

December 2022 ~ Volume 27 Issue 2



Fireworks

Fireworks – for ages, they have been the symbol of celebration, heralding new times and chapters in history. By their very existence, they evoke dreams of anticipation with equal amounts of wonder and danger. An explosion of colour draws the eye to fill the mind with expectations of excitement. The circles of bright lights evolve into shapes of cascading, coloured stars falling back along their tracer paths to their origin.

One of the most rewarding experiences we can have here at ABJ is working with people who have faith in our ability to create and turn their dreams into wearable works of art. We recently had the privilege to create a very special large dress ring using a most spectacular and unusually cut amethyst, along with a collection of multi-coloured

> gemstones in varying cuts and vibrant colours, including blue and yellow sapphires, rubies and green tsavorite garnets.

> The brief was to create a ring representing 'fireworks'.

> > After sourcing the gemstones, and several design modifications later, design this was chosen. Unique gemstones call for unique ideas, and I proposed the idea of five or six flat

"... all shapes appear to 'move' or flow from every direction of view..."

'claws' around each stone to give the appearance of the coloured 'stars' exploding when viewed from the top. These 'exploding' colours are all emanating from coloured gold 'tracers' (the path of the rocket or flare before the firework explosion) crafted in 18ct rose, yellow and white gold.

Where possible, we encourage our clients to participate in the 'workshop experience' by rolling out some of the metal to be used in their piece. Clare was keen to take part.

My design philosophy is to have all shapes appear to 'move' or flow from every direction of view; curves and waveforms blend perfectly with the concept of exploding fireworks.

As a Master Jeweller, and an artist in precious metals, I take great pride in my work and satisfying clients with pieces to produce that WOW moment on collection.

Greg John FGAA, Dip DT, FGSGA,

NCJV Registered Valuer V0231 Master Jeweller

I believe that the detail on the back is just as important as that from the top.



From the Workshop



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Eleanor

A green tourmaline ring that I designed and hand made was featured in one of our newsletters a few years ago. The article and photos caught the eye of one of our clients,

and when she recently brought her own green tourmaline and diamond ring into our showroom for remodelling, she asked if I could design and create something for her that was inspired by my original ring.

I came up with a simpler design that still retained the original $\ensuremath{\mathsf{I}}$

concept of the curving/twisted vines in the band, that the client could wear and enjoy every day. We are pleased to say that Faye loved her

We are pleased to say that Faye loved her workshop experience when she participated in the making of her new ring.

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Eleanor Hawke Jeweller







Gemmology Corner

NOTABLE GEMSTONES

The Dresden Green

This rare 40.7-carat natural green diamond is said to have originated in India. Its earliest reference can be found in a London news article back in 1722 mentioning that Marcus Moses, a famous London diamond merchant, had presented King George I with the famous find. It was then said to be valued at £10,000.

The Dresden Green probably weighed over 100-carats as a rough, elongated, unbroken stone, since green diamonds rarely occur as cleavages. The stone's green colour is due to its natural exposure to radioactive materials.

The diamond has been displayed in Dresden Castle, in the capital of the German state Saxony, for the last 200 years. It narrowly missed the November 2019 jewel theft as it was on loan to New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art.

'The Rock'

A 228.31-carat, pear-shaped white diamond, dubbed 'The Rock' sold for more than US\$21 million at Christie's Luxury Week tender in Geneva on 11 May this year. It is considered the largest polished white diamond ever to hit the auction block.

The gemstone, mined and polished in South Africa 20 years ago, has been graded as G colour or 'near colourless' with VS1 clarity by the Gemological Institute of America.

The Logan Sapphire

Mined in Sri Lanka, the 422.98-carat Logan Sapphire is one of the world's largest faceted blue sapphires. Set in a brooch surrounded by 20 diamonds, with a total weight of 16 carats, it was gifted to socialite Rebecca 'Polly' Guggenheim from her philandering first husband, Robert M Guggenheim, in 1952.

