

Gem & Jewellery News

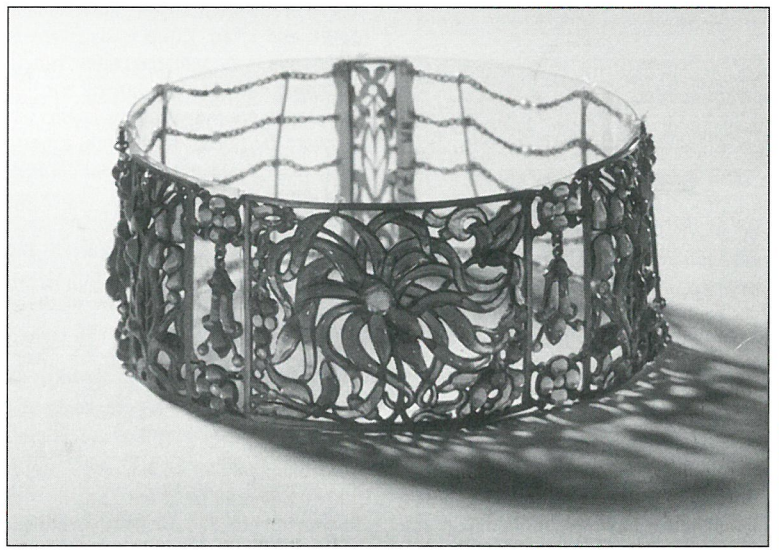
Precious gems – jewellery from eight centuries

Judy Rudoe reviews the exhibition at the Nationalmuseum, Stockholm, open until 15 October

This exhibition of over 300 items of jewellery and related portraits is an astonishing assemblage of the finest jewels made in Europe and America from the 14th to the 20th century.

Drawn from royal, public and private collections worldwide it contains the familiar and the unfamiliar, from Castellani and Cartier to breathtaking courtly jewels which have never been exhibited before: if one example were to represent the many revelations that this show contains, it would be Queen Desideria's ruby and diamond *parure* with its exquisite vine-wreath tiara, purchased in Paris by Karl XIV of Sweden for his wife to wear at the Coronation of Napoleon in 1804. It was handed down through the Swedish and Danish Royal families and is now owned by Queen Ingrid of Denmark.

The exhibition is arranged more or less chronologically with some 30 carefully selected portraits interspersed to show how such jewels were worn. But what makes this exhibition so intriguing is the number of instances where the very jewel shown in the portrait is exhibited alongside. A late 16th-century pendant in the form of a letter 'C' on its original flat-link chain would be rare itself, but next door is a portrait of Councillor Gustaf Banér wearing what



is unquestionably this jewel. It was a betrothal gift from his wife Christina, hence the letter 'C', whom he married in 1581. The pendant is from the Nordiska Museet in Stockholm, the portrait from Uppsala University. This is exceptional; the other examples of jewel and portrait date from the 19th century. From the Hallwyska Museum in Stockholm, comes a hollow-stamped gold *demi-parure* of brooches and earrings in a typical

*Dog-collar necklace with plique-à-jour enamel executed in relief, a rare and hitherto unpublished example of the work of Comte Suau de la Croix, Paris, c. 1900, exhibited in **Precious gems – jewellery from eight centuries.***

Nationalmuseum, Stockholm, inv. nm 17/1969

1850s design of interlaced rings and ribbons, but with it is a portrait of the owner, mother of the Duchess of Hallwyl, wearing the same jewels and

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Editorial

A time for unity in the trade

The jewellery trade has come under attack on the sale of the so-called 'conflict' diamonds. These are diamonds that originate from the conflict areas in Africa, originally in Angola but lately more those coming out of Sierra Leone.

Rebels have captured the diamond fields in these areas and are using the sale of diamonds to fund their civil war. As a consequence the civilians in these areas are attacked, maimed, tortured and killed. If the trade in these diamonds is stopped the rebels will be defeated and the civil war will end.

These are the arguments being put forward by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) such as Global Witness and Amnesty International. The press and the media have taken up this story, the United Nations are involved and governments are now taking action. The aim is to stop the flow of these illicit diamonds and if the trade cannot distinguish these diamonds from others not so tainted, then some advocate the whole diamond trade should be stopped. Stars and some church leaders are beginning to advocate a boycott and pictures of children with amputated limbs illustrating article after article on diamonds in the press is beginning to have an effect on the buying public. Some retailers are now being questioned on this matter by their customers and many do not know how to handle this situation.

There is little leadership coming from the trade on this matter. Many trade leaders have always advocated silence and showing no reaction, postulating that the problem will go away if left alone. They feel any talk and reaction will confuse and stop the public from buying jewellery. With this head-in-the-sand attitude problems do go away, but they are unaware that very often some section of the trade

has tackled the problem and it is this that has made it go away, not their inaction.

The diamond trade realized that this was a problem that would not go away and at the recent Diamond Congress in Antwerp the International Diamond Manufacturers' Association (IDMA) and the World Federation of Diamond Bourses (WFDB) invited the leaders of the NGO's, United Nations and governments to attend. The Congress passed resolutions and advocated ways to prevent the sales of such diamonds. De Beers have also been in the forefront of this debate and can now reassure the world that none of their diamonds comes from these conflict areas. Everyone left the Diamond Congress happy and many think that the problem has now been solved.

Unfortunately there is no mechanism in the trade where this information can be passed down the trade and advice given to those along the chain of production as to how they should react. Diamond handlers forget that if the retailer cannot sell diamonds then very soon their own trade will come to a halt. Fortunately we in this country have our own GAGTL Trade Liaison Committee and the industry has recently set up the Jewellery Industry Consortium (JIC) which does bring different sections of our trade together.

There are many problems now besetting our trade and these groups will become much more important. It is hoped that other countries will now form such groups and with an ever shrinking world of commerce and communication somehow international bodies such as CIBJO will be the vehicle whereby the different sections of the trade will help each other for the jewellery industry to flourish worldwide.

Harry Levy

Members of the GAGTL wishing to raise issues concerning GAGTL activities are reminded that they may contact the Chairman of the Members' Council, Mr Colin Winter, c/o the GAGTL, 27 Greville Street, London EC1N 8TN.

Around the Trade

Changes in the diamond trade

The diamond trade permeates almost all sections of the jewellery trade. Most jewellers at some time or other will sell a piece which contains diamonds, for others it is the mainstay of their business.

Should events affect the sales of diamond these effects could spread like wildfire if they are not understood and controlled. Most retail jewellers have little knowledge of the chain of distribution of diamonds, whilst most of those who produce diamonds have probably never entered a jewellery shop in their entire working life.

There is not one but two swords of Damocles hanging over the trade at present. One openly hostile directed at the end of the distribution chain, the other ostensibly not malevolent but directed at the beginning of the chain. Pressure groups, concerned by their perception of the parts that diamonds are playing in the wars in Africa, are demanding the cessation of sales of diamonds coming out of the conflict areas in Africa, and if the trade cannot distinguish such diamonds from those not so tainted, then there should be a ban on the sale of *all* diamonds. At the other end De Beers has announced that it wishes to become the 'supplier of choice' rather than attempt to maintain complete control over the distribution of diamond.

Changing role

The timing of De Beers' announcement is unfortunate, in that the pressure groups are demanding far greater control in the distribution of rough diamonds, and the body with the greatest control over such stones is now saying in effect that the market has changed and this kind of control is no longer possible. The De Beers' plans for the change in their role of the diamond trade were probably conceived long before we had the problem of conflict diamonds, and they will be the first to say that they are still very much involved in driving these conflict diamonds out of the trade. Let us try to untangle these two problems and look first at the conflict diamond issue.

