



Jewellery Insurance

Earlier this year our client Ms R sadly requested us to assist her with her insurance claim to replace the loss of her pearl earrings. We had made the earrings for her years earlier and she loved them: high quality, lustrous South Sea pearls suspended from a unique 18 carat yellow gold setting.

Whilst we are not permitted to provide advice on insurance, we urge our customers to ask for details of alternatives to traditional jewellery insurance policies, either at the time of purchase or when renewing their policies.

'...we urge our customers to ask for details of alternatives to traditional jewellery insurance policies...'

Peter Bird
FGAA

We prepared a very competitive quote for submission to the insurance company. They responded that our quote was quite unacceptable and that she must use the insurance company's preferred supplier. After many frustrating calls to her insurer, and disappointing visits to the appointed jeweller, Ms R was forced to accept an insurance payout as compensation – for \$125!

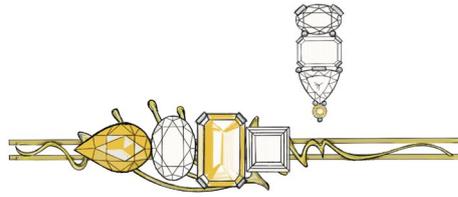
This story is an extreme, but typical nevertheless. Your home and contents insurance policy is likely to contain a clause that dictates that you will be required to seek compensation from a supplier of their choosing, on their terms.

There is now an alternative, with 2 or 3 insurers offering stand-alone insurance policies for jewellery. These companies differ from traditional 'home and contents' insurers in two ways. Firstly, they base their premiums on the price paid rather than an inflated value based on 'insurance replacement purposes'. Secondly, they allow (encourage) consumers to return to their preferred jeweller to replace 'like for like'.





Wisdom from the Bench



The brooch and detachable pendant, shown as a sketch in our last issue, blossomed into reality. I used our client's diamonds and added her favourite coloured stone – topaz.

This design provides an insight into my design philosophy: lines are the visible and physical manifestation of movement. Symmetry is nice, but asymmetry is wonderful. The important criteria is balance and the need for each line to flow when observed from every direction.

The 'heart line' is the true inspiration behind the trademark flourish that often begins each design I draw.



'Symmetry is nice, but asymmetry is wonderful'

Jarrad and Eleanor have also been busy in the workshop, producing pieces commissioned by our clients, and expressing themselves with artistic creations for our showroom.

Matching pair of rings ordered by the groom from Vanuatu and the bride from Sweden. The couple flew to Melbourne to collect from our showroom.



Pear shapes are making a comeback – here featured as shoulder diamonds.



A snowflake inspired this pendant made by Eleanor – a new addition to our showroom.



Pink sapphire and diamond drop pendant designed and made by Jarrad.

Eleanor used our customer's diamond for the centre of this classic art deco design.



Greg John
FGAA Dip DT



Pictured right (page 3), as numbered:

1. 18 carat white and rose gold cognac and white diamond ring \$4,995
2. 18 carat white gold diamond circle pendant and chain \$2,155
3. 18 carat white gold diamond stud earrings \$1,420
4. 18 carat white gold multi diamond engagement ring \$4,605



Gemmology Corner

Transparency for Treated Diamonds

My article in our last newsletter about diamond enhancement treatments provoked much discussion amongst our clients. Since then a meeting between the World Jewellery Confederation (CIBJO) and the International Standards Organisation (ISO) has explicitly decreed that, without further qualification, the term 'diamond' always implies a natural diamond. We applaud this decision.

ISO International Standard 18323 unambiguously bars the use of adjectives such as 'cultured' and 'cultivated', as well as 'real', 'genuine', 'precious' and 'gem' to describe any synthetic diamond. The use of such words can be considered deceptive.



The new standard describes a treated diamond as a 'diamond having undergone any human intervention other than cutting, polishing, cleaning and setting, to permanently or non-permanently change its appearance'. It states that any diamond, having been subject to a treatment, shall be disclosed as a 'treated diamond', and/or should include a specific reference to the particular treatment. Any special care requirements that should be considered because of a particular treatment must be disclosed.

