



# Hallmarking changes allow greater creativity

Designers, manufacturers and retailers suddenly have the scope to mix precious metals or precious and base metals in hallmarked jewellery and flatware.

Recently ratified changes to the Hallmarking Act allow Assay Offices to hallmark jewellery made from a mixture of precious and base metals, meaning that they can now be sold with an accurate description for the first time. Under the changes the 'weight ratio' rule, which previously applied to the hallmarking of mixed precious metal items, has been abandoned allowing a whole new approach to hallmarked pieces.

BJA Chairman, and designer silversmith, Martyn Pugh is delighted with the changes. "In the past UK designers had their creativity stifled by the Hallmarking Act. This is a hugely welcome step," he told JIB. Pugh is also excited by further changes to the Act

planned for 2008 when it is anticipated that palladium will be given a hallmark. "Speaking personally I think this is brilliant. It's a marketing gift and it is up to the entire trade to rally round to promote a new metal which because of its unique characteristics opens a whole raft of new design possibilities," he commented.

### Pre 1950's un-hallmarked items

The changes in the legislation also allow for un-hallmarked items brought to the market before 1950 to be sold as gold, silver or platinum - something which was previously illegal - providing that the seller can prove the fineness of the metal and that the item was manufactured prior to that date.



The Birmingham Assay Office has produced a 'Mixed Metals Fact Sheet' which gives full details of all the changes and specifies how the new regulations will work in practice. Copies can be downloaded from [www.theassayoffice.co.uk](http://www.theassayoffice.co.uk) or from [www.bja.org.uk](http://www.bja.org.uk)

The BJA will be asking its members to take part in a consultative process with regard to the hallmarking of palladium and more details on this will be available soon.

## 'Blue Book' for Precious Metals

The 'Blue Book', a long-established set of definitive industry standards covering diamonds, coloured gemstones and pearls, which is published by CIBJO the world jewellery congress, is to have a new component: Precious Metals.

The book, the first ever for precious metals, will be compiled by Michael Allchin, Assay Master of Birmingham Assay Office working with an international team. Once complete it will provide an essential reference tool and benchmarking system for jewellers, silversmiths and horologists worldwide.

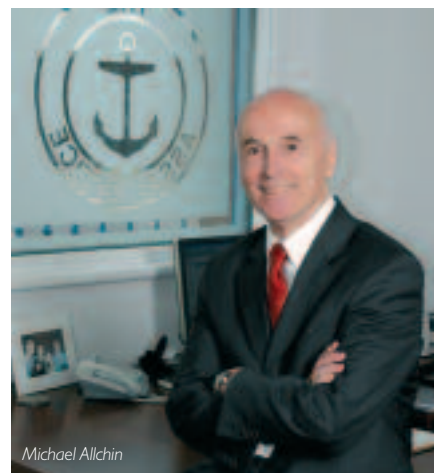
The document will restrict itself to a definition of precious metals in relation to the jewellery, watch and silverware industries and will deal only with gold, silver, platinum and palladium.

It will state what its authors perceive to be global 'best practices' in terms of ethics and

standards in relation to precious metals. Somewhat controversially it will propose as is the case in the 'Convention Countries' (ie. those that hallmark their products) that no negative tolerances should be allowed. This means that jewellers in some countries in CIBJO, including the USA - where negative tolerances are permitted - will not necessarily operate in accordance with what the book suggests should be 'best practice'.

### International standards

"All the countries represented at CIBJO have their own national laws with regard to precious metals and these will always supersede what appears in the Blue Book," Michael Allchin told JIB. "What we are really doing here is to set a standard which is as high - or possibly higher - than any individual national standard. This means that any company complying with CIBJO's recommendations with regard to precious



Michael Allchin

metals, can be assured that its products will always meet the national standard, no matter where in the world it is selling its product."