There is still a large section of the trade that is scared to discuss any problems affecting the diamond trade. They claim that simple silence on the trade's part will solve all such problems. It is almost impossible to disprove such a thesis, but history is littered with the demise of groups who have adopted such attitudes. So with due deference to such dogmatic attitudes let us continue.

Cruelty

How the notion of conflict diamonds first came about is difficult to fathom now, but it started in Angola when rebels got hold of alluvial diamonds and found that they could sell these on the world markets and thus raise money with which to purchase other things. At present the attention is drawn towards Sierra Leone, where the acquisition of diamonds by rebels

'The trade has become somewhat punch-drunk from the battery of blows it is getting from all directions.'

is accompanied by unspeakable cruelty towards the local population with the most visible effect being the amputation of limbs of young children. The argument, simply put, is: stop the rebels from selling these diamonds which they have acquired and their ability to fight will cease. Thus will end the wars and the cruelty and the amputations.

The arguments on conflict diamonds have been most ably put by groups such as Global Witness and Amnesty International. Collectively they are known as Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and they have the ears of the press and international media as well as powerful politicians and governments. They were invited to the recent Diamond Congress in Antwerp. The leaders are mostly intelligent, sensitive people genuinely concerned by the evils in the world. They, rightly, brought the problem of conflict diamonds to the attention of the world and in discussions at the Congress they seemed willing to allow the trade

to stop the flow of such diamonds. It is hard to imagine that every NGO leader acts responsibly; there must be an element in their midst who wants to see change in society at any cost. Hopefully the responsible members will control the unruly elements and thus not destroy everything that they touch, in the same way that the diamond trade is trying to control its members and name and shame those that still want to line their own pockets no matter at what cost to others.

Analogy with fur trade

The trade has become somewhat punch-drunk from the battery of blows it is getting from all directions. It is totally on the defensive and is accepting every criticism directed at it. But it can defend itself. What has stirred it into taking the conflict diamond issue so seriously is the analogy with the fur trade. There pressure groups persuaded the public to stop buying real furs and today there is almost no fur trade. Ambassador Robert Fowler, who was at the

Diamond Congress representing the United Nations Sanctions Committee, is a Canadian and was a Minister in the Canadian government when the agitation against the use of real furs started. He said that in spite of representation by the Canadians at all levels the boycott against furs was achieved and this caused great hardship to the native Canadian Indians, who were the main trappers. Their livelihood has never been fully restored even to this day.

Analogies are good when they are accurate. In this case the analogy with the diamond trade is not really correct, other than the harm done to a particular trade if the public stop buying the products of that trade. In the case of the fur trade every pelt obtained involves the killing of an animal, so on those grounds the trade can never become acceptable. In the case of diamonds it is only a small fraction of diamonds that are conflict ones and once the conflicts are over those diamonds will again become acceptable. ▶

Individuality v. calibration

Notes from a Stone Dealer

I know very little about antique jewellery but often when I am shown a piece that I consider beautiful I am struck by the coloured stones in it.

First, someone has designed the piece so that they are an intrinsic part of the design, not an interchangeable one, and second it was an overall effect the jeweller was trying to create for adornment. Small marks in the stones, different shapes etc. did not seem to bother them and the result was both individual and very beautiful – surely Lalique was the master of this.

Obviously, we are always trying to make things better and so we should, but sometimes it seems we lose the overall picture. The demand that the stones should be perfectly proportioned and sized to an incredible accuracy seems to increase annually and is not always compatible with their source. Most coloured stones are still hand-cut, especially at the cheaper end in countries such as India and China. They are then sometimes transported to countries where sophisticated machines are used to set the stones, so we get comments such as 'Please make sure they are only 4.3 mm deep as they are clipped into the setting from behind!' Another classic comment is 'I'm making this in a 4 mm square sapphire – why can't you supply it in ruby and emerald at a reasonable price?'

This leads on to another issue. As an industry we are so used to being incredibly secretive that again we sometimes forget why. When designing a new piece of jewellery, what harm is there in talking to someone

who supplies one of the components? There is no need to show the design, which quite correctly should be kept secret, but just to discuss the availability of the stones would help prevent difficulty afterwards. Communication is so important, albeit selective communication in order to get satisfactory results.

On this note, have you seen the wonderful orange spessartine garnet from Nigeria yet? It is priced so much more reasonably than its Namibian cousin, it is cutting into the most wonderful range of bright orange stones, is very clean and available in quite large sizes. Also, it seems tsavorite is back in the market again and more reasonably priced. There continues to be a good supply of the new fancy-coloured sapphires from Madagascar which look wonderful when mixed. These can be used together to make individual styles adding to the designers' skills, which leads me back to my point about communication.

Sometimes travelling becomes tiring and, when goods are in short supply and the customer's demand too specific to fulfil in practice, depressing, but then something happens to cheer one up. My colleague, tired, after a long flight, was met at an airport by a hotel taxi, interested as to what time of day sunrise was in this particular part of the world he asked, to be told, 'Normally, sunrise is at 7 o'clock, but today it is a little late!' Luckily there always seems to be something to make you smile.

Anon of Hatton Garden

Naming and shaming

At present the world's attention is focused on Sierra Leone; governments are trying to put into place sanction resolutions, and the diamond industry has agreed to controls on rough coming out of this area with threats of expulsions and naming and shaming of traders who knowingly peddle such stones. De Beers now gives guarantees that all its boxes sold at the Sights are free from conflict stones. The prospects of an effective boycott of stones coming out of Sierra Leone has already caused the sales of rough diamonds coming from adjoining countries to increase dramatically. Thus there is talk now of controlling diamonds coming out of Liberia, the Congo, Niger and other diamond exporting countries near to Sierra Leone.

There is little chance of open debate on this issue. The press seems not to want to publish letters and articles contradicting their sensational reports, and radio and TV seems to have made no effort to get the views of trade leaders. The trade is faced with a two-edged sword – if it admits to the fact that it cannot distinguish the origin of polished stones all diamonds become suspect, if it says it can make a distinction then to certify every stone to be conflict-free becomes an impossible task. Either way the simplest solution is to stop the sale of all diamonds and this is the catastrophe the trade must avoid.

Success story

At the Diamond Congress Mr K. Moshashane of the Government of Botswana gave a most moving talk on the effects that a general boycott of all diamonds would have on their economy. Botswana has been one of the countries which, with the help of De Beers, has used the resources of its diamond sales for the benefit of its citizens. It has been able to build an infrastructure in which other industries can now flourish and has become one of the success stories of Africa. It is able to offer higher education and skills to its young citizens with the prospects of work when they graduate. A general boycott could endanger all this progress.

The total amount of rough diamonds coming from the conflict areas is at most 6 per cent of the total world production, and the stones coming from

◀ Another analogy is that with the ivory trade. It is interesting to note that in this case, although harm and death is done to every elephant that has its tusks removed, the spin is to protect the species, not individual elephants. The boycott has put people out of work in the ivory trade, but periodically the culling of elephants becomes necessary.

The bulk of the conflict diamonds were those coming out of Angola; there the rebels became part of the legitimate government at one stage, but at present are again rejected. There are United Nations sanctions in place in line with Resolution 11732, and the control on rough diamonds coming out of Angola is very tight.

Sierra Leone are a fraction of this. No one seems to be advocating a ban on the sales of arms into the conflict areas. It should be easier to stop a fifty tonne tank going into the country than to stop a few grams of diamonds coming out. Sierra Leone has other natural resources than diamonds; it has gold and platinum as well as oil. These can all fall into rebel hands and the revenue from them used to prolong the war.

