

A photograph of Richard Anderson and Molly Anderson standing in front of a large, weathered wooden door. Richard, on the left, is a middle-aged man with grey hair and a beard, wearing a blue suit and a patterned tie. Molly, on the right, is a woman with short, dark, curly hair, wearing a grey blazer over a dark turtleneck. Both are smiling warmly at the camera. The background shows the texture of the wooden door and a brick wall to the right.

A RICHARD ANDERSON SAVILE ROW PRODUCTION

THE STORY OF
WORSTED CHEVIOT

PRESENTED BY RICHARD ANDERSON AND MOLLY ANDERSON

SCRIPT BY BRIAN LISHAK



PROLOGUE

In 2018 one of our suppliers introduced a new cloth into their comprehensive collection. We were amazed that this wonderful wool, from one of our favourite breeds of sheep from the north of England, the Cheviot, had been spun and woven into a worsted cloth. Previously it had been used for tweeds and some years ago we presented a beautiful version to our customers with great success.

Spun very tightly, the unusual texture provides a springiness which improves crease resistance and durability over the more traditional worsted suitings. Recognising these virtues, we were so impressed and confident of the success of this new cloth that we selected a vivid blue for a test model. Many years ago, I had an elderly, somewhat eccentric client who would have described it as "vibrant".

We always assess new cloths before offering them to our customers and in this case, the result was our famous "Blue Suit", which was a huge success. Customers loved the crisp line, with detailed features maximised by the worsted Cheviot. The bunch comprised a plethora of colours and shades, and impressed by their new purchases, we received follow up orders in different colours; not just for suits but for blazers, slacks and lightweight overcoats.

The incredible performance meant that one suit could be packed and used for short business trips; overnight the cloth would recover and be ready for important meetings the following day.





At one of our regular meetings to find new or re-discovered garments to present to our audience, Krishan suggested the safari jacket. A garment favoured by the military, early British settlers and of course hunters exploring the African bush, it was loved for its practicality. Made mostly from cotton, but sometimes from linen or even poplin, they were almost always unlined and machine-made.

The safari jacket was a popular item in Hollywood films and I remember making them for Stewart Granger, a famous star, for his film *King Solomon's Mines*. Latterly Roger Moore wore versions as James Bond in *The Man with the Golden Gun* (1974), *Moonraker* (1979) and *Octopussy* (1983).

It occurred to us that worsted Cheviot would make a wonderful Safari Suit. Richard cut his interpretation of the safari jacket as a suit, bringing a fresh look to a classic garment, very different to the colonialist look sported by Teddy Roosevelt.

Our brown Glen check worsted Cheviot is worn here by a young, very well-known and respected fashion journalist, Aleks Cvetkovic. Thank you Aleks for your time and for sporting the outfit so well.

Brian Lishak
Savile Row, London
2020

So what was missing? The provider of this remarkable cloth, heeding our demands, worked on developing patterns in the worsted Cheviot. Eagerly awaiting the results we were delighted to see the fruition of their labours. Glenurquhart and Shepherd's checks in different colours featured largely in the exciting new collection and these two checks are illustrated here; we are sure you will agree that the results of their work are impressive.





SCENE ONE: NEW WORSTED CHEVIOTS

The Cheviot cloth comes from the rugged hills of North Northumberland and the Scottish borders, where the sheep have been bred to resist the inclement weather over many hundreds of years. The cloth is resistant to creasing, so this is a suit you can travel cross-country in and still arrive looking crisp. This suit, modelled by Richard, is a stunning single-breasted blue and navy houndstooth check, a colourway that creates dimension and character. With a single button fastening, notch lapel and turn-ups on the trousers, this is the classic Richard Anderson silhouette that we know and love.



Our women's bespoke single-breasted two-piece suit in a monochrome Prince-of-Wales check is perfect for every occasion. The trousers have a flattering double pleat and zip fastening for a clean-cut look. The single-breasted coat features a peak lapel and double vent at the back for a strong feminine silhouette, while the patch pockets with their contrasting check placement create an intriguing garment that fully utilises the cloth's design. We have shown this Prince-of-Wales Cheviot in both a trouser and a skirt suit in a grey tone that is fresh, light and flattering on all skin tones.

