



### Special celebrations

*'...our staff – our second family at work.'*

In our last newsletter I spoke of the joy we feel serving the families of our clients. Another benefit of being a four-generation business is the relationship we develop with our staff – our second family at work. In the past few months we have shared in the happy events of two of

our team – Kylie's engagement and Eleanor's wedding. At the risk of appearing a little self-indulgent, we would like to share these moments with you.

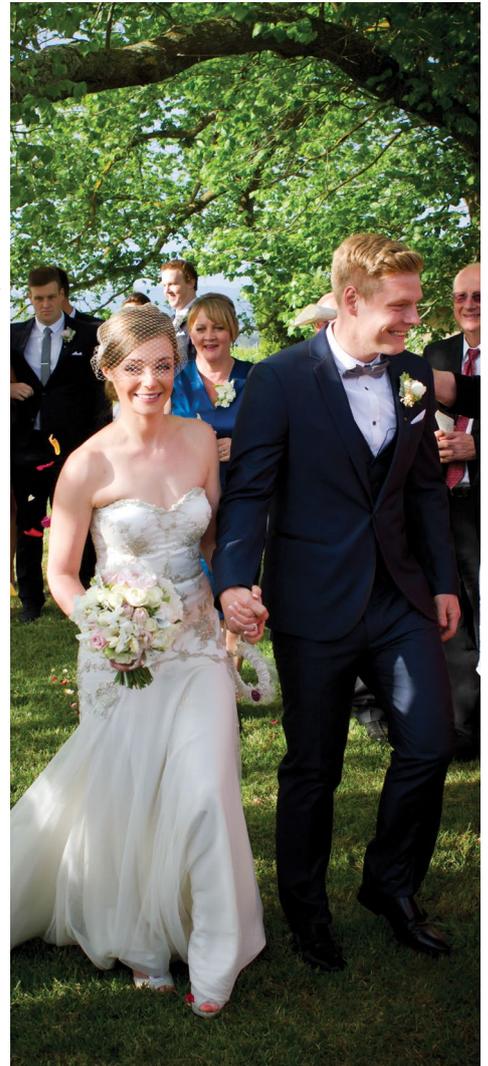
*Peter Bird*  
FGAA



Kylie's engagement ring



Hammered wedding ring for Tom and fitted diamond wedding ring for Eleanor



A day to remember



Kylie and Brent in the vineyard at Eleanor and Tom's wedding

The Principles of Integrity and Honesty set down by our forebears have laid the perfect foundation on which we can continue to build and further practise the ideals of 'Quality without Compromise'

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## Wisdom from the Bench

During the past year I have had the opportunity to be involved with creating medical implants out of precious metals. This was a truly enlightening episode in my career.

I was contacted by a friend and client of mine who had been having problems with her eyelids. She had already endured many operations to try to solve a rare condition known as lagophthalmos, where the orbicularis oculi muscle of the eye no longer closes the eye correctly. This in turn leads to a diminished ability to blink and impairment of the nasolacrimal pumping system – so no moisture (tears) over the eye, which can lead to infection and even blindness.

(LHS) Customised platinum (RHS) original imports in gold



Mrs C had previously (unsuccessfully) had some gold implants fitted to her eyes to help her 'close' her eyelids. These were imported from an American company and are available in many standard shapes and weights. They were not really suitable for her eye shape, so I was asked whether I could modify their shape and size. After consultation with Mrs C and her surgeon, I suggested we could make up new implants from pure platinum, designed and shaped to fit her eyelids with the weight distributed towards the ends of the fittings. The surgeon measured her eyes and gave me the dimensions and required weights. They had to be 1.4 grams each, longer, and the weight distributed unevenly across the length.

From all accounts the operation was a success and once more shows that Abrecht Bird is at the forefront when it comes to creating *anything* unique and special from precious metals.

*Greg John*  
FGAA Dip DT

*'...Abrecht Bird is at the forefront when it comes to creating anything unique and special from precious metals.'*



5



6



1

2

3

4

**Pictured left:**

1. 18ct rose gold diamond ring \$1,290
2. 18ct white gold diamond ring \$1,300
3. 18ct yellow gold diamond ring \$1,290
4. 18ct white gold diamond tennis bracelet \$6,595

**Pictured above:**

5. 18ct white gold diamond hoop earrings \$2,080
6. 9ct rose gold drop earrings \$240

**On page 3:**

7. 14ct rose and white gold South Sea pearl and diamond pendant\* \$2,105
8. 18ct yellow gold South Sea pearl & diamond drop earrings \$3,790
9. 9ct rose gold diamond earrings \$650
10. 18ct white gold South Sea pearl and diamond ring \$1,575
11. 9ct yellow and white gold diamond hoop earrings \$180
12. 9ct yellow and white gold diamond hook earrings \$190
13. 9ct yellow and white gold diamond hoop earrings large \$255

\*Chain not included



## Gemmology Corner

### Once in a Blue Moon

Naturally coloured blue diamonds are extremely rare. The 45.52 carat 'Hope Diamond', now housed at the Natural History Museum in Washington DC, has been described as the most famous diamond in the world. However its fame may well be eclipsed by the sale in November of the 'Blue Moon' diamond – a cushion-shaped 'fancy vivid blue' of 12.03 carats. This internally flawless stone was cut from a rough crystal weighing 29.62 carats. The stone set a new record price (US\$67.8 million) (and price per carat) for any gemstone. That price eclipsed the previous record of the 24.78 carat 'Graff Pink', sold in November 2010 for US\$46.2 million.