Sections of the existing CIBJO Blue Books are downloadable from the Gem-A website [www.gem-a.info](http://www.gem-a.info)



- > The World is your Oyster - Pearl Feature
- > London Jewellery Exports
- > Tamsin Howells wins BCTF Prize
- > Geoff Field reports from CIBJO

# New recruits bring diversity to BJA Committee



Alex Bassalian



Joshua Kindness



Vanessa Dowell

The British Jewellers' Association has elected three new members to its National Committee. They are Vanessa Dowell, a director of the Cambridge retailer Catharine Jones, Joshua Kindness, sales manager at the Birmingham tool supplier Suttons Tools and Alex Bassalian a partner and director of the long-established family company Bass Premier, the Hatton Garden dealers in loose diamonds.

Speaking about their appointment, BJA Chairman Martyn Pugh said: "I am delighted to welcome these three talented individuals onto the Committee and know that their very diverse backgrounds and different areas of expertise within the jewellery supply chain will be of great benefit to the Association."

## Alex Bassalian

Bass Premier of Hatton Garden, the company of which new BJA national committee member Alex Bassalian is a partner/director, is a third generation family business dealing in loose diamonds. Bassalian who is a close colleague of ex-BJA chairman, Harry Levy, told JIB that he is keen to carry on Levy's work in fostering closer relationships between the diamond dealers working through the London Diamond Bourse and Club and the rest of the jewellery supply chain.

"I think the BJA is doing a great job but I would like to see it being even more inclusive – attracting new members both up and down the supply chain, belonging to the BJA should be something to which all decent companies aspire," he told JIB.

## Joshua Kindness

Joshua Kindness is sales manager at Sutton Tools in Birmingham. Suttons has been supplying tools to the jewellery trade for 125 years and has a rich heritage. Kindness has been with the company for the past ten years and says that he feels himself to be very much a part of the city's jewellery scene.

"Suttons is very much at the bottom of the jewellery food chain and as a result I feel that I can bring a rather different perspective to the BJA committee than say a manufacturer or a retailer," he told JIB.

Kindness is especially concerned about the loss of manufacturing capabilities in the UK and believes the industry needs to look at a bigger global picture and work more closely together to develop a niche British market that can survive international competition.

Student training is another area of interest for him and he will use his position at the BJA to lobby for greater support for those entering the industry.

## Vanessa Dowell

Vanessa Dowell took over Catherine Jones Jewellery in Cambridge from her mother, the founder, in 2003. Before joining her family company she was a BBC TV producer and also ran a team of political reporters at Westminster. During her work in the media she travelled widely in Europe, the Middle East and North America to cover wars and elections and having seen destitution, poverty and oppression at first hand, justice and ethics have long been motivating forces in her life. She therefore believes that the integrity of jewellery needs to be unimpeachable and is strongly committed to supporting the BJA in its position on conflict diamonds and dirty gold.

Dowell, who sees her election to the committee as 'a great honour', believes that one of the great privileges of the jewellery industry is to meet people at the most romantic times of their lives. "To wear a diamond of uncertain provenance is not the best fanfare for such a special jewel," she told JIB.

## Federation AGM

The British Jewellery Giftware and Finishing Federation, the umbrella organisation of which the BJA is a part is to hold its Annual General Meeting at 11.00 am on 8 June, 2007. This will be in the Banqueting Suite at the Council House in Birmingham. The keynote speaker is the Birmingham playwright and comedian, Malcolm Stent. The meeting will be followed by a sit down, three-course luncheon. Tickets cost £35 + VAT. To make your reservation contact Jodie Howard on 0121 236 2657

## Prize draw winner

All those who cast a vote to select the Kayman Award 'Buyers' Choice' were entered into a prize draw to win a course in 'Gemmology Basics' at the University of Central England this summer. The prize was won by Mr C.J. Sheppard, of Grains of Gold, Brighton, who did not in fact vote for Phoenix Design – placing his vote instead with Fameo which took second place both in both the Kayman Award itself and in the Buyers Choice category

## Kayman - Double Whammy

Phoenix Design, winner of the 2007 Kayman Award has scooped double honours by also winning the 'Buyers Choice' element of the competition. The company received the most votes from buyers visiting Spring Fair Birmingham who were invited to make their choice from the five winning and highly commended collections shown at the Fair.

