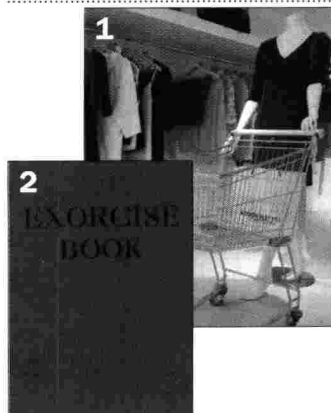


## Check out



### Just opened

#### 1. Rough Sleepers

This new Camden boutique is part of homeless charity **Novas's** drive to give people with no fixed abode (its 'customers') transferable skills to help them back into the world of employment. Staffed by the homeless, the shop is the first of its kind in London. It will also operate a workshop with ten sewing machines, so others can learn tailoring skills from top London designers.

'The last thing we want to be seen as is a poor little charity shop,' says Paul Everitt, director of artistic programmes for Novas. Filled by a giant shopping trolley constructed from scaffolding

and decorated with a few small ones (a reference to the homeless lifestyle), Rough Sleepers is a genuinely good fashion boutique.

The labels, bought by ex-Prada employee and London College of Fashion graduate Katsuhide Nakabo, include choice pickings by Dexter Wong, Vintry Andrews, Robert Cary-Williams and chunky leather shoulder bags by *Time Out* favourite Relax Garden. Ramon Barreto, a resident of Arlington House (the famous 400-bed Camden hostel for the homeless), has designed a range of jewellery for the shop, while many items are one-offs exclusive to Rough Sleepers, giving the shop an all-important edge. If successful, it will give less fortunate people a chance to get back into the worlds of learning and earning. 'We want people to leave with real skills and feeling empowered,' says Everitt.

*Rough Sleepers, 43 Chalk Farm Rd, NW1 (020 7485 4848) Chalk Farm tube. Open Tue-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 11am-5pm.*

### We love

#### 2. Rebecca Chitty's odball products

A hand-picked selection of imaginative gifts can be found on Rebecca Chitty's website, including the skyscraper sandcastle buckets and the exorcise book, an ideal pad for any embittered recent dumpee/dumper, costing £8.

*([www.productofyourenvironment.co.uk](http://www.productofyourenvironment.co.uk))*

**Compiled by** Maggie Davis