

The recent Jewellery Market



1
Platinum set solitaire diamond ring, of approx 3.84cts with Precious Stone Laboratory diamond report stating stone as 3.84cts, colour F / rare white +, SI1, size M. *Gorringes, Lewes. Dec 12. HP: £25,000. ABP: £29,500.*



2
18ct white gold set solitaire diamond ring, size K. *Gorringes, Lewes. Jun 12. HP: £10,000. ABP: £11,800.*



3
Diamond ring, claw-set with a brilliant-cut diamond weighing 3.17 carats, size N 3/4. *Matthew Barton Ltd, London. May 12. HP: £9,000. ABP: £10,620.*



4
Platinum set emerald cut diamond ring, size K. *Gorringes, Lewes. Jun 12. HP: £6,250. ABP: £7,375.*



5
Solitaire diamond ring, brilliant cut diamond of approx 2.70ct, claw set in pierced white metal gallery with tapering shoulders, white metal hoop stamped '18ct Plat'. *Halls, Shrewsbury. Mar 13. HP: £5,800. ABP: £6,844.*



6
Solitaire diamond ring, brilliant cut stone of approx 2.5cts, claw set within baguette shoulders to a platinum shank, size H 1/2, colour J, clarity P-1. *Hartleys, Ilkley. Mar 13. HP: £4,600. ABP: £5,428.*



7
Lady's three stone diamond ring, brilliant cut stones, centre stone, approx 1.40cts, side stones, approx 0.75cts each, total diamond weight approx 2.90cts, each stone in crown setting, all in white gold, stamped 18ct, size M or 6 US (4.1g) boxed. *A F Brock & Co Ltd, Stockport. May 12. HP: £4,500. ABP: £5,310.*



8
Victorian solitaire diamond ring, diamond shank and yellow gold shank, size N, main stone wt. 2.20ct, colour I, clarity VS2. *Hartleys, Ilkley. Mar 13. HP: £3,900. ABP: £4,602.*



9
Solitaire diamond ring, brilliant cut claw set stone of approx 1.5cts between shoulders pave set with three baguette cut diamonds, plain heavy 18ct white gold shank, size N. *Hartleys, Ilkley. Apr 12. HP: £3,000. ABP: £3,540.*



10
Lady's crossover diamond ring, two early brilliant cut stones, approx 0.90cts each, claw set, twisted overlapping shoulders set with three small diamonds each side, approx 1.80cts total diamond weight, all white gold, stamped 18ct gold, size N or 6.1/2 US (5.0g) boxed. *A F Brock & Co Ltd, Stockport. Nov 12. HP: £3,000. ABP: £3,540.*



11
19thC diamond ring, central brilliant cut stone surrounded by a halo of diamonds in a closed setting. *Charterhouse, Sherborne. Feb 13. HP: £2,800. ABP: £3,304.*



12
Lady's three stone diamond ring, early brilliant cut stones, centre stone approx. 0.80cts, side stones each weigh approx 0.75cts, each stone in crown setting, 2.30cts in total, all in white metal, tested platinum, size P or 7.1/7 US (3.6g) original leather ring case. *A F Brock & Co Ltd, Stockport. Sep 12. HP: £2,700. ABP: £3,186.*



13
Platinum set three stone diamond ring, central brilliant cut stone approx 1.5cts, size N. *Gorringes, Lewes. Dec 12. HP: £2,400. ABP: £2,832.*



14
18ct white gold mounted solitaire diamond ring, size M. *Gorringes, Lewes. Jun 12. HP: £2,200. ABP: £2,596.*



15
Solitaire diamond ring, brilliant cut diamond claw set in white metal, white metal hoop stamped '18ct', weight approx 4gms. *Halls, Shrewsbury. Aug 12. HP: £2,200. ABP: £2,596.*



16
1930s platinum set two stone diamond ring, cushion cut stones bordered by brilliants, size T. *Gorringes, Lewes. Dec 12. HP: £2,200. ABP: £2,596.*



17
Good quality certified platinum and diamond ring, brilliant cut central diamond 1.03cts, colour i - j, clarity VS, with three smaller diamonds on each side of the shoulder, ring size O 1/2. *Cuttlestones, Penkridge. Mar 13. HP: £2,100. ABP: £2,478.*

The fall in the value of gold seems to be the catalyst which has influenced the slowing of the jewellery market, which began at the end of 2012. Of course it is always the case that in times of high prices everyone unloads and the jewellery market in December had an exceptional amount of high quality jewellery in anticipation of a Christmas bonanza, but with a high unsold rate. Since then the gold prices have declined further to a point in mid May 2013 of about 20% below October 2012 value. However I hasten to add that this market is a long term investment area, used as a 'safe haven' by investors in times when investing in savings remains at an all time low. However and surprisingly the stock market is approaching an all time record. If my regular readers will forgive me I must also stress for our many new readers that the secondhand jewellery market offers prices of about 50% or 60% of the high street. Prudence and responsible care of budgets almost begs that this is where everyone should buy their jewellery. Once new goods leave a shop their value plummets and remember you also have to pay 20% VAT.