## Football crazy?

The BJGF's annual five-a-side football tournament takes place in Shirley, West Midlands on 30 June, 2007 and jewellery and silverware companies are invited to enter a team. This is a family day out with bouncy castles, bungee runs and face painters to entertain the kids. Prices are £59 + VAT per team and all profits go to the Benevolent Society the industry's registered charity. To book call Ruth Stokes on 0121 237 1155.

## BJA backs RJUK Awards

The BJA will once again sponsor the Student of Year category in the RJUK Awards, which take place on 19 July at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London. The Award has been a launch pad for some extremely talented designers over the past few years, many of whom have gone on to found their own successful companies. "Fostering the next generation is an essential part of the BJA's remit and we are delighted to be able to put our name to this Award," says PR and marketing manager, Lindsey Straughton.



# Association backs new Talent

## Tamsin Howells wins BCTF Prize

The Oxfordshire jewellery designer, Tamsin Howells, has won the British Jewellers' Association Prize for the Best Jewellery Exhibitor at the British Craft Trade Fair, which took place in Harrogate from 15-17 April, 2007.

product which is completely different to anything you have seen before, but Tamsin has found an individualistic style that is both witty and commercial," says the BJA's Lindsey Straughton.

### Green credentials

The products include an innovative 'hinge' which allows the bangles and neckpieces to flex for ease of getting them off and on. The judges were also impressed by the product's green credentials and liked the idea of recycled clothing and paper being used to create such unusual accessories.

"I was completely and utterly shocked and thrilled to win, it was a wonderful surprise. I did really well at Harrogate with lots of new interest and this recognition undoubtedly helped," Tamsin told JIB.



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Howells who trained in the decorative arts at Nottingham Trent University was exhibiting for just the second time at the show. While studying for her degree she experimented with plastics and resins and developed a technique whereby she encapsulates period fabrics and recycled materials – including old ties – between layers of clear plastic to create highly distinctive bangles, neckpieces, brooches and earrings. Her strong contemporary style was praised by the judges. "It isn't very often that you come across a company producing a

## 'Fairguide' lawsuit succeeds

The BJA has advised its members that Construct Data, the Austrian based company behind the misleading 'Fairguide' contracts that are regularly sent out to exhibitors at UK and Europe jewellery trade fairs, has agreed to cancel its demands for money against companies in Switzerland, the EU and affiliate states.

The decision came in an out of court settlement in a case that has been closely followed by the British Association of Exhibition Organisers (AEO). AEO recommends that all those in dispute with Construct Data who feel deceived should refuse to pay. AEO further recommends that those affected should write to the company making it clear that they would not knowingly have entered into a contractual agreement. The letter should be copied to various Austrian government departments and full details of how to proceed are available from the AEO website [www.aeo.org.uk](http://www.aeo.org.uk) or [www.bja.org.uk](http://www.bja.org.uk)

## BJA graduate newsletter

The BJA is calling for further students and graduates to sign up for its informative, free, email newsletter. The newsletter which currently reaches over 300 readers, through their personal email addresses, is published at least quarterly and is an excellent way for people starting their careers in the industry to keep up to date with such things as trade fair dates, design competitions and career opportunities. To sign up visit the BJA homepage at [www.bja.org.uk](http://www.bja.org.uk). The newsletter also provides a good opportunity for members of the BJA who wish to communicate with the student body to contact an otherwise hard-to-reach audience. Companies that have opportunities for graduates or information on particular projects or services should contact Kim Yip at the BJA on 0121 237 1108 or [kim.yip@bja.org.uk](mailto:kim.yip@bja.org.uk)

## No decision on postal changes

There is still no firm response from the Postal Services regulator, Postcomm, with regard to the Royal Mail's intention to change its Special Delivery service. The proposed change which would provide a poorer service at a greater cost, promoted a huge, pan-industry outcry and the dossier of complaints was the largest Postcomm had ever seen to a statutory consultation.

