



1
1930s platinum set emerald cut solitaire diamond ring, old emerald cut stone in excess of 4.5cts, square cut diamond set shoulders, size L. *Gorringes, Lewes. Feb 11. HP: £19,000. ABP: £22,420.*



2
Art Deco 18ct white gold sapphire and diamond ring, central cushion cut sapphire flanked by baguette cut diamonds, size M. *Gorringes, Lewes. Feb 11. HP: £13,800. ABP: £16,284.*



3
Platinum set solitaire diamond ring, central brilliant cut stone approx 3.40cts, baguette and brilliant cut shoulders, size O. *Gorringes, Lewes. Mar 11. HP: £12,000. ABP: £14,160.*

The prices quoted are actual Hammer Prices (HP) followed by the Approximate Buyer's Price (ABP) which includes an average buyer's premium of 15% + VAT.



4
18ct white gold solitaire diamond ring, brilliant cut stone approx 4cts, size K. *Gorringes, Lewes. Mar 11. HP: £11,500. ABP: £13,570.*



5
Art Deco Colombian emerald and diamond 3 stone ring, centre emerald cut emerald with estimated weight approx 2ct, old brilliant cut diamond at each side, estimated approx 1.14ct and 1.08ct each, all double claw set to coronet collets. Finger size approx J (shank beads fitted). *Sworders, Stansted Mountfitchet. Feb 11. HP: £7,400. ABP: £8,732.*



6
Diamond and platinum ring, three baguette cut diamonds, two approx 1.02ct and third approx 0.91ct, flanked by six princess cut diamonds, three set on each shoulder, clear colour and good clarity, ring size O, weighing approx 6.2g. *Batemans, Stamford. Apr 11. HP: £5,600. ABP: £6,608.*



7
Platinum set pear shaped solitaire diamond ring, central stone approx 1.75cts, baguette cut diamond set shoulders, size L. *Gorringes, Lewes. Feb 11. HP: £3,800. ABP: £4,484.*



8
Art Deco single stone diamond ring, old European cut diamond with estimated weight of approx 1.50ct, claw set to a sea scroll collet, with diamond set shoulders, marked platinum, finger size N $\frac{3}{4}$. Diamond estimated as approx. Colour H/I. Clarity SI1-SI2. *Sworders, Stansted Mountfitchet. Feb 11. HP: £2,800. ABP: £3,304.*



9
18ct white gold tanzanite and diamond cluster ring, central oval cut tanzanite approx 4.5cts flanked by 12 brilliant cut diamonds, total diamond weight approx 2.5cts, size L. *Gorringes, Lewes. Feb 11. HP: £2,500. ABP: £2,950.*



10
Diamond three stone ring, stones claw set above scroll shoulders, 18ct gold shank, ring size P1/2. *Chorleys, Prinknash Abbey Park. Apr 11. HP: £2,000. ABP: £2,360.*



11
18ct white gold three stone diamond ring, total weight approx 2.30cts, size M. *Gorringes, Lewes. Mar 11. HP: £2,000. ABP: £2,360.*



12
Platinum, emerald/diamond 3 stone ring, emerald approx 1.04cts, diamond approx 1ct, size L. *Gorringes, Lewes. Mar 11. HP: £2,000. ABP: £2,360.*



13
Lady's diamond solitaire ring, old cut stone, approx 1.60 carats, set in six claw white gold crown, yellow gold shank, 18ct h/m, size M or 6 US. (2.9g) *A F Brock & Co Ltd, Stockport. Feb 11. HP: £1,750. ABP: £2,065.*



14
18ct gold sapphire/diamond ring, central oval cut sapphire approx 6.75cts flanked by 14 brilliant cut diamonds. *Gorringes, Lewes. Mar 11. HP: £1,700. ABP: £2,006.*



15
18ct gold mounted solitaire diamond ring, brilliant cut stone estimated at 1.10cts, with a matching gold band, size L. *Gorringes, Lewes. Mar 11. HP: £1,300. ABP: £1,534.*



16
18ct white gold five stone diamond ring, size L. *Gorringes, Lewes. Feb 11. HP: £1,100. ABP: £1,298.*

Diamond ring market

By John Ainsley

Whilst the jewellery market in the first quarter of 2011 didn't match the high intensity of the last quarter of 2010 it remains buoyant at +43. Readers can check the statistics in our *RICS 2011 Quarter 1 Report*. There was an amazing +63 statistic in the previous quarter. This said, the run up to Christmas is the best time of year for jewellery sales.