Trading must not stop

We are unfamiliar with many of the details of the politics of Africa: in many cases the rebels have ended up as the legitimate governments. It seems to be wrong, both morally and economically, to stop the whole diamond trade until the conflicts in Africa are sorted out. Such a boycott would bring untold misery to many in Africa, India and other economies who have benefited from the diamond industry and have nothing to do with conflict stones. The diamond trade will co-operate with the rest of the world to prevent the rebels selling their diamonds, but the rest of the world must also help and not put the blame solely on diamonds.

The retailer must ensure that his supplier is selling him conflict-free diamonds. He must know that only a small fraction of diamonds could be conflict ones, and that these are being rapidly eliminated from the legitimate diamond trade. Diamonds are not the only cause of conflict in Africa, and it is highly unlikely that a ban on diamond sales will stop the wars and the cruelties that seem to go with them.

De Beers' brand

No one seems to know exactly how the changes in De Beers will affect the diamond trade. We are told that the Central Selling Organization (CSO) will no longer be the trading arm of De Beers; it will be replaced by the Diamond Trading Company (DTC). There is a new logo to signify the De Beers brand and the name De Beers will be used exclusively with their logo. The aim of the re-organization seems to be to have retailers selling jewellery under a De Beers brand.

De Beers is not going into the retail business, nor is it going to manufacture jewellery. How a piece of jewellery will acquire a De Beers brand has still not

been fully explained. Presumably this will be easy with larger stones which will have the De Beers brand on the stone itself. Again De Beers says it is not going into the polishing side of diamonds: it will brand stones, on a limited basis, from some of its sight holders who submit stones which they have polished from the rough in their sight boxes. If it needs polished goods it will buy these from the market.

One imagines that for a piece of jewellery to have a De Beers brand, all the diamonds must come from rough sold by the DTC. How the provenance of the diamonds in such jewellery is established is not yet explained.

Advertising

De Beers claims that its share of the rough diamond trade is now about 60 per cent. It will no longer buy surplus diamonds to maintain the stability of diamond prices, but will buy stones to satisfy its own requirements. It will no longer have such a large budget to advertise diamonds, it will expect its sight holders and those who sell its branded jewellery to do some advertising. Its own surveys have shown that those who sell branded luxury goods spend about 10 per cent of their revenue on advertising – the diamond trade has been spending only about 1 per cent. In order to challenge the other sellers of luxury goods far more money will have to be put into advertising.

De Beers say that they will not sell synthetic stones or stones treated in any way, other than normal cutting and polishing. Thus jewellery selling under their brand will be guaranteed not to be heat-treated, irradiated, lasered or fissure-filled. And most important of all, there will be no conflict diamonds in their branded goods.

This must create a demand for their stones and the market is wondering what will happen to jewellery that will not have the De Beers' logo. Some predict that jewellery sales, other than those of De Beers, will go down, some say this will cut out many middle traders in order to ensure the provenance of their stones, while many say that we will have a two-tier system in the trade.

The comparison we have in the trade is with watches. There are the

expensive exclusive brands, and the producers of such items sell them only through selected outlets. One assumes that this is what De Beers are aiming at.

As I have said before in this column, we live in changing times. Those who cannot adapt will fall by the wayside, those that do will survive until the next major changes. *Harry Levy*

Beware of 'Chinese amber' carvings

At one of the recent large antique fairs in London I came across a '19th-century amber brush pot' on sale for almost £500.

Close inspection set warning bells ringing. The colour was convincing but the feel was wrong and the dragon carving was crudely executed. Viewed with a loupe it was possible to discern an assortment of inclusions, some of which were square lumps of honey-coloured material containing pin-pricks of red pigment, others looking suspiciously like pieces of new wood.

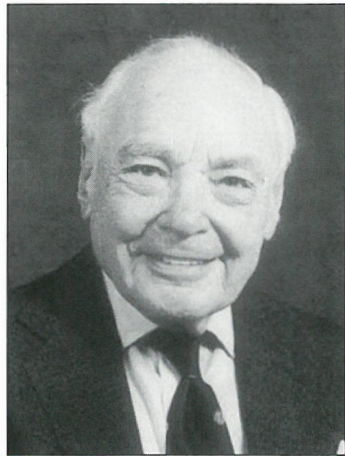
The dealer withdrew the item from display immediately and we later tested it by immersing it in a bucket of saturated salt water where it sank like a stone, proving that it was not natural amber but probably some sort of plastic composite. The dealer sent the pot back to the auctioneers from whom he had bought it and received a full refund.

A few days later it was offered in the auctioneers' General Auction under the simple description 'A brush pot' and fetched a price of £270, which was five times my bid at what I considered a reasonable price for a very interesting fake. Should the new purchaser be unaware of the fact that the pot is not amber and later realize and regret his mistake, he will, unfortunately for him, have no recourse at all.

Maggie Campbell-Pedersen

Harry Oppenheimer

It is with sadness that we report the death on 19 August of Harry Oppenheimer, the ex-chairman of De Beers and extracts from a biography are reprinted below.



Harry Oppenheimer served as chairman of De Beers for 27 years until 1984 and was a director of the group for 60 years until his retirement in December 1994. One of the world's leading and most respected businessmen, he had retired from Anglo American Corporation in 1984, of which he was chairman for 25 years.

Harry Frederick Oppenheimer was born on 28 October 1908, in the South African diamond city of Kimberley. He began his education in South Africa before attending Charterhouse School in England and Christ Church, Oxford, graduating in 1931 with a degree in politics, philosophy and economics. He returned to Johannesburg to work for Anglo American Corporation, the mining house his father had founded in 1917, and subsequently, upon the death of his father in 1957, he became chairman of both Anglo and De Beers.

During the 1950s, Harry Oppenheimer was also actively immersed in politics, having been elected Member of Parliament for Kimberley in 1948. His speeches in the House were distinguished by the clarity and persuasiveness of their argument and he established himself as a

respected opposition spokesman on economics, finance and constitutional affairs. However, the frustration of his years in perpetual opposition did not sit easily on his shoulders, and when he succeeded his father as chairman in 1957 he resigned his parliamentary seat, not only out of a sense of duty to his new business responsibilities, but also in the hope that his new role might allow him more influence in expounding his beliefs. He said at the time, 'If you are running a big company in what is still a comparatively small country, you find yourself in the grey area where politics and business mix, and I think that on certain politically sensitive matters, such as the equality of black and white labour, businessmen have to speak out.' Which is what he did for most of his life.

It was as the leader of the international diamond industry that Harry Oppenheimer became a world-renowned figure. As the chairman of

De Beers, he steered the industry through the cyclical upheavals of booms and recessions with a combination of foresight, integrity and sound judgement. During this time he oversaw the transformation of the diamond industry with the development of diamond mines in South Africa, Botswana and Namibia.

A student of the basic humanities, he never lost the urge to improve the pay and conditions of his workforce, while echoing his father's sentiments that the aim of his companies was to make profits for its shareholders, but to do so in such a way as to make a real and permanent contribution to the welfare of the countries in which they operate.

Harry Oppenheimer leaves his wife Bridget, son Nicky, who is the chairman of De Beers, daughter Mary, five grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Samuel Beizer

As founder and director of the jewellery department at the Fashion Institute of Technology (FIT) in New York for over twenty years, Samuel Beizer's influence on a whole generation of students was enormous.

