

PIERRE DE WET:

A Chance encounter changes his life!

By Danni Thunell Ende

This month we met up with Pierre De Wet, the new owner of the long standing business Anything Goes; to find out what his plans are for the brand. A humble, extremely innovative man; Pierre's passion for his new business is really inspiring...



Tell us a bit about your previous career?

Working as a ski instructor took up the majority of my twenties and I pretty much lived an endless winter. Around 6 years ago I decided a 'real' job was in order and was lucky enough to land the job of Assistant GM at Tintswalo Atlantic which bought me to Hout Bay (I have never looked back!). After three wonderful years there I was offered a role as Marketing Manager for SA Rugby Travel which was a dream job, but I always knew I wanted my own business someday.

What led you to taking over Anything Goes?

I have always loved going in there and finding interesting items to fix up and resell. It was a chance encounter which changed my life though! Jenny (the founder and previous owner) came to join her son and I for a drink and that's where the conversation started. I mentioned in passing that I was looking for a change in career and lifestyle and she immediately said 'well why don't you take over the furniture side of Anything Goes'. She suggested I think about it over the weekend and let her know. I immediately knew that this was a changing point in my life. It's one of the best things that has ever happened to me and to Jenny I will be forever grateful!

Do you have a passion for restoring pieces to their former glory?

It's not so much restoring pieces to their former glory but rather taking old pieces and giving them a second lifespan. Old furniture just has more soul, the real wood with handmade joints and expert carpentry lasts so much longer. With a little Annie Sloan paint, a bit of sanding and re upholstery they can be made to fit into most modern homes.

What other services do you offer clients?

The primary focus is reselling people's furniture for them, but I have done some paint jobs and a few custom furniture pieces on request.

Describe the style of items in your shop?

Good quality, well priced second hand furniture which can go straight into your home. I also look out for interesting and vintage pieces for folks looking for decor items. In addition, I have started stocking a range of new beds so you no longer need to trek over the mountain for a good night's sleep!

What is your vision for the brand?

My dream is to become a shop where you find yourself dropping by at least once a month in the hope you find that hidden gem you have always been wanting! Jenny started Anything Goes 30 years ago and I would like to ensure it goes on for at least another 30 years!

