating a look that feels fresh, layered, and full of character.



1. Building Blocks Large Throw - Carnival 2. Heartbreaker Standard Throw - Olive 3. Terrain Large Throw - Beachcomber 4. Wildside Large Throw - Forest Green 5. Wildside Large Throw - Parkin 6. Summit Fever Large Throw - Teal



7. Summit Fever Large Throw - Ochre 8. Drystone Large Throw - Moorland Green 9. Good Boy Standard Throw - George 10. Building Blocks Large Throw - Festival 11. Filament Large Throw - Orange Peel 12. Filament Large Throw - Thyme 13. Traverse Large Throw - Ochre 14. Static Large Throw - Carnival

WORKING WITH FILATURA ASTRO:

A thoughtful,
sustainable approach
for more than 60 years.



Sustainable Spinners Transforming Cotton Waste into Recycled Yarn

At Filatura Astro, the art of spinning yarn is more than a manufacturing process, it is a commitment to preserving resources, honouring craftsmanship and creating beautiful materials with a lighter environmental footprint.

Every cone of recycled cotton yarn begins its story long before it reaches the spinning frames, and each step reflects Filatura Astro's dedication to innovation and sustainability. We have been proud to work with this traditional carding mill in Italy since 2015, partnering closely to bring their expertise in recycled yarns into our Ian Mankin and Northern Woven throws and blankets, all designed, woven and hand-stitched at our mill in Burnley, Lancashire.

Every year, Filatura Astro gives new life to over 2,000 tons of pre- and post-consumer dyed cotton and wool rags. By reusing these materials, they are able to produce high-quality yarns for soft furnishings, furniture, and clothing, all while saving more than 20 million litres of water each year (the equivalent of nine Olympic-sized swimming pools). It is a thoughtful, sustainable approach that has defined Filatura Astro for more than 60 years.

Before the fibres are ready for spinning, the recycled fabrics go through a careful preparation process. First, the post-production cotton waste is collected – everything from pattern-cutting offcuts to garments that did not pass quality control. Their recycling experts then sort through the material, removing any non-cotton elements such as zippers, buttons, labels or trims, and group the remaining cotton pieces by colour. No additional dyes are used in these yarns; they simply inherit their colour from the recycled fabrics themselves.



Once sorted, the fabrics undergo a cutting-edge process that gently breaks down the cotton fibres into their raw state. This step is essential for transforming the recycled materials into pristine, high-quality fibres ready for spinning. It is a modern evolution of the fibre-opening techniques once used in Northern England's historic shoddy mills - proof that traditional resourcefulness and contemporary innovation can go hand in hand.

The practice of regenerating textile fibres has deep roots in Yorkshire's textile heritage. In the early 1800s, Benjamin Law pioneered the creation of shoddy cloth - an ingenious method of turning worn-out woollen garments into new textiles. His innovation laid the groundwork for circular textile production, and today, Filatura Astro carries that legacy forward using advanced technology to transform cotton waste into premium recycled yarn.

Once the yarns are spun, our skilled artisans step in, weaving them into our luxurious throws and blankets with care and precision. The result? A wonderfully soft, eco-friendly piece made with both comfort and conscience in mind.