So well trained were they, in jewellery history, techniques and design, that they now work for or own every jewellery company in New York, from Buccellati to Harry Winston. Many of them remained in contact with him and he continued to advise and encourage them for years after they graduated. He was a phenomenal teacher. Each lecture was an inspiring performance, exploiting his wide-ranging interests and his encyclopaedic knowledge: when discussing gold prices he began with what gold could buy in Roman times; when discussing speculation he talked about the price of tulips in the 17th century. For many years his closing lecture was a list of predictions for jewellery over the next five or ten years. It made the careers of many of his students because they used his forecasts in their jobs and he was seldom wrong.

Samuel Beizer, who died of cancer aged 68 in April this year, was born into a Belgian jewellery family in 1931. His father was a distinguished fine jeweller in Brussels before the war, with a house and workshop on the Grand Place. The family settled in New York around 1941. After an apprenticeship with his father, Samuel worked for Kurt



Wayne, a well-known fine jeweller, and then opened his own shop. His experience of the jewellery industry led to his role as consultant to governments worldwide – Brazil, Portugal, Greece, Israel – evaluating their jewellery industries and making recommendations for improvement, both on the technical side and in design and marketing. He worked with major designers such as Tina Chow, Geoffrey Beane, Donna Karan, Mary McFadden and Halston to create marketable collections or to provide technical assistance in manufacturing. His most recent work in this field was with Elsa Peretti at Tiffany. Fascinated by the intricacy and suppleness of the fine mesh evening bags of the 1920s, he began to collect them to work out how it was done. This led to his revival of mesh production in gold and silver which gave Peretti an entirely new medium for jewellery and one that has been exclusively hers to this day. The

necklaces take the form of a mesh scarf which knots at the front to lie smoothly, held in place by its own weight. The bracelets are woven as a continuous band with no seam or fastening, just large enough to slide over the hand, but with a subtle twist in the band to prevent them sliding off.

His historical interests found an outlet in advising the highly successful reproduction jewellery company, DVB Alva, run by his wife, Laurel, a former student, whom he married in 1982. In recent years he had been lecturing for the Bard Graduate Center for the Decorative Arts in New York. Since retiring from FIT last year he had begun to study for a PhD in art history and was planning to write his doctoral thesis on the jewels depicted in the borders of medieval and renaissance manuscripts. The Society of Jewellery Historians had invited him to lecture on this subject at the 2001 AGM next January.

His weekends were spent at the idyllic Long Island house which he and Laurel had bought at Sag Harbour, where his annual croquet matches were an event not to be missed. His kindness and hospitality not only to his students but to jewellery historians and enthusiasts around the world were legendary. His engaging personality is summed up by an incident which his wife remembers when she was a student at FIT. At the next bench was an unhappy overweight 19-year-old girl. She was making a complete mess of her ring project, fully aware that her mother was out in the hall watching her every move. Samuel sat down with her and asked who she was making the ring for and she said she was making it for her mother (the horror in the hallway). He suggested that if she made it for herself she might do a better job.

Judy Rudoe and Benjamin Zucker

Tax-efficient subscriptions

A painless invitation to SJH members to increase the value of the subscription by 28%

As a charity, the Society of Jewellery Historians is able to recover the tax its UK members pay on donations – this includes the annual subscription.

The underlying idea is that the money concerned is no longer your income but the charity's income. So it is taken right out of your income tax assessment and the Society can recover the tax you have paid. We can only recover the standard rate, down to 22%; but if you pay tax at the higher rate, you would have paid tax at 40%, so there is a net benefit to you of the other 18%.

The Society has for many years tried to recover this tax by way of a Deed of Covenant. Many people found the four years a daunting threshold as well as the need to have the documents witnessed and provide difficult to remember personal tax details.

New arrangements

Since the start of the new tax year, new arrangements apply for the recovery of income tax on gifts to charities, which are more flexible and

much simpler to set up. Under the new arrangements all that is required is for a member to request formally that they wish the SJH to reclaim the tax on their subscription.

The formalities, which do not seem onerous, are that the member completes on the declaration their full name and address including postal code. There is no need for extended commitment, witnesses or tax details.

Keeping the taxman happy

There is one particular constraint on all members: you must actually pay enough UK tax (income or capital gains) to cover the refund – a bit under one third of your subscription. Therefore it is unlikely we can recover tax on the subscriptions of overseas members or those with income of less than £5,000 a year.

Tax man only pays once

Some members may be including the Society subscription in their tax-deductible expenses. It goes without saying that the Inland Revenue will not allow a double benefit and so the

Society cannot recover the tax element of these members' subscription.

What happens next

To keep matters as simple as possible, we are going to combine the declaration with the renewal form. We will ask members to complete the form, which will request the member to:

- give their full name
- add their address including post code
- tick a box indicating they wish the Society to recover the tax
- sign the form

Bankers orders and existing covenants

It would be helpful for those members who pay by standing order, who would not normally use the renewal form, to complete the declaration and send it to the Membership Secretary. Existing Deeds of Covenants are still valid. However as the new declaration is easier to administer, we would welcome members moving from covenants to the new arrangements.

Practically a century for gem education

Ian Mercer looks at the educational innovations as we enter the 21st century

This new century is already proving to be an exciting time for the GA Education team, even as we head towards the first full century of formal gemmology education and the world's original Diploma exam leading to the FGA.

The undoubted usefulness of the GA's 'real-life' practical gemmology approach to training (see Tina Notaro's article on p.58 for proof in action!) is being enhanced by the introduction of major additions to the GA's existing practical-intensive education system.

Both Gemmology and Gem Diamond are set to increase their appeal to yet wider audiences world-

wide. The GA's training has always attracted both trade and non-trade students, often in almost equal proportion. Our Gem Tutorial Centre and the Members' Wednesday Practical Evening (see Michael O'Donoghue's write-up on p.57), the Conference, the Idar-Oberstein Trip and the one- and two-day Tutorials, as well as our major gem and diamond courses, all bear this out. That is why GA Education remains so broadly-based. That will not change. Nor will the idea that you need to know how to *look* at gems and to know how to rapidly report what you see in writing.

New diamond manual

Current enhancements start with the introduction of brand-new practical guides. Hot off the press, our brand-new *Diamond Practical Manual* will form part of two courses, the existing Gem Diamond Diploma (leading to DGA Membership) and the new Diamond Practical Certificate course (see details below). A modified diamond exam – including treated diamonds, imitations and rough diamonds as before – will be set for both of these courses.

The new system will now build-up as the Education Office brings the Certificate and Diploma on stream with existing and new Allied Teaching Centres.

Development of course notes

All this is not enough excitement for the dedicated Education team in London, however. The Development Department (Lorne) has been researching and organizing the renewal of the FGA and DGA theory course notes at the same time, with the help of staff, tutors, examiners and some highly-professional members. The new Gem Diamond Diploma course notes are already in draft form for printing. These notes have been completely transformed and updated, with new diagrams, layout and text. Next will come the Diploma in Gemmology FGA developments, already well under way: the new *Diploma Practical Handbook* is at an advanced stage, to be followed by the new 'FGA notes'.

Real-life gemmology

The deeper advance into 'real-life' practical gemmology will be evident from the very fresh approach of the *Diploma Practical Handbook*, followed on by a realistic update of the Diploma practical examination from January 2001. Building on the observation-directed emphasis of the *Gem Observation Guide*, known to all Preliminary students, the new *Handbook* and enhanced examination together emphasize the extreme

Practical Diamond Grading

New six-day course

A new intensive six-day diamond grading course plus a Certificate exam will be introduced next year at the GAGTL's Gem Tutorial Centre.