This does not mean that the use of treated diamonds is invalid. Recently two of our clients have designed beautiful jewellery pieces using HPHT (high pressure, high temperature) treated black diamonds – creating a stunning pair of diamond stud earrings and a unique engagement ring flanked by a pair of matching diamond-set wedding rings.

'...the term 'diamond' always implies a natural diamond.'

Leon Corn
FGAA Dip DT



Spring and summer mean warmer days for most people, but for us it is the season for weddings! Diamond-set bands are extremely popular, seen here in various setting styles. Textured bands are frequently favoured by men; the combination of white and rose gold is the latest trend for something a little different.





Pictured above, as numbered:

- 5. 18 carat white gold aquamarine and diamond pendant* \$2,020
- 6. 18 carat white, rose and yellow gold pink tourmaline and diamond ring \$2,555
- 7. 9 carat white gold diamond hinged bangle \$2,620
- 8. 18 carat yellow and white gold diamond bracelet \$2,955
- 9. 18 carat white and rose gold diamond ring \$1,315
- 10. 18 carat yellow gold South Sea pearl drop earrings \$2,030
- 11. 18 carat white and rose gold diamond ring \$1,665
- 12. 18 carat white gold engagement ring \$18,500
- 13. 9 carat yellow gold citrine and diamond pendant* \$1,675
- 14. 18 carat yellow and white gold diamond ring POA
- 15. 18 carat yellow gold ruby and diamond drop earrings \$1,550
- 16. 18 carat white and rose gold pink sapphire and diamond ring \$2,645
- 17. 18 carat white gold emerald and diamond ring \$3,190
- 18. 18 carat white and rose gold cognac and white diamond stud earrings \$3,465

* Chain not included



World's largest new diamond mine opens

The world's largest new diamond mine to open in 13 years, Gahcho Kué, was officially unveiled in September. The mine, a joint venture with the De Beers Group of Companies (51%) and Mountain Province Diamonds (49%), is expected to produce around 54 million carats of rough diamonds over its lifetime.

It is situated around 280 km northeast of Yellowknife in the Northwest Territories of Canada and remains on track to reach full commercial operation in the first quarter of 2017.

Comprised of three open pits, the mine will employ 530 people full time, with the majority working a two-week-in and two-week-out rotation.



Bruce Cleaver, CEO at De Beers, said: 'As millions of new consumers enter the middle classes in the coming years, consumer demand for diamond jewellery is set to see continued medium- to long-term growth.'

Canada is the world's third largest diamond producer by value and the fifth largest by volume. The top five producing countries by volume of production are Russia, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Australia and Canada. Russia holds what is believed to be the world's largest and richest diamond resources.



Pinks are still a popular colour. Here is another stylish art deco inspired ring designed to enhance the beauty of the gem.



Fun new earring wires – simple and elegant. Made to thread through your favourite pearls or coloured beads. Available in 18 carat yellow or white gold starting from \$490.

Estate Corner



A client has commissioned us to sell this ring on her behalf. 'As new' condition, set with a magnificent sapphire, it could be yours. Email or phone for details.



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Pictured above, left to right:

19. 18 carat white gold yellow and white diamond ring \$4,550 20. 18 carat white gold art deco diamond ring \$5,675
 21. South Sea pearl necklace with 18 carat magnetic clasp \$8,590 22. 18 carat white gold aquamarine and diamond ring \$5,845
 23. 18 carat white gold South Sea pearl and diamond drop earrings \$2,035 24. 18 carat rose and white gold cognac and white diamond pendant* \$1,645
 25. 18 carat white gold emerald and diamond ring \$4,685 26. 18 carat yellow and white gold diamond drop earrings \$1,465
 * Chain not included

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Clean, Polish and Check

Level 2, 227 Collins Street, Melbourne
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Email: info@abrecht.com **Web:** www.abrecht.com

- ✓ Complimentary clean and polish of two rings
- ✓ A thorough check of the safety of all settings

Available at any time in the next 12 months when you present this coupon.

It will not always be possible to complete the work while you wait, but generally pieces should be available for collection in an hour or so.

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.