The BJA understands that Postcomm has instructed the Royal Mail to look closely at the complaints (which can be viewed at [www.psc.gov.uk](http://www.psc.gov.uk)) and further confidential talks will be held in the middle of May.

In the meantime the BJA is working closely with some of its larger member companies to explore the services provided by suppliers such as G4 and Secure Mail Services so that it can advise its members on these should the changes be ratified.



## Editor dies

Anthony Levy, editor of the National Association of Goldsmiths' house magazine, 'The Jeweller' has died of a heart attack. He leaves behind a wife and three school age children. "Anthony was an ebullient character with a real sense of fun and he will be missed by his many friends and colleagues in the industry," BJA Chief Executive, Geoff Field told JIB.

While Michael Hoare, CEO of the NAG said, 'I will miss his irrespressible good humour and determination to squeeze the very last drop out of life.'

# Open House as JIIC celebrates ten years

On 4 and 5 July, 2007 to mark the tenth anniversary of its founding, the Jewellery Industry Innovation Centre (JIIC) in Birmingham will host a series of events designed to showcase its pioneering work in design, technology and research. Open to everyone in the jewellery and silverware industries, these will provide a unique insight into what the JIIC has achieved in the past and what it continues to offer the Sector's manufacturers and designers for the future

Since it was established in 1997 the JIIC, which is a part of the University of Central England in Birmingham, has worked with a wide variety of funding partners including Government Office of the West Midlands (ERDF, funding), Advantage West Midlands, the Learning and Skills Council, the West Midlands Manufacturing Advisory Service and Net Infinity to provide a wide range of services to the jewellery and high value goods industries. In the past five years alone it has delivered some 290 five day consultancies.

In many cases JIIC has collaborated closely with the British Jewellers' Association, with the later providing over £250,000 worth of match funding, namely office facilities for industrial liaison personnel and on-going support for a wide range of projects. To date, eighty, five-day consultancies have been completed with members of the

*World Habitat Award trophies by Regent Silversmiths*



Association who have benefited from JIIC's design expertise and the ready access it provides to new product development assistance and training and mentoring in the very latest production technologies. Indeed the Centre has been instrumental in introducing many firms to developments and innovations in CAD, rapid prototyping and in moving forward their production processes and product design to world class standards.

## Technical Exhibition

This will showcase the UK's main suppliers of 3D design software, rapid prototyping, laser marking and welding, rapid manufacturing, computer aided design and associated equipment industries. All the major firms in the field will be represented and experts will be on hand throughout the event to answer visitors questions.

## Product display

Another highlight for visitors will be an exhibition of innovative products manufactured by clients of the JIIC after they received new product development consultancies from the JIIC team. The exhibition will also include a selection of case studies which will detail how production was achieved and what technologies were used.

Exhibitors will include a real cross-section of the industry and products range from whistles and tableware, medals and trophies to fashion and fine jewellery. Amongst the BJA members featured silversmiths Broadway and Regent Silver, Prism –

wedding ring designs and jewellery producers Phoenix England (a division of F&L (UK) Ltd.) winners of the 2007 Kayman Award.

## Design for Technology

As part of the celebrations there will be a comprehensive programme of seminars from internationally renowned specialist speakers. The theme will be on how the latest developments in technology can influence design inspiration and innovation.

"Technology is progressing so swiftly that it is now beginning to change not only the way in which jewellery and silverware is made but also the way in which products are designed to be made. We are inviting manufacturers and designers to discover more about how to design for technology and to discover how by doing this they can achieve ground-breaking new products which it would have been impossible to make even as little as ten years' ago," says Gay Penfold, Director of the JIIC.