I will suggest that a good measure of the jewellery market can be gained by homing in on the one carat solitaire diamond ring. Five or so years ago you could buy at auction for about £750. Ignore for now the influence of colour, clarity and cut as this is just a rule of thumb concept for stones of average characteristics. This average price began to creep up to about a £1,000, and at the peak in about October last year a one carat diamond solitaire was fetching, on average £1,200, this about a 60% rise in prices in a matter of just a few years. Today one should expect to pay about £750-£800 for a stone of about 0.75 to 0.80cts. Do not expect to be able to look at a small sample like this and find such examples. Nor should you expect that every ring here has a full description to include cut, clarity, colour and carat weight, although this information is available pre sale to enquirers who request a condition report. Here I will add some market analysis and the reader can go from there. At **1** the fine 3.84ct stone has superb colour grading but only average clarity and the £29,500 is about right. At **5** the 2.70ct solitaire is about right and its colour and clarity will be only about average at about £2,500. At **19** we are told nothing about this obviously gold ring except its size so I am not going to play guessing games. At **20** this ring fits our rule of thumb and the £1,800 price is about right. At **22** this ring breaks the rule. However the diamond colour and clarity are well above average and its attractions could have pushed up the price. At **26** I would hazard that this stone is about 0.70-0.90 carats and the price is again about right. Go into a high street jewellers and you will pay well over £2,000 for this ring. At **34** the solitaire looks to be about 0.75cts and the price is about right. The modern diamond ring at **39** is of poor design and I wouldn't have paid £500 for it. Alternatively at **41** I suggest that this is an antique ring and typically the stone is of a grey, rather than a modern white appearance. The clarity is also low at I2 (inclusions 2) so £650 is about what to expect. I would have paid more because I prefer antique to modern and find the style of the ring and the grey tone of the stone very attractive, even though I know that the clarity is poor. Also the weight is good at 5grms. Note the attractive thickness of the shank.



18
An unmarked white metal five stone diamond ring, the fine old cut diamonds claw set, with the central diamond approx 1ct, total diamond weight approx 2.6ct. *Frank Marshall, Knutsford. Mar 13. HP: £1,800. ABP: £2,124.*



19
18ct white gold solitaire diamond ring, size M. *Gorringes, Lewes. Jun 12. HP: £1,500. ABP: £1,770.*



20
18ct gold solitaire diamond ring approx 1.3cts, size M 1/2. *Kent Auction Galleries, Folkestone. Feb 13. HP: £1,500. ABP: £1,770.*



21
18ct white gold three stone diamond ring, millegrain set central cushion cut diamond approx 6 x 6mm, old round cut diamond to sides, each approx 0.50ct. (tested) *Frank Marshall, Knutsford. Mar 13. HP: £1,500. ABP: £1,770.*



22
Solitaire diamond ring, brilliant cut stone of 0.72cts, claw set to a plain white metal shank, size M, colour G, clarity VVS2. *Hartleys, Ilkley. Mar 13. HP: £1,400. ABP: £1,652.*



23
18ct gold solitaire diamond ring, emerald cut diamond claw set in white gold to the yellow gold hoop. Anchor Certificate stating diamond weight as '1.03', colour 'K' and clarity 'VVS 2', weight approx 3gms. *Halls, Shrewsbury. Oct 12. HP: £1,350. ABP: £1,593.*



24
Three stone diamond ring set in 18ct white gold on 18ct yellow gold shank inscribed 'Forever' (1.10cts) size P. *Dee, Atkinson & Harrison, Driffield. Sep 12. HP: £1,300. ABP: £1,534.*



25
18ct white gold set solitaire diamond ring, cushion cut stone approx 0.8cts, size M. *Gorringes, Lewes. Dec 12. HP: £1,300. ABP: £1,534.*



26
18ct white gold mounted solitaire diamond ring, size M. *Gorringes, Lewes. Jun 12. HP: £1,100. ABP: £1,298.*

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.