This comfortable and stylish suit is designed to your specifications and is perfect for the office and less formal occasions.





SCENE TWO: THE SAFARI SUIT REIMAGINED

The safari coat was originally conceived in the early twentieth century as a practical garment to be worn by soldiers in warm climates, or by adventurers exploring the African bush. Its popularity grew even more when Roger Moore wore versions as James Bond in *The Man with the Golden Gun* (1974), *Moonraker* (1979) and *Octopussy* (1983). Done well, the safari coat can be a practical and valuable addition to any wardrobe, being sporty, durable and endowed with spacious storage in the form of the roomy 'bellows' pockets that give it its military slant.

Typically made of lightweight cotton, linen or poplin, safari coats normally come in a neutral shade such as stone, fawn or beige. Civilians, however, particularly fashion-conscious ones, tend not to mind being visible. Our suit is made in a Worsted Cheviot, which may be seen as an unusual choice as it is a medium-weight year-round cloth, however, the porous nature of the cloth makes it excellent for travel, beautiful to cut in clean, crisp lines and therefore superb in taking on any shape.

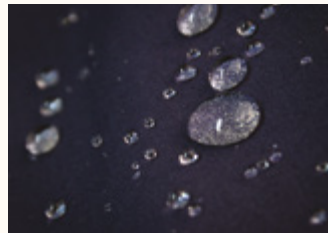
Our coat is single-breasted with a four-button fastening and square front to invoke an almost military feel. It has two patch pockets with a flap-and-button, and two smaller out breast patch pockets with flaps. The half-belt at the back makes the garment more informal than a traditional full-belted jacket, yet the combination of the belt and the darts give the jacket a tremendously flattering shape. There is a narrow sleeve and an overall slim silhouette through. The trousers feature a two-inch soft waistband with two deep pleats, with the legs cut generously through with a two-inch turn-up.

It's a long way from the colonialist look sported by Teddy Roosevelt back in 1909 – and these days bellows pockets are more likely to contain an iPhone rather than a compass – but the adventuresome spirit of the safari coat still endures in this good looking suit, practical and ideal for business wear or less formal wear and perfect for travel and business meetings.

SCENE THREE: VENTILE RAINCOATS

Our raincoats have become a very successful part of our range of outerwear, perhaps because this is not just any raincoat; it is one that has a history that goes back to pre-war times. In the 1930s as Britain faced the prospect of war, a Government aware of potential shortages looked for an alternative to flax to make fire hoses and water buckets; they wanted a cotton fabric weave that would keep water in, but of course made one that would also keep water out! This research developed urgency as convoys crossing the Arctic Ocean came under attack from submarines. RAF cover was impossible, so catapult propelled Hurricane fighters were mounted on ships. With no way to land back on the ship, pilots were required to ditch in the ocean and await rescue. The temperature of the water meant that life expectancy was counted in minutes. Most died from exposure.

The water resistant Ventile® fabric, developed by scientists at the Shirley Institute in Manchester, was a revolution that protected the pilots from immediate soaking and extended life expectancy to 20 minutes. The fabric became a staple supply for the RAF and is still used in RAF and NATO flight suits today and we are proud to say, in our raincoats.



When designing our raincoats, Richard applied his own unique styling; you can clearly see our distinctive cut, high in the armhole, waisted and with a certain flair. Our raincoats are lightweight and perfect for wearing over a suit on rainy days, offering protection and comfort.

Our model features a fly front with vertical welted pockets, wrist wraps and a tab and button on the collar, chain hanger, two vertical inside pockets with zips.

Available in navy and antique bronze.



A couple of years ago Richard worked with stylist William Gilchrist to recreate the famous George Segal sculpture, *The Breadline*, as a photograph. Our model is dressed in four different Richard Anderson ensembles and our ventile raincoats.



SCENE FOUR: UMBRELLAS

Our striking umbrellas are created exclusively for us and hand-made in London by makers famed for their pioneering of the stainless steel mechanism. Our collection features ten different handles of the finest woods including whangee and malacca. The 9ct gold collars bearing our name can be personalised with your initials for a small extra charge. You can view and order from the full range on our website and we will be pleased to discuss your requirements for personalisation.