*Bespoke wedding and engagement rings from Prism Design*



*Trophies by Broadway Silver*

## Trends

To provide further inspiration for new product design the JIIC has invited the trend guru Paola De Luca, from the forecasting agency Trends Jewellery Forecasting to give a prediction seminar in Birmingham on 5 July. De Luca will look forward to 2008/9 and will provide an insight into the global fashion mega trends that will undoubtedly dictate the 'in' looks for jewellery in the future. Unlike the other events which are free, there will be a charge of £85 to attend this Seminar and early booking is recommended.

To find out more about what's on at the JIIC on 4 and 5 July, 2007 contact [jiic-info@uce.ac.uk](mailto:jiic-info@uce.ac.uk) for the Trend Seminar, Frank Cooper on 0121 331 5940 about technical events and seminars and either Ruth Edwards on 0121 248 4581 or Abigail Fleissig on 0121 248 4853 about the product exhibition.





# Sustainable Jewellery key theme for CIBJO

Jewellery leaders from throughout the world met in South Africa recently, the BJA's Geoff Field was amongst them. Here he reports for JIB on what took place.

The 2007 Congress of CIBJO, the World Jewellery Confederation, in Cape Town, South Africa, in March presented a fascinating opportunity to see the global jewellery industry at work.

Over the last five years CIBJO has graduated from an international discussion shop for trade associations and gemmological laboratories to an important political lobby group now fully recognised by the United Nations. From a membership in 2002 of just 18 national delegations, CIBJO has now grown to represent 41 national delegations and has also added to its ranks some 33 multinational companies and jewellery organisations as associate members, many of whom were in Cape Town. Much of this growth is due to the renewed energy imparted to CIBJO by its charismatic President, Gaetano Cavallieri. Despite its heightened profile, CIBJO still operates on a shoestring, so over the next 12 months, leading up to the next Congress in Dubai, considerable discussion will take place about the Confederation's structure and funding.

## Key address

This was the first congress to take place in Africa and it did not take long for global issues to surface. The key address was from the Deputy President of South Africa, Phumzile Mlambo Nguka, in which he made clear that his country is not content with supplying a large percentage of the world's diamonds, gold and platinum, whilst enjoying just one per cent of the global industry's turnover.

With over ten million 25 - 35 year olds currently unemployed, providing jobs and employment is a key priority for the South African government and it is determined to use all its powers to ensure that some of these jobs are in jewellery manufacturing.

The latest move is setting up a State Diamond Trader to acquire and distribute to South African cutters and traders around 10% of the rough diamonds mined in the country. De Beers is to provide technical and management skills and advice free of charge to this project for the next three years. The move is not seen as a panacea, however, as cutting and polishing prices in South Africa are reported to be four times dearer than in India.

Delivering a sustainable jewellery industry was the key theme of the Congress with Nicky Oppenheimer of De Beers calling for everyone to work together to create a win-win situation for South Africa. Other key industry figures spoke of the need for our industry to be a force for good in the countries that supply our raw materials. Sustainability was defined as "the need to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."

## Guide for retailers

After the keynote speeches the Congress moved into more specialist areas of work, including a progress report on the Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices. The Marketing and Education Commission launched a new guide for retailers on marketing diamond jewellery – prepared on behalf of CIBJO by the DTC with a strong UK influence. This is recommended reading for everyone in retail and can be viewed at [www.cibjo.org](http://www.cibjo.org)

The Diamond, Pearl and Coloured Stones Commissions all approved the latest editions of the Blue Books – the standard industry guidance on terminology, classification and disclosure. The new Precious Metals Commission announced its intention to

produce a Blue Book for Precious metals with detailed guidance on ISO standards for gold, silver, palladium and platinum, legal definitions, testing standards and marking regulations. This Herculean task has been taken on board by Michael Allchin of the Birmingham Assay Office with an international working party of CIBJO delegates.

UK delegates included Harry Levy for the BJA, Richard Peplow and John Henn for the NAG and Jack Ogden from Gem-A. Also present were representatives of UK based associate members including the Birmingham Assay Office, Diamond Trading Company, Platinum Guild International, and the Council for Responsible Jewellery Practices.