*'This internally flawless stone was cut from a rough crystal weighing 29.62 carats.'*

The blue diamond was discovered at the famous South African Cullinan mine. The diamantaire took 6 months to cut and polish the gem. The distinctive blue colour in diamonds is attributed to trace amounts of the element boron in the crystal structure.

*Leon Corn*  
FGAA Dip DT



New series of fun fashion diamond ear wires



**Pictured above, as numbered:**

- 14. 18ct white gold 'Art Deco' diamond pendant\* \$4,775
- 15. 9ct yellow and white gold cross over diamond ring \$2,215
- 16. 18ct white gold emerald, diamond and onyx pendant\* \$2,335
- 17. 18ct yellow gold South Sea pearl necklace \$1,425
- 18. 9ct white gold sapphire and diamond ring \$685
- 19. 9ct white gold topaz and diamond drop earrings \$1,055
- 20. 9ct yellow gold oval peridot stud earrings \$315
- 21. 18ct white and yellow gold diamond ring \$3,870
- 22. Platinum 'Art Deco' ruby and diamond pendant\* \$4,450
- 23. 18ct white gold 'Art Deco' sapphire and diamond ring \$7,445
- 24. 18ct white gold diamond 'slider' pendant and chain \$1,175
- 25. 18ct white gold 'Art Deco' diamond ring \$4,855
- 26. 18ct yellow gold diamond ear cuffs \$800
- 27. 9ct white gold tanzanite and diamond ring \$1,225
- 28. 9ct white gold topaz and diamond pendant\* \$650
- 29. 18ct white and rose gold pink and white diamond ring \$3,685

\* Chain not included



# Creative Design on Show

Since our last edition I have had the honour to represent Abrecht Bird Jewellers in the inaugural 'Bench Challenge' at the Sydney International Trade Fair. As well as three engravers, two CAD technicians and one stone setter, five jewellers were selected from Australia and New Zealand and put to the test in a 'Mystery Box' style event. At the start of the fair we were all given an equal but limited amount of gold (10 grams total of white and rose gold)

and a collection of gemstones – one pink cubic zirconia marquise cut and nine small white zircons of different sizes. The brief was simple: use the large feature stone and at least one of each size of the small, white, round stones, and some (if not all) of the metal. We had eleven hours over two days to design and create a piece of jewellery of any style. The piece had to be at least prepared for setting with all bearings cut for the stones.



Ben Preston-Black and Hazel Oxborough



Michael Mooney and Greg John



Yianni Lambropoulos

The whole experience was a lot of fun and this time around I did not come home with the trophy; however, I did return with revitalised enthusiasm to create and develop new ideas. The newer, younger generation of creative jewellers that I came into contact with over the three days not only afforded me the highest respect, they also inspired me to look back, use my experience and extend my enthusiasm for design and craftsmanship.

*'...I am inspired to continue to design and create unique bespoke pieces of jewellery.'*

*Greg John*  
FGAA Dip DT



**Pictured above, left to right:**

30. 18ct white gold emerald, pearl and diamond pendant\* \$2,385  
 31. 9ct white gold sapphire and diamond ring \$635 32. 9ct yellow gold ruby and diamond ring \$650  
 33. 18ct yellow and white gold South Sea pearl and diamond necklace \$2,485 34. 9ct white gold diamond drop earrings \$935  
 35. 9ct white gold floral diamond stud earrings \$1,140 36. 9ct rose and white gold champagne and white diamond ring \$2,240  
 37. 9ct yellow gold amethyst stud earrings \$230 38. 18ct white and rose gold pink and white diamond ring \$4,595  
 39. 18ct white gold tanzanite and diamond stud earrings \$1,325 40. 18ct white gold diamond and Tahitian pearl earrings \$4,310  
 41. 18ct white gold diamond pendant\* \$1,285 42. 9ct yellow gold diamond drop earrings \$1,130  
 \* Chain not included

Thank you to all of you who appreciate our quality, handcrafted, bespoke jewellery. Here at Abrecht Bird Jewellers we are indeed humbled and proud to be able to design unique pieces of jewellery that will continue to be enjoyed by generations of our jewellery family.

Due to your wonderful support of our services, we have been unable to produce much of the stock that usually adorns our showroom. As the season for gift giving is soon to be upon us, we have sourced some stock from our best suppliers to provide price point items suited for such occasions.

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The exception will be white gold articles that require rhodium plating (additional charge) – we will endeavour to have these pieces available at the end of the same day.