Practical coverage:

- Clarity grading using a 10x loupe
- Colour grading with emphasis being placed on grading by eye
- Aspects of cut including symmetry and proportions
- Differentiating diamond from its simulants, e.g. CZ and synthetic moissanite
- Clarity treatments including fracture filling and laser drilling
- Description of rough crystals

The aim of this course is to provide effective guidance in

- the assessment of quality for gem diamond
- the essential skills of detecting simulants and treated stones.

Tuition will place the greatest emphasis on *readily available means*: the eye, the 10x loupe, a grading card and a daylight-equivalent light. Such practical know-how is essential in selling, buying, valuation and appraisal.

Certificate

Students successful in passing the examination will be awarded the new **Diamond Practical Examination Certificate.**

For those who aspire to the status of DGA, the theory part of the Gem Diamond Diploma course can be pursued by correspondence study, starting at any time. In this way, you may add a theory pass to the Certificate to become eligible for the full Diploma qualification.

Course dates: 9 to 17 May 2001.

The fee of only £650 includes tuition, notes and examination.

importance of initial *observation* in testing, followed by the considered choice of appropriate further investigations, guided by those initial observations. Over the past decade, the Diploma theory exam has increasingly required description of this realistic practical approach for most answers, making it more of a 'theory of the practical' exam, rather than a purely 'academic theory exam' as still rumoured.

Keeping to the point

The *Handbook* may surprise some in that it keeps to the point in presenting 'what you *really* have to do to coax a result out of a gem' without going into byways of detail that tend to get in the way, fascinating as they may be – there are plenty of other books to provide that, after all. But where are the guides that keep to the point with a 'real-life' approach: simply, what can you really do for yourself in the real gem world? Add your experience to the GA courses and new practical guides now. Both guides will be on sale separately. Details will be posted on our website at www.gagtl.ac.uk so do keep watch. Which reminds me to thank all those new students and members who have joined us after discovering us on the GA (and others!) web pages; we are always very happy with our new surfers!

Tailor-made training

Developments in the UK are going even further. Following Doug's very popular 'Diamond or Not?' tutorials, plus Shelley's fresh approach to Tutorial design, sectors of the UK trade have approached the GA to run joint programmes of 'tailor-made' gem diamond training with them. Retail and wholesale organizations are cooperating with us in staff- and management-training ventures, some Certificated by the GA, which will soon be on offer throughout gem-related trades both in the UK and overseas.

Watch this space, but don't wait too long: the industry is changing fast and we have already produced courses for three companies. The mystique of diamond knows no bounds.

Gems recently examined by the GAGTL Playgroup

The Playgroup is nothing if not up-to-date! Recently, in a year when it has passed its 300th session (and its sixth year) we have been able to examine a number of species, some so far unreported in the major journals.

Doping of garnet-type structure oxides still goes on (we are all familiar with YAG and GGG): we have recently been able to examine well-formed crystals of SGG (samarium gallium garnet) and EGG (europium gallium garnet). Since rare earths are involved in the production of their colour, we should not be surprised to see beautiful and strong fine-line absorption spectra and we were not disappointed. One of the EGG crystals was a deep lilac: doped with Nd it produced a very amethyst-like colour. Another EGG, this one doped with chromium, was a fine deep green and rather resembled a crystal of uvarovite (the large and beautiful ones I once was able to find at the Outukumpu mine in Finland – the mine has now ceased production). SGG crystals included a topaz-yellow, with no dopant and a darker, brandy or amber-coloured specimen doped with iron. All the crystals were quite large enough to cut.

We have also been able to look at some Russian synthetic diamonds. A yellow octahedron and very bright polished yellow stone attracted quite a lot of admiration and equal praise was given to a blue crystal and polished stone.

Left till last (of the synthetic materials) and perhaps the best – were crystals of synthetic moissanite: striated hexagonal boule-like crystals

surrounded at one end by very small bright yellow-green crystals, and a flatter dark green platy crystal with pronounced colour banding and step-like markings. A fine, nearly flat greyish hexagonal crystal showed clear hexagonal zoning.

Among other fine specimens seen recently have been a fine blue Madagascar sapphire, a beautiful 18ct orange-brown chrysoberyl with a clear absorption spectrum, a yellow stone with a crazed surface showing excellent vestigial crystal angles on the inside and proving to be a zircon (this feature usually seen in green metamict stones). Friedelite and eudialyte have both caused mystification but this is what the Playgroup is for! We have also been able to see some emerald crystals from Chivor (location authenticated) and a faceted deep red rutile from Brazil.

The amazing similarity of colour between some fine blue Paraíba tourmaline, Madagascan apatite and Brazilian lazulite caused alarm and interest when specimens of each were placed together.

We do also have a chance of looking at some notable books – many foreign ones – which are not likely to be found anywhere else and which are sometimes very expensive. A multi-author 'hors série' issue of *Revue de gemmologie* was devoted to emerald and anyone studying emerald and its treatment should make sure that they buy it.

The Playgroup's activities are not set in stone (!) and we should like suggestions from readers on further desirable pursuits.

Michael O'Donoghue

Gem courses

Happily, 'coloured gems' appeal just as much as diamonds to the students who continue to flock to our GA Headquarters near Hatton Garden (and next to three pubs), from all corners of the world. We are virtually full to capacity for the famous Nine-Month FGA

Course, although I am sure I shall be fitting a few more of you in – I shall just need to add another practical demonstrator to this busy class! But don't forget the evening class is for only sixteen months and has *two alternative start dates*, one after the New Year; and you can start a Correspondence Course ▶

Contact Rosenda & Lucy

at any time to suit you, with add-on practical tutorials, a Europe-wide stone-library and eighty years of experience in running gemmology home study.

Now, as members and past students, you can spread the word *this* century: so many people can benefit from the experience and expertise within the Gemmological Association of Great Britain, the world's foremost practical authority for international gemmological and gem diamond education, not to mention the original laboratory testing authority. Help yourself and your colleagues gain further practical experience with the GA. Start with us by reappraising the use of your eyes – the most precious and portable gem instrument of them all.

GAGTL Gem Tutorial Centre, London

Short Courses and Workshops

27 September	Colour-Conscious A rainbow of gemstones explored
4 October	Bead-stringing workshop
24 October	Coloured stone update The treatments, the simulants, the synthetics
31 October	Diamond – past, present, future
1 November	Sketching for sales
4/5 November	Two-day stone faceting workshop
22 November	Sketching for Sales II

For further details and a booking form contact Shelley Keating at the GAGTL on 020 7404 3334.

Buying ruby in the street markets of Thailand Tina Notaro* puts her gem knowledge into practice in the East

As a gemmologist who qualified in the Diploma Examination in Sri Lanka and then gained experience working at Tiffany & Co. in New York, I decided to return to the East.

I felt that my eye for aesthetics and gemmological objectivity needed to be integrated with common sense and a shrewd nose for trickery! Armed with my experience and often not more than a 10x lens, I plunged my eyes into gemmology-on-the-spot!

My partner and I began our travels by bicycle in Thailand. In a northern town I found a small street market with glass cases and neatly-arranged gemstones, the majority of which were ruby, pre-sorted into piles of heated rough and various colours, qualities and origins. As I perused the displays, the first vendor began his sales pitch. His tone soon changed when I brought out my 10x and tweezers; 'Ahh! you gem professional!' he exclaimed.

However, my position as a foreign woman in a street market with synthetics, pastes, doublets and natural material all mixed together was tainted with slight condescension and an air of challenge to see whether I was a worthwhile buyer or just another tourist.

The majority of the material displayed was cloudy with obvious natural features such as strong zoning, included crystals and fingerprint inclusions. There were a number of stones with a pleasing hue and medium saturation but nothing approaching 'pigeon-blood' red. Generally the quality of the cut corresponded accordingly with the quality of the colour and clarity. However, in some cases the native cut pavilion with off-centred culet and bulging asymmetrical step-cut facets soured the delight of some of the finer colours.