Further information about the Congress and about the work undertaken by CIBJO can be found at [www.cibjo.org](http://www.cibjo.org)



## CONNECT looks set for a sell out

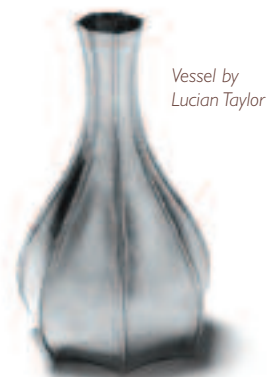
Ticket sales for CONNECT the conference being staged by the Association of British Designer Silversmiths (ABDS) at Aston University in Birmingham on 6/7 July 2007 are going well and the organisers are optimistic that the event which is open to everyone in the jewellery and creative industries will be a sell out. The aim of CONNECT is to bring together designers and manufacturers to discuss and debate issues in designing and making and to focus attention on the future of British design within the creative sectors, particularly silverware.

A star-studded line up of speakers includes the Italian design guru Matteo Alessi, the British designer Nick Munro and a number of eminent European professors. Amongst the presentations will be a case study by silversmith Lucian Taylor and Richmond Taylor, MD of the Birmingham manufacturer, Broadway Silver. This study, which has been partly funded by WM Arts Council, will describe how Taylor, whose highly innovative and usual 'inflated' flasks won the BJA's special 25th Anniversary Prize at the Chelsea Crafts Fair in 2006, has worked

with Broadway, a fourth generation family business, with patterns dating back to Victorian times, to create a new collection of contemporary silver items.

### Exhibition

As part of CONNECT all members of the ABDS have been presented with either a china bowl donated by Wedgwood or a glass donated by Tudor Crystal and a quantity of sterling silver - in a choice of either ordinary sterling silver or the new non-tarnish 'Brilliant' variety - from Cookson Precious metals. They have then been



Vessel by  
Lucian Taylor

asked to apply their imaginations and silversmithing skills to creating a unique piece on the theme of 'Eat and Drink'. Their creations will be presented together as an exhibition to be staged during the event. Full details of CONNECT and ticket information can be found at [www.connect.co.uk](http://www.connect.co.uk)

## 'Anniversary' Goldsmiths' Fair

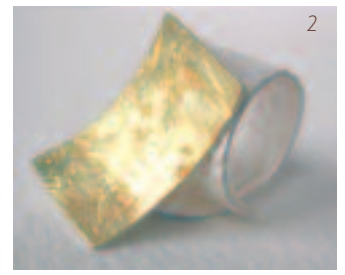
The 2007 Goldsmiths' Fair which celebrates its 25th Anniversary this September has extended its duration to two weeks.

Week one runs from 24 September to 30 September and week two from 2 October to 7 October. This extension means that the Fair will be able to showcase many more exhibitors with numbers rising from 90 to nearly double. Twenty-two, well established designers will exhibit for the duration of the Fair. Each week will provide a good cross section of designer jewellers and

silversmiths with a balance of well-established names and new faces. Ten recent graduates will be given a free stand at the show and a bursary by the Goldsmiths' Company to help launch their careers. There are several new names at the show including Disa Allsopp, Angie Boothroyd, Marianne Anderson, Kelvin Birk, Elizabeth Bone and Abigail Brown.



1. 18ct white gold ring with hammered texture and set with a chequered cut tourmaline by Steve Lomas
2. Heavily textured organic wrap shaped ring in silver and 18ct gold by Elaine Cox
3. Feather petal layered brooch in silver with 18ct gold by designer maker Donna Barry



## Goldsmiths' Craft and Design Awards

The Goldsmiths' Crafts and Design Council Awards (GC&DC) drew some 775 entries this year with 'Fashion/Gallery Jewellery', in which Wendy-Sarah Pacey received a Gold Award, proving a particularly popular category.