In the world of jewellery nothing has more potency than the ring. It is the jewellery of power, of love, of fidelity and friendship, of loyalty and of power. And in recent times it is the diamond ring that has the most potency and we all know that in the twentieth century diamonds are a girls best friend! Here I have selected just forty three rings sold at auction in the last three months. I have excluded the top of the market, and also excluded the bottom end which was far easier! Hence these examples are in the approximate price range of about £20,000 to about £500, a price at which there are bargains to be had. These are auction prices. If buying new jewellery on the high street expect to pay between say two and four times the prices shown here. Some high street jewellers also deal in secondhand jewellery. Many of these respectably sell secondhand jewellery at about one and a half to two times auctions prices. Others, more unscrupulously may charge up to four times auctions prices and similarly when buying may offer no more than a quarter of the retail value or a quarter of the scrap value. The answer is to know the market and shop around. Buying at auction is usually the most economical but you have to know at least something about what you are doing. If you are on a learning curve secondhand retailers can be the answer and of course they become part of the vetting process, protecting buyers from the hazards of buying in a less protected environment. This said, auctions do offer condition reports and some of the more specialist auctions provide additional services such as sizing or tightening up mounts. Jewellery can have a rough life and need servicing from time to time.

Here are a few pointers:

♦ Carat weight is not the only criteria in respect of value. Colour and clarity are every bit as important and this information should be available. Similarly when buying at retail ask the questions. Some jewellers might prefer not to discuss such issues. Ask about condition even if there is some mention of it in the description.

♦ Get to know the various cuts and be aware of the huge amount of reproduction jewellery in the market. Rose cutting could suggest a nineteenth century piece whereas an old European cut could well be a period piece made before about 1930.

♦ With solitaires, work on around a £1,000 a carat. See **17** but it is a rising scale for the larger and rarer stones. See for example **1**.

The following diameters may be applied to round brilliants. A 0.25ct diamond is approx. 4.2mm and a 0.33ct stone about 4.5mm. At 0.5cts the diameter is about 5.2mm and a 1.0ct stone about 6.5mm.

At **3**, the 3.4ct stone will be about 9.8mm wide and at **4** the 4ct stone about 10.4mm. At **13** the 1.6ct diamond should be about 7.6mm. Note that at **3** and **4** the smaller stone fetched the greater price. This is because it is of better quality being platinum and not white gold and it has baguette and brilliant cut shoulders. My advice is to



17
Platinum solitaire diamond ring, brilliant cut stone approx 1.25cts, size L. *Gorringes, Lewes. Mar 11. HP: £1,000. ABP: £1,180.*



18
1930s sapphire and diamond cluster ring, central cushion cut sapphire flanked by brilliant/baguette cut diamonds, size O. *Gorringes, Lewes. Feb 11. HP: £850. ABP: £1,003.*



19
1920s platinum set solitaire diamond ring, brilliant cut stone approx 1.2cts, brilliant chip set shoulders, size N. *Gorringes, Lewes. Mar 11. HP: £850. ABP: £1,003.*

Images are in descending hammer price order. The price range is indicated at the start of each section.



20
1930s platinum emerald and diamond cross-over ring, size M. *Gorringes, Lewes. Mar 11. HP: £800. ABP: £944.*



21
Platinum, sapphire/diamond three stone ring, with central oval cut sapphire flanked by brilliant cut diamonds, size M. *Gorringes, Lewes. Mar 11. HP: £800. ABP: £944.*



22
18ct white gold eternity ring set with brilliant and baguette cut diamonds, size M. *Gorringes, Lewes. Feb 11. HP: £750. ABP: £885.*



23
Edwardian gold mounted diamond marquise shaped cluster ring, central brilliant cut stone approx 0.75cts within further graduated brilliant cut stones, size L. *Gorringes, Lewes. Feb 11. HP: £750. ABP: £885.*



24
Three stone diamond ring, 3 graduated old brilliant cut diamonds estimated total diamond weight of approx 1.10ct, all claw set to shallow collets, knife edge shank. Finger size T. *Sworders, Stansted Mountfitchet. Feb 11. HP: £700. ABP: £826.*



25
Lady's diamond solitaire ring, early brilliant cut stone, approx 0.72 carats, high six claw crown setting, tapered split shoulders, 18ct gold h/m, h/m slightly worn, size P or 7.1/2 US. (4.1g) *A F Brock & Co Ltd, Stockport. Feb 11. HP: £700. ABP: £826.*



26
Diamond cocktail ring, Princess, baguette/brilliant cut stones set as a ribbon tied bow, 18ct gold shank, size N, stamped 750. *Dee, Atkinson & Harrison, Driffield. Feb 11. HP: £680. ABP: £802.*