Mixed with the natural stones were some pieces of dubious origin. Some of the inclusions were characteristic of synthetic flux grown corundum. The features in some stones were so obvious that my common-sense told me immediately what they were; other stones however were more challenging. I used reflected light and a 10x lens to scrutinize the surface of the stones and a dark-field hand



A vendor in the street market.



In the Tourist Information office: sifting to separate the corundum from the pebbles (left) and sorting the melée (right).

lens to view the interior. Often the only indication of natural origin was a familiar delicacy and wispy haze of healed fractures. In synthetic stones I saw healed fractures with a much more jagged appearance. The edges of the inclusions were often haggard. Alternating between reflected light and darkfield, the liquid in some of the healed fractures displayed a metallic lustre or a distinctly yellowish-orange hue in contrast with the red and pink of the body of the stones.

I visited reputable shops that guaranteed authenticity. They carried some fine stones but for three times the price of the street market.

I was looking for two stones to set in a pair of rings, and one morning resolved to take a final look and trust my academic and professional experience balanced by my instincts. I purchased two fancy shaped rubies, one 0.85 ct and the other 1.02 ct. I deduced that they were Hmong-Hsu heated. I was quite confident with my purchase; the only thread of doubt that remained was that the price seemed too good.

By chance, the day before we left the town, we wandered into a door labelled 'tourist information' to enquire about laundry services. As I spoke to the woman about dirty clothes, I realized that I was standing in a room filled with 2 kilo bags of rough ruby! I quickly forgot about soiled cycling garments

and enquired about the 'rocks'. She, her mother and her aunt were sorting through melée on a table, whilst her father and brother were sifting through the bags of rough with a shallow basket separating the corundum from the pebbles. We chatted a while and I showed them my purchases; they commented in the affirmative on origin and price (I was pleased and so were they!).

I left the town cycling through the lush Southeast Asian countryside with

the parcels of rough and fashioned gemstones tucked beneath my gear. I knew I would hold on to them until I reached the Indian subcontinent where they would be certified and set into gold rings.

I felt finally that I had gone beyond theoretical gemmology and applied that knowledge in real-life situations.

**Tina Notaro was the GAGTL Diploma Trade Prize winner in 1998.*

Trip to Idar-Oberstein, Germany

Sunday 22 April to Saturday 28 April 2001

Details of next year's annual trip to Idar-Oberstein, the gem capital of Europe are now available from the GAGTL.

As for the 2000 trip (see 'Idar-Oberstein: suddenly it all made sense!' in the June issue of *GJN*, pp.40-41), the itinerary will include tours of the German Gemmological Association and the Steinkaulenberg mine, and visits to a historic cutting centre, the gemstone museums of Idar and Oberstein, and modern cutting, carving and cameo workshops. There will also be free time for shopping, business and pleasure.

The price of £515 per person includes travel by luxury coach from London, half-board at the well-appointed Gethmann's Hotel and excursions.

For further details and a booking form contact Sarah Mahoney on 020 7404 3334.

Precious gems – jewellery from eight centuries

Cont. from p. 49

providing a revealing context for a type of jewel often dismissed as common everyday wear. Perhaps the most delightful instance of a surviving jewel depicted in a portrait is the set of necklace and earrings with amethysts, aquamarines and turquoises in gold settings clearly depicted in the portrait painted in 1831 of the young Louisa Isabella von Stedinck, lady in waiting to Crown Princess Josefina of Sweden.

Original boxes

Another aspect which will please the historian is the number of original boxes containing not just single jewels but whole parures. One vitrine contains no fewer than three enor-

mous early 19th-century ensembles: a privately-owned cut-steel set with two necklaces, bracelets, two frontlet combs, four hairpins, earrings and cross (with some alterations but nevertheless intact); an amethyst parure from Mellerio in Paris and, to cap it all, Queen Sofia's malachite cameo parure from the Nordiska Museet. The reader will have gathered that there is a distinct emphasis on royal and courtly pieces. In addition to jewels from Stockholm's Royal Armoury, such as Karl IX's coronation ring of c. 1607 with its huge pointed topaz, there is Elisabeth Auguste von der Pfalz's 18th-century diamond stomacher from the Munich Residenz, Grand Duchess Alexandra Pavlovna's belt of 1795 from the Hermitage in St Petersburg, Empress Eugénie's tiara lent by the Duchess of Alba and, one of the many new discoveries, a 1910 tiara by Koch of Frankfurt in its crescent-shaped case, owned by Duchess Madeleine d'Otrante and lent from a private collection.

Goldsmiths' Fair

2–8 October
Goldsmiths' Hall, Foster Lane,
London EC2

Opening times: 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Monday to Friday; 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Saturday and Sunday. Admission
£5.00 (including catalogue).

The annual selling exhibition of jewellery, silverware and allied crafts by 80 of Britain's most talented designers and makers. Each exhibitor has a strong, individual style and an uncompromising commitment to quality. Virtuoso enamelling, elegant pieces with clean, modern lines, unusual luminous stones, beautiful chasing and objects both innovative and practical – and much more – can be seen at the Goldsmiths' Fair.

Princess Alexandra's Dagmar necklace

The best is still to come. The 'jewel' of the exhibition, for this reviewer at any rate, is Princess Alexandra's Dagmar necklace, presented on her marriage to the Prince of Wales in 1863 by her father, Frederik VII of Denmark. Made by the Danish court jeweller, Jules Didrichsen, it is formed of scrolls and festoons of diamonds and pearls set in gold and silver from which hangs a copy of the Byzantine cloisonné enamel cross of Queen Dagmar. The necklace has remained in the Royal Collection ever since but has been published once only, in Leslie Field's book, *The Jewels of Queen Elizabeth II* (2nd ed. 1992). It is part of the Queen's personal collection and has never previously been exhibited.

The exhibition organizer, Elsebeth Welander-Berggren, is much to be congratulated for having brought together such a stunning range of jewels. The accompanying catalogue illustrates everything in colour, with many additional photos of owners wearing their pieces.

Judy Rudoë

Brilliant Effects: Jewellery and its Image in English Visual Culture 1700-1880

Jewellery and Art – Paul Mellon lectures at the Tate

This year, the Paul Mellon lectures are being given by Professor Marcia Pointon in the Clore Auditorium, Tate Britain, Millbank, London.

The series of lectures offers fascinating insights into how jewels were designed, owned and represented in ways that contributed to people's understanding of their world, and to ideas about human identity. Each of the five lectures focuses on paintings but also encompasses a discussion on gems and precious stones.

Topics include how jewels convey ideas about worth and social status, and the role of jewellery in the work of artists like William Hogarth, Joshua Reynolds, J.M.W. Turner and the Pre-Raphaelites.

The lectures will be held on Thursday evenings from 28 September to 26 October in the Clore Auditorium, Tate Britain, Millbank.

For further details call 020 7887 8922.

The Ego Adorned: 20th-century artists' jewellery

Koningin Fabiolazaal Antwerp, Belgium
16 September to 10 December 2000
Closed Mondays.

Jewellery as an art form presents a dilemma to the artist. He aims to assert his very own ego, and at the same time he realizes that his creation improves somebody else's image. The wearer too is asked to accept an ambiguous attitude. He wants to accentuate and to emphasize his appearance, using the expression of another, often stronger personality. This has given birth to the title of the exhibition.