The two top awards – 'The Jacques Cartier Memorial' and 'The Goldsmiths' Award' went respectively to Gillie Hoyte Byrom for a stunning enamel of Henry VIII and Charlotte de Syllas for an exquisitely carved tourmaline brooch. Byrom also

scooped the Best Senior award while 'Best Junior' prize went to RCA student Tomasz Donocik for his, gold-plated silver bangle with leather and blue sapphires.

The Awards had a number of new industry sponsors with QVC sponsoring a Fine Jewellery Design Award (won by Natalie Spencer of UCCA for her jewelled hair extensions), and International Jewellery London sponsoring a Fashion Jewellery Design Award won by Kirstie Farquhar, also of UCCA. The IBB Commercial Jewellery

Design Award for 'themes that will be fashionable in 2007/8' was won by Moira Warren of Duncan of Jordanstone College of Art for her Global Warming Brooch Pin.

### 100th anniversary

2008 sees the 100th anniversary of the GC&DC. The Council will be exhibiting at IJL and entry forms for next year's Awards will be available from their stand. The closing date for entries will be mid-January 2008. For further information [www.craftanddesigncouncil.org.uk](http://www.craftanddesigncouncil.org.uk)

## Rising Stars

The Goldsmiths' Company's 2007 summer exhibition features jewellery and silverware from 19 up and coming designers. Those featured have been chosen by the contemporary applied arts curator and journalist, Janice Blackburn to describe, as she puts it, 'the diversity and innovation of jewellers and silversmiths working the UK today'. Amongst those featured are David Goodwin, Maika Dahl, Disa Allsopp, Zoe Arnold, Wayne Meeten and Tomasz Donocik. The Exhibition opens on 1 June and runs until 14 July, 2007.

## IN BRIEF

## New event director at IJL

Chris Hartley has joined the International Jewellery London team as 'Event Director'. He has twenty years in the events industry and show organisers Reed Exhibitions believe he will be a valuable resource in steering the on-going development of the show.

Changes for the 2007 event (2-5 September at Earls Court) include a streamlined new layout incorporating an impressive wide Boulevard running the length of the exhibition, a central bar, increased meeting points and more clearly defined product zones. Further initiatives are the appointment of Jan Springer as show consultant, visitor incentives, focus groups and a comprehensive seminar programme. The 2007 Online Jewellery Showcase is already operating on [www.londonjewellery.com](http://www.londonjewellery.com)



### Books from Cookson

'Read All About It' is the latest offer from Cookson. This 28 page brochure features reference books sold by the company. These include 'how to' guides and detailed accounts of special topics such as beading, silversmithing and enamelling. Visit [www.cooksongold.com](http://www.cooksongold.com) or telephone 08451001122 for a copy.

### Tanzanite grading from Anchorcert

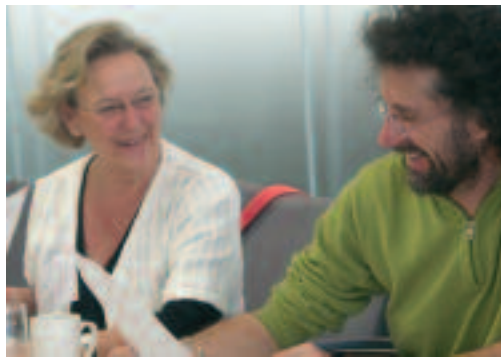
Anchorcert, the certification laboratory at Birmingham Assay Office, has launched a system for grading tanzanite. The system, developed by Anchorcert's own gemmologist, Anu Manchanda, splits stones into four colour classifications depending upon the intensity of the colour - whether this is violet or blue. 'A' stands for pale and 'AAAA' for vivid. Clarity grades are in line with normal GIA coloured stone grading. The service is supported by an A4 'Characteristics Showcard' for use in store. Contact 0121 236 6951.