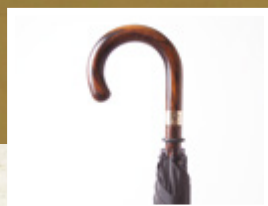
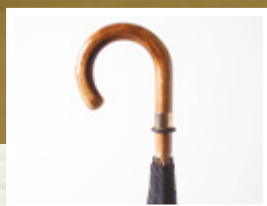
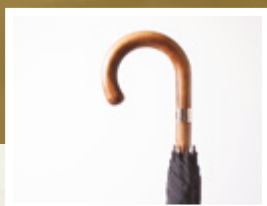
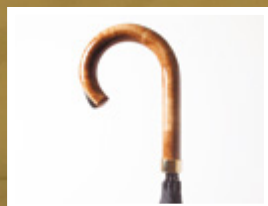
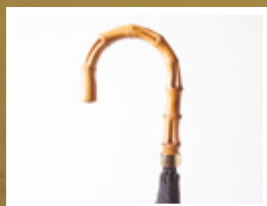
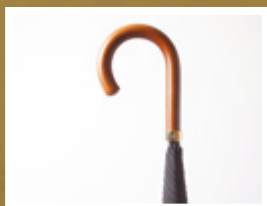
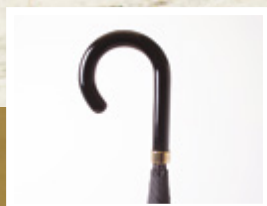
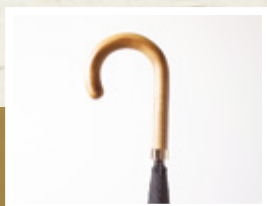
SCENE FIVE: BELTS AND BRACES

Belts

Hand-crafted from the finest quality calf hide our beautiful belts are available in light tan, dark brown and black. Extremely durable, they are ideal with jeans and chinos as well as dressier trousers. They are sized from 32" to 42". Additionally, we have dress belts in lightweight calf, sueded calf, alligator and crocodile. Made especially for us, they will perfectly complement your Richard Anderson suits and odd trousers.

Braces

Add a touch of colour to classic suitings with our range of rich coloured felt braces with button fastenings. These braces are exclusively made for Richard Anderson Ltd by Albert Thurston, who was the first to sell these practical accessories from his boutique in London's Haymarket in 1820. The stunning colours have a subtle texture that are further offset by the white leather and brass fittings. Braces are a staple in any gentleman's formal wardrobe, they have also made a resurgence of late in more informal settings.



SCENE SIX: SOCKS AND HANDKERCHIEFS

Socks

Our range of socks have been made especially for us in England. The combination of 75% cotton and 25% elastane gives extreme comfort plus durability. There are a veritable rainbow of colours from which to choose and can be simply ordered from our website.



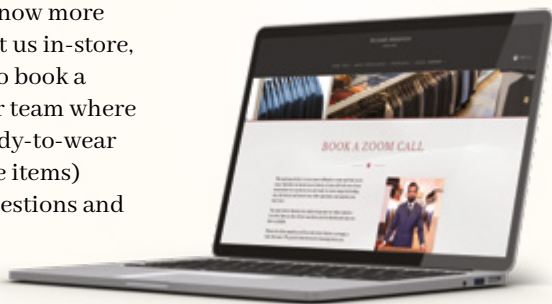
Handkerchiefs

We have a stunning range of silk handkerchiefs in a wide range of colours and patterns, including some exclusive hand-painted prints. The perfect gift for a loved one (or oneself), handkerchiefs add a dash of style to any outfit. Our exclusive hand-rolled painted silk pocket squares feature exotic floral and illustrative designs and are a rare find.



BOOK A VIDEO CALL

We understand that it is now more difficult to come and visit us in-store, therefore we invite you to book a video call with one of our team where we can show you our ready-to-wear range (including any sale items) and answer any other questions and queries you may have.



Visit www.richardandersonltd.com/book-a-zoom-call

RICHARD ANDERSON

13 SAVILE ROW

Richard Anderson Ltd - Bespoke Tailors

Sherborne House • 13 Savile Row • London W1S3PH

+44 (0)207734 0001 mail@richardandersonltd.com www.richardandersonltd.com