27
Diamond ring, central row of brilliant cut stones flanked to either side with baguette cut stones channel set on 14k gold shank, size U. *Dee, Atkinson & Harrison, Driffield. Feb 11. HP: £680. ABP: £802.*



28
Lady's diamond solitaire ring, emerald cut stone, approx 0.90 carat, four claw crib setting, 18ct gold h/m, size K or 5.1/2US. (3.4g) *A F Brock & Co Ltd, Stockport. Feb 11. HP: £660. ABP: £778.*



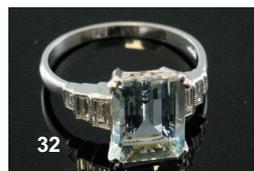
29
Gold single stone diamond ring, brilliant cut diamond estimated weight of approx 0.81ct six claw set to yellow 'V' shaped collet, flat section solid shoulders, marked 18K750 and tested as approx 18ct gold. Finger size M½ LE. Colour J/K. Clarity SI1-SI2. *Sworders, Stansted Mountfitchet. Feb 11. HP: £620. ABP: £731.*



30
Tested 18ct white metal lady's dress ring, multi split shank supporting c-scrolls each with 3 graduated diamonds interspaced with claw set diamond points, central pearl. *Kent Auction Galleries, Folkestone. Apr 11. HP: £600. ABP: £708.*



31
Lady's diamond daisy cluster ring, 7 brilliant cut stones, total weight approx 1.20cts, white gold settings, yellow gold shank, 18ct h/m, size N or 6.1/2 US. (4.2g) *A F Brock & Co Ltd, Stockport. Feb 11. HP: £580. ABP: £684.*



32
18ct white gold aquamarine and baguette cut diamond dress ring, size N. *Gorringes, Lewes. Feb 11. HP: £550. ABP: £649.*



33
Solitaire diamond ring, single brilliant cut stone in raised claw setting, reeded shoulders on 18ct gold shank, size L (diamond 0.70ct), stamped 750, associated paperwork. *Dee, Atkinson & Harrison, Driffield. Feb 11. HP: £550. ABP: £649.*



34
18ct gold sapphire and diamond cluster ring, size O. *Gorringes, Lewes. Mar 11. HP: £500. ABP: £590.*



35
18ct white gold and diamond cluster dress ring, size K. *Gorringes, Lewes. Feb 11. HP: £460. ABP: £542.*



36
Solitaire diamond ring, brilliant cut stone approx 0.8cts, collet set in yellow gold, size N. *Hartleys, Ilkley. Mar 11. HP: £450. ABP: £531.*



37
Diamond eternity ring, half hoop, seven stones claw set on platinum shank, size M (diamond 0.50ct) stamped PLAT. *Dee, Atkinson & Harrison, Driffield. Feb 11. HP: £420. ABP: £495.*



38
Onyx/diamond cluster ring, square panel of onyx centrally set with a single diamond, surrounded by a row of diamonds, on 18ct white gold shank, diamond set shoulders, size M. *Dee, Atkinson & Harrison, Driffield. Feb 11. HP: £400. ABP: £472.*



39
14ct gold aquamarine and diamond cluster ring, emerald cut aquamarine approx 18.5cts within a brilliant cut diamond border, size K. *Gorringes, Lewes. Feb 11. HP: £400. ABP: £472.*



40
Ruby and diamond cluster ring, central oval ruby surrounded by diamonds on 18ct gold shank, size M, stamped 750. *Dee, Atkinson & Harrison, Driffield. Feb 11. HP: £400. ABP: £472.*



41
Cased Art Deco diamond set snake ring, snake with hand engraved textured body, cushion shaped old eight cut diamonds pavé set to head, ruby eyes, marked PLAT, original case by 'The Midland Goldsmiths Co. Ltd., 12 Great Western Arcade, Birmingham'. Finger size K. *Sworders, Stansted Mountfitchet. Feb 11. HP: £390. ABP: £460.*



42
18ct yellow gold/platinum diamond set 'Hugs and Kisses' ring by Tiffany & Co., series of plain yellow kisses with one diamond set kiss, signed 'Paloma Picasso, Tiffany & Co.', marked 750 PT 950. Finger size M½. *Sworders, Stansted Mountfitchet. Feb 11. HP: £380. ABP: £448.*



43
Lady's diamond solitaire ring, brilliant cut stone, 0.50cts, in white gold four claw setting, yellow gold shank, 18ct h/m, size L or 5.3/4 US (3.1g) as new. *A F Brock & Co Ltd, Stockport. Feb 11. HP: £380. ABP: £448.*