The exhibition will contain 300 to 350 pieces of jewellery made by European artists, accompanied by a few other objects and photographs illustrating a general spirit of certain periods. After following the general art styles such as Art Nouveau and Art Deco, jewels have become indi-

vidual expressions in an artistic language of their own. The exhibition will focus especially on the styles of the second half of the twentieth century.

Artists' Jewellery in Contemporary Europe: a female perspective?

Ilias Lalaounis Jewelry Museum,
Athens, Greece

22 November 2000 to 24 January 2001

An exhibition of studio jewellery by European women artists. The jewels have been created in the last 40 years by individuals who live and work in European cities. This international exhibition will display contemporary works that are in the permanent collections of leading European museums. The most innov-

ative works of contemporary design have been selected that display trends in the artistic fashion of the last forty years.

Annual Beadwork and Bead Fair

Byron Hall, Harrow Leisure Centre,
Harrow (NW London).

15 October 2000

Open 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.. Admission fee: £1 (members of the Bead Society of Great Britain free of charge).

The biggest European fair devoted entirely to loose beads and beadwork. The display area will include tambour bead embroidery, bead weaving, amulet purses, bags, fringes, braids, etc.

Anyone wishing to join or learn more about the Bead Society of Great Britain should send an SAE to Carole Morris, 1 Casburn Lane, Burwell, Cambs CB5 0ED.

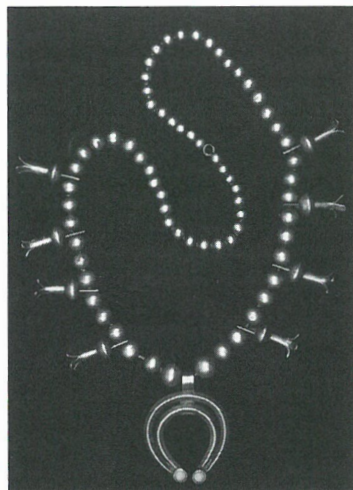
Surviving desire: native jewellery of the American Southwest

Summary of a lecture given by Henrietta Lidchi at the SJH meeting on 19 June.

For at least a hundred years, the Native arts and crafts of the American Southwest have played a vital role in sustaining Native American communities of the area. The jewellery tradition in the American Southwest is typified by the use of two materials – silver and turquoise. In this union of stone and metal, we can perceive the fusing of two sets of Native American histories, the pre-contact lapidary tradition of the settled puebloan peoples and the historic silversmithing tradition of the more nomadic Navajo. But as a constitutive part of the sacred and the secular, jewellery is an art that has been shaped by accretion, developed in relation to the social conditions, to the availability of tools and materials and in accordance with demand. Navajo jewellery in particular was influenced in the early period (1850s–1900), by the taste and the jewellery of nearby Plains people, the techniques and the

design elements of the Spanish and Mexicans who were prominent in this area (until the annexation of the Southwest to the United States in 1848), and the American army who purchased it in small quantities. Early influences are visible in this early 20th century squash blossom necklace, perhaps one of the most instantaneously recognizable examples of Navajo style. The round beads with extensions – the squash blossom – are most likely derived from the pomegranate beads attached to the clothing, especially trousers, of Spanish-Mexican gentlemen (caballeros). Equally, the central pendant or *naja* (Navajo for crescent) was likely influenced by Spanish or Plains ornaments. In the 20th century, it is the European-American migrants, tourists, traders and artists that lived amongst these Native communities who altered the course of jewellery production. The development of styles, technique and materials, continues today. Widely produced and avidly consumed by

Native and non-Native alike, jewellery continues to provide the means through which one can explore the Native histories and cultures of the regions and its contemporary realities.



Navajo Squash blossom necklace, of silver and Hubbell Trade beads c. 1920s.

Reflections of a single hexagonal crystal

Stone cut specially for GAGTL Photo Competition

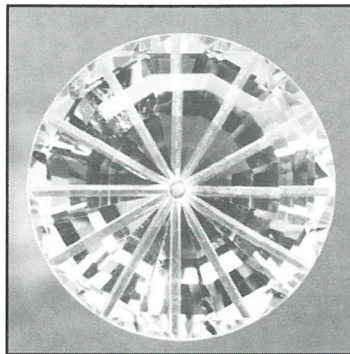
GAGTL Photo Competition winner Dennis Durham explains how the stone was cut.

The stone used for the Photo Competition entry was cut from a crudely polished Brazilian quartz crystal point, purchased from Mark Payne of Joias Ltd. The quartz point had an included hexagonal crystal traversing it at approximately 30° from the horizontal, intersecting the flat face at one side and emerging at the junction of two faces at the other.

Many other unwanted inclusions were present, but somewhere in there was a clear area of rock crystal surrounding this unusual feature. Isolating the included crystal was reasonably straightforward and was dealt with by sawing away the waste material.

Centring it whilst retaining sufficient clear quartz around it called for much eye work, measuring and trimming. Once centred in a ground preform the actual cutting and polishing were relatively simple.

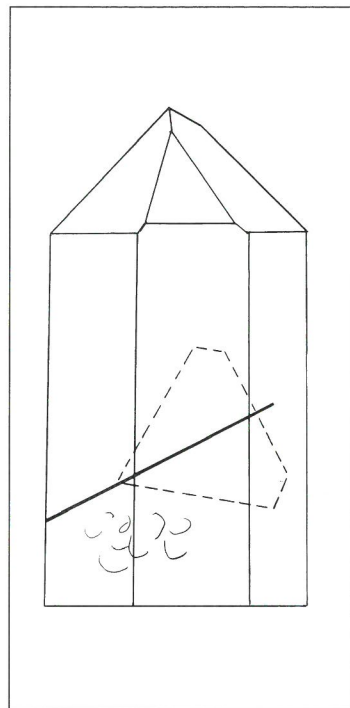
A twelve-sided mains design and step-cut gave the single hexagonal inclusion a mirrored multiple appearance within the stone.



The winning photo: Rock crystal (15.86 ct) depicting reflections of a single hexagonal crystal now transformed to secondary minerals.

The common occurrence of rock crystal and its relatively poor refractive qualities, deny its popularity as a gemstone. However, by adding a further dimension such as an unusual inclusion as a feature of the stone, it can be transformed into a very interesting stone, having beauty and rarity, giving it a place among the finer gemstones.

Dennis Durham



Sketch indicating position of intrusive hexagonal inclusion and cut stone within the quartz point.

GJN Editor awarded senior doctorate

Congratulations to Catherine Johns who has been awarded a senior doctorate by the University of Wales in recognition of her published work on Roman art and archaeology. She was admitted to the degree of Doctor of Letters in Cardiff on 10 July.

Catherine, who is the Curator of Roman Britain at the British Museum, has served on the Editorial Board of *GJN* since 1994.

Early Pearly

The recent announcement that dolomite might be used as a nucleus for a cultured pearl brings to mind an earlier use of a carbonate material in simulating pearls. In an article entitled 'On the process of manufacturing the Roman Artificial Pearls' in *Technical Repository* (7, 1825, pp. 235-6), H.W. Reveley describes a production method used in Italy in his day (the 'Roman' in his title meant modern Roman), but apparently unknown in Britain. Fine grain 'alabaster' (almost certainly calcite was meant) was drilled and shaped into spherical beads. A lathe produced the most accurate spheres, but Reveley notes that 'country people generally prefer them shaped by the knife, and even if their sur-

faces are of angular and irregular shapes'. Mother-of-pearl or other shell materials were finely powdered and mixed with a suitable glue such as isinglass or transparent size. The stone beads were placed individually on long bamboo skewers and were repeatedly dipped and dried until a sufficient thickness had been built up.