Robert purchased the sapphire from Sir

Ellice Victor Sassoon, 3rd Baronet of Bombay, who allegedly acquired it from an Indian maharajah. Polly (whose second husband was John Logan) formally donated the sapphire to the Smithsonian Museum in 1960, a year after Robert's death, because it reminded her of his indiscretions!

Leon Corn FGAA Dip DT

Top: The Dresden Green Centre: The Logan Sapphire Bottom: 'The Rock'







Staff News

Meet the Staff - Jensen

Kylie & husband Brent recently welcomed another addition to the family. Jensen was born on 23 June 2022.

Both mum and baby are doing well. I am sure all our clients will join us in welcoming Baby Jensen Beachley to the Abrecht Bird family.

Welcome Jensen to the Abrecht Bird family



Stephanie & Liam's Engagement

Here, at Abrecht Bird Jewellers, when the time comes for colleagues to get engaged, there is a lot of sneaking around and secrecy. Liam contacted Peter at the start of June to get the ball rolling with my engagement ring. Liam obviously couldn't use his name, otherwise I would know, so Peter came up with the alias 'Leigh Dudman'. Peter then organised a few diamond choices for me to collect 'for the client' – little did I know that one of them was going to be my diamond!

Something that we offer our clients to add that extra little personal touch is a workshop experience – they can come into our workshop and work with our jewellers to start their piece. Liam was no exception to this rule. However, what made things difficult was he couldn't come into our office as I would be there. Yuki has access to an off-site workshop where Liam arranged to meet with her to

participate in rolling out the metal

for the band.

Cut to a month and a half later, with me still having no idea, we take a trip to the Mornington Peninsula. Just before dinner, we drive to the top of Arthurs Seat, where there is a secluded statue of Matthew Flinders. Liam sets up his phone to take a 'timed photo', but in reality he sets it up to record a video!

Thanks to Yuki, Peter and Greg for all their help in making the surprise a possibility!









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'

Gift Jdeas

Page 2

- 1. 18ct yellow gold pear-shaped champagne diamond ring \$4,165
- 2. 9ct white gold bezel set diamond huggie earrings \$665
- 3. 18ct white gold diamond tennis bracelet \$4,500
- 4. 9ct yellow gold open pear-shaped diamond necklace \$1,090
- 5. 9ct white gold open pear-shaped diamond necklace \$1,150

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- 6. 9ct white gold open pear-shaped diamond earrings \$565
- 7. 9ct rose gold 3-row marquise-shaped diamond ring \$1,550
- 8. 9ct rose gold garnet and diamond pendant* \$780
- 9. 18ct yellow gold champagne and white diamond cluster ring \$4,125
- 10. 18ct yellow and white gold ruby and diamond ring \$5,115

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- 11. 18ct white gold diamond drop earrings \$1,875
- 12. 18ct white gold asscher cut diamond ring \$7,100
- 13. 18ct white gold baguette and brilliant cut diamond ring \$2,815
- 14. 18ct white gold princess and baguette cut diamond ring \$5,950
- **15.** 9ct rose gold morganite and diamond cluster ring \$1,575
- **16.** 9ct yellow gold claw set diamond pendant and chain \$1,395
- 17. 9ct rose gold morganite and diamond cluster pendant* \$1,475
- **18.** 9ct white gold diamond cluster slider pendant and chain \$3,115

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- **19.** 9ct yellow gold bezel set diamond slider pendant and chain \$2,060
- **20.** 9ct white gold bezel set diamond slider pendant and chain \$2,030
- 21. 9ct yellow gold graduating diamond circle drop earrings \$1,950
- 22. 18ct yellow gold champagne diamond spinner ring \$7,155
- **23.** 9ct white gold aquamarine and diamond ring \$1,350
- 24. 18ct yellow and white gold sapphire and diamond ring \$2,450
- 25. 9ct white gold floral diamond stud earrings \$1,050
- 26. 18ct white and rose gold bezel set diamond necklace \$4,510
- 27. 9ct yellow gold oval signet ring \$695
- 28. 9ct white gold pearl and diamond drop earrings \$1,725

*chain not included



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✓ 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 20 minutes.

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.