## DIA winners

The eight winners of the platinum based Design Innovation Award (DIA) 2007, sponsored by Lonmin, have been announced. The Award is now in its 5th year and the organisers have reported a strong, high-quality entry.

There are two parts to the competition one for 'established designers' with more than five years experience and one for 'emerging designers' with less than five years experience. The winners in the Established Designers category are John Bradley, Georgio Gerakio, Jig Pattni, Tom Rucker and Mark Veevers and in the Emerging Designers category - Yvonne Barrett, Yu Lan Burkmar and Tiia Mannisto.

The judges were designer Stephen Webster, silversmith and BJA Chairman, Martyn Pugh, Albert Jamieson from Lonmin, Lesley Craze of Lesley Craze Gallery, Ruth Donaldson from The Platinum Guild International, Nick Fitch of Nicholas James, Jo Trivedi from Johnson Matthey, Chris Hartley from



BJA chairman Martyn Pugh and Lesley Craze of the Lesley Craze Gallery judge the Design Innovation Award for platinum.

International Jewellery London (IJL), Marie Dill, Deputy Editor of Retail Jeweller and Nicole Cooper from Blue Inc, organisers of the Design Innovation Award and publisher of the Platinum Collection.

The winning designs will be revealed in September when they will be displayed on the Platinum Stand at International Jewellery.

### QEST helps craftsmen

The Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust (QEST) charity helps craftsmen and women to excel in their careers. Scholarships - which are open to craftspeople of all types and ages - are awarded to fund further study, training and practical experience for those who want to improve their trade or craft skills. To apply you must live in the UK and the Trustees are looking for well thought out proposals which will contribute to the excellence of modern British craft. Applications close on 8 June, 2007 see [www.qest.org.uk](http://www.qest.org.uk)

### Awards for training

The educational foundation 'Edge' runs an annual award with the Sunday Telegraph, for employers offering quality training and practical learning opportunities to young people aged 14-25. The Awards are free to enter and bring the prospect of real cash benefits and significant press coverage for the winners. Alasdair Craig of Cellini jewellers in Cambridge who was one of last year's winners received £7,000 to invest in his own training and development. The closing date for entries is 29 June. See [www.edgeawards.co.uk](http://www.edgeawards.co.uk)

### Hand engravers' website

The Hand Engravers' Association of Great Britain has launched a website as a resource for members to help draw their work to the attention of potential customers. Each member of the Association will eventually have their own page on the site with full details of their work and notes about their particular specialities. Visit [www.handengravers.co.uk](http://www.handengravers.co.uk) for further information.

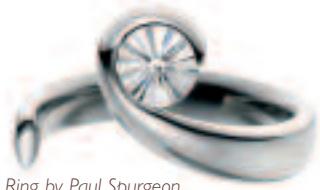
## Collections aims at 'Best of the Best'

'Collections' the new, dedicated, design-led jewellery show, which launches as a stand alone show alongside to Top Drawer Spring upstairs at Earls Court One, 13-15 January 2008, is reporting strong stand sales with Micahel DeNardo, James Newman, Benjamin James and Mark Milton amongst the latest recruits.

Paul Spurgeon, Johnny Rocket and Goodman Morris are also committed to the show.

"Our whole proposition is focused on offering a carefully edited selection of design-led jewellery, watches and silver design. Our exhibitors, who will include everyone from small designers through to well recognised market brands will be screened on that basis," says show director, Anna Wales. To ensure consistency Collections has appointed jewellery guru Janet Fitch as 'Show Consultant'.

"This is the first show of the year and is a real opportunity for design-led jewellery companies to reach strongly targeted independent jewellery retailers and boutiques as well as to benefit from crossover buying with the 10,000 strong audience for Top Drawer Spring," says Wales. Delivering a 'good looking show' is top of Collection's agenda and it has organised a range of attractive, cost-effective stand design packages. Contact Anna Wales on 0207 370 8189 or email [anna.wales@clarionevents.com](mailto:anna.wales@clarionevents.com)



Ring by Paul Spurgeon