Reveley notes that 'these artificial pearls are found to be exceedingly durable in wear, and are by no means so liable to injury as those which are formed as usual of thin glass bulbs, coated interiorly with the powder of the scales of the bleak, fixed by isinglass, and afterwards filled up with wax.'

Jack Ogden

Autumn Events

GAGTL and SJH London events – details of times, venues and prices given on p. 64

2 October: SJH lecture

A lecture on his own work

MALCOLM APPLEBY

Malcolm Appleby is one of the foremost engravers in the UK, having trained as a gun engraver. Important engraving commissions include: the orb on the Prince of Wales' Coronet by Louis Osman (1969); a bowl to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the London Assay Office (1978); a cruet set in the National Collection at 10 Downing Street; and most recently, a magnificent gold casket for the 'Treasures of the 20th Century' exhibition at Goldsmiths' Hall.

14 and 15 October

SJH Symposium on Enamelling

The Scientific Societies' Lecture Theatre, London

The papers for the Symposium will range in period from Ancient Egyptian to the Present Day, deal with the different types of enamelling, and will be presented by leading authorities in their fields.

The SJH would welcome requests for application forms from non-members, who should write to the Chairman, marking their envelopes 'ES'.

6 November: SJH lecture

Papal tiaras in early 16th-century Rome

PROFESSOR HENRY FERNANDEZ

Professor Henry Fernandez is Executive Director of Research at Harvard University currently working on the Vatican Topography project. He will be speaking on the Papal tiaras in early 16th-century Rome.

29 October

GAGTL Conference 2000

The Barbican Conference Centre, London

A full day of lectures, displays and demonstrations. Details of lectures are given on p.64.

Visits

Visits to De Beers (Friday 27 October) and guided tours of the Gilbert Collection at Somerset House (Monday 30 October) available as optional extras to Conference delegates.

For further details and a registration form contact Liz Rolph at the GAGTL on 020 7404 3334.

17 November: GAGTL lecture

A new process to modify the colour of natural (and synthetic) diamonds

GREG SHERMAN AND BRANKO DELJANIN

Greg Sherman and Branko Deljanin have recently studied coloured diamonds at the European Gemological Laboratory (EGL), New York. They describe the high pressure high temperature (HPHT) process to enhance the colour in diamonds and identification methods proposed.

23 November: GAGTL lecture

Amber – has the bubble burst?

HELEN FRAQUET

Helen Fraquet entered the trade at 19 with Philip Antrobus in Bond Street. Her special interest has always been amber, and she was invited by Butterworths to write a book on amber as part of their *Gem Series*. Helen has made a point of travelling to the sources where amber is found to obtain first-hand information. She is especially interested in the changing availability of amber over the past decade.

Competition

Two partners have split up and all they have left to divide is an ingot of gold. It is flat but of an irregular shape. The only tools they have left are a drill and a hacksaw. What is the easiest way for them to divide the ingot so that each gets an equal amount of gold?

I am still awaiting advice on the last puzzle!
Harry Levy

Helen's talk will be a valuable update, both for collectors and those involved in the trade, on the current availability and sources of amber and its simulants.

4 December: SJH lecture

The jeweller's art of émail en résille sur verre, from antiquity to the 19th century.

HUGH TAIT

Hugh Tait, lately of the British Museum, organized the highly acclaimed exhibition *Jewellery Through 7000 Years* in 1976. He is editor of *The Art of the Jeweller*, a catalogue of the Hull Grundy Gifts (British Museum); and author of the five-volume catalogue of the Waddesdon Bequest (British Museum), Volume 1 *The Jewels*, 1986. From 1983-86 he was President of the SJH and continues to serve on the Committee.

Rock 'n' Gem Shows

Cheltenham Racecourse

Prestbury Park, Cheltenham
30 September–1 October

Kempton Park Racecourse

Sunbury on Thames, Middlesex
14–15 October

Newcastle Racecourse

High Gosforth Park, Newcastle
28–29 October

Newmarket Racecourse

Newmarket, Suffolk
11–12 November

Shows open 10 a.m.–5 p.m.
Details from The Exhibition Team on 01628 621697

Gemmological Association and Gem Testing Laboratory of Great Britain

London Branch

Meetings will be held at the GAGTL Gem Tutorial Centre, 27 Greville Street (Saffron Hill entrance), London EC1N 8TN at 6.00 for 6.30 p.m.; entry will be by ticket only at £4.00 for a member (£6.00 for a non-member) unless otherwise stated.

13 September. From geology to jewellery – the platinum millennium.

DR JUDITH KINNAIRD

GAGTL CONFERENCE 2000

To be held on Sunday 29 October
at the Barbican Centre, London

Keynote Speaker: PROFESSOR AL LEVINSON

Diamonds in Canada – Geology to Gemmology

ROBERT FAWCETT: *South Sea cultured pearls – their place in the market*

DR JUDITH KINNAIRD: *The sparkle in Somaliland*

HARRY LEVY: *What's in a name?*

DR PAUL SPEAR: *The De Beers Gem Defensive Programme*

For full details and a Registration Form contact
Liz Rolph at the GAGTL on 020 7404 3334.

17 November. 2.00 p.m. Tickets £6.00 GAGTL members, £8.00 non-members.

A new process to modify colour of natural (and synthetic) diamonds

GREG SHERMAN AND BRANKO DELJANIN

23 November. Amber – has the bubble burst?

HELEN FRAQUET

Midlands Branch

Friday meetings will be held at The Earth Sciences Building, University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, at 6.30 for 7.00 p.m. Admission £2 for a member. For further information call 0121 445 5359.

29 September. Gemmology and Gem Testing Quiz

27 October. The works of Peter Carl Fabergé
STEPHEN DALE

24 November. The minerals of Pakistan.
MICHAEL O'DONOGHUE

2 December. 48th Annual Branch Dinner.

North West Branch

Meetings will be held at the Church House, Hanover Street, Liverpool 1. For further details contact Deanna Brady on 0151 648 4266.

20 September. History of English watches from verge to lever
PETER McIVOR

18 October. Minerals and gems at the Great Exhibition of 1851.
DAVID LANCASTER

15 November. AGM followed by Gem collection and anecdotes
JOHN PYKE SNR

Scottish Branch

For further details of Scottish Branch meetings contact Catriona McInnes on 0131 667 2199.

2 October. The world of the crystal grower; how gemmology spawned a growth industry.

DR PETER DRYBURGH

31 October. Diamonds in Canada – geology to gemmology.
PROFESSOR AL LEVINSON

Society of Jewellery Historians

Unless otherwise stated, all Society of Jewellery Historians' lectures are held at the Society of Antiquaries, Burlington House, London W1 and start at 6.00 p.m. sharp. Lectures are followed by an informal reception with wine. Meetings are open only to SJH members and their guests. A nominal charge is made for wine to comply with our charity status.

2 October. **MALCOLM APPLEBY.** Scottish artist-jeweller and engraver. *A lecture on his own work.*

14/15 October. A weekend symposium on enamelling. For further details see p.63.

6 November. **PROFESSOR HENRY FERNANDEZ.** Rhode Island School of Design. *Papal tiaras in early 16th century Rome.*

4 December. **HUGH TAIT.** Past President of the Society. *The jeweller's art of émail en résille sur verre: from antiquity to the 19th century.*

23 January 2001. Annual General Meeting followed by **DAVID LANCASTER** of Christie's, South Kensington. *Twentieth century jewellery at auction.*

27 February 2001. **ROSEMARY RANSOME WALLIS,** Curator of the Goldsmiths' Company, will be talking about the Goldsmiths' Company's contemporary collection.