27
Stamped 18ct white gold 3 stone diamond ring, 3 old cut diamonds approx 0.97ct, 0.65ct, 0.55ct, claw set to knife edge shoulders, recent valuation for insurance purposes assessing diamonds as I-J colour, I1 clarity. *Frank Marshall, Knutsford. Mar 13. HP: £1,100. ABP: £1,298.*



28
Antique 18ct gold five stone diamond ring, box. *Richard Winterton, Lichfield. Mar 12. HP: £1,000. ABP: £1,180.*



29
Solitaire diamond ring, emerald cut stone with baguette shoulders and plain platinum shank, size M 1/2, total diamond wt. 0.83ct, colour D, clarity VVS 1/2. *Hartleys, Ilkley. Mar 13. HP: £980. ABP: £1,156.*



30
Three stone diamond ring, central brilliant cut stone of approx 0.6cts flanked by two slightly smaller stones, claw set to plain 18ct gold shank, size S. *Hartleys, Ilkley. Jun 12. HP: £950. ABP: £1,121.*



31
Three stone diamond ring, graduated old brilliant cut stones to carved shoulders and a plain 18ct gold shank, size O, total diamond wt. 1.62ct, colour G, clarity P-1. *Hartleys, Ilkley. Mar 13. HP: £900. ABP: £1,062.*



32
18ct gold claw set solitaire diamond ring, brilliant cut stone approx 1.3cts, size K. *Gorringes, Lewes. Dec 12. HP: £800. ABP: £944.*



33
Four stone diamond ring, 'rustic' platinum setting, 22ct ring. *Richard Winterton, Lichfield. Mar 12. HP: £750. ABP: £885.*



34
Solitaire diamond ring, brilliant cut diamond claw set in white metal with yellow metal hoop, stamped '18ct & Plat' and 'TA Henn', weight approx 3gms. *Halls, Shrewsbury. Oct 12. HP: £700. ABP: £826.*



35
Three stone graduated diamond ring, 3 old cut diamonds interspersed with six rose cut diamonds all claw set in white metal within carved gallery, yellow metal hoop stamped '534', weight approx 3gms. *Halls, Shrewsbury. Oct 12. HP: £680. ABP: £802.*



36
18ct gold and three stone diamond ring. *Charterhouse, Sherborne. Feb 13. HP: £660. ABP: £778.*



37
Diamond ring, in the form of a pierced 18ct white gold band set with diamonds in interlocking rows and bands, stamped 750, size O. *Dee, Atkinson & Harrison, Driffield. Apr 12. HP: £650. ABP: £767.*



38
18ct yellow gold three stone diamond ring, central brilliant cut diamond of approx 0.60ct with 2 brilliant cut diamonds either side being TCW of approx 1.2cts ring size S. *Cutlestones, Penkridge. Mar 13. HP: £650. ABP: £767.*



39
18ct gold claw set solitaire diamond ring, old cushion cut stone approx 0.75ct, size N. *Gorringes, Lewes. Dec 12. HP: £580. ABP: £684.*



40
Lady's antique diamond ring, marquise shaped setting, approx 30 x 10mm, set with 21 old cut stones, total weight approx 1.25cts, ornate pattern shoulders, stamped 18ct gold, size Q or 8 US (3.6g). *A F Brock & Co Ltd, Stockport. May 12. HP: £570. ABP: £672.*



41
18ct gold solitaire diamond ring, brilliant cut diamond claw set in white gold to the yellow hoop, International Gemological Institute diamond report stating diamond weighs 0.90ct, colour H, clarity I2, weight approx 5gms. *Halls, Shrewsbury. Oct 12. HP: £550. ABP: £649.*



42
Single stone brilliant cut diamond ring, yellow/white metal set, stamped 18ct, approx 0.50cts. *Andrew Smith and Son, Itchen Stoke. Jan 13. HP: £500. ABP: £590.*



43
3 stone graduated diamond ring, 3 old cut diamonds interspersed with four rose cut diamonds, all claw set in yellow metal, hoop stamped '18', weight approx 2gms. *Halls, Shrewsbury. Oct 12. HP: £420. ABP: £495.*



44
18ct gold solitaire diamond ring, pear shaped diamond collet set in white metal to the yellow metal hoop, stamped 0.50, weight approx 3gms. *Halls, Shrewsbury. Oct 12. HP: £400. ABP: £472.*



45
Solitaire diamond ring, brilliant cut stone of approx 0.70cts, claw set to a plain yellow gold shank, size M. (unmarked) *Hartleys, Ilkley. Mar 13. HP: £400. ABP: £472.*



46
Lady's antique diamond ring, 9 old cut stones, total weight approx 1ct, 4 corner stones round cut, inner stones square cut, a square stone replaced with round stone, square setting with white gold millegrain sections, outer setting & shank in yellow gold, stamped & tested 18ct, size L or 5 3/4 US (2.4g). *A F Brock & Co Ltd, Stockport. Feb 13. HP: £390. ABP: £460.*



47
Three stone diamond ring, centre old brilliant cut stone of 0.50ct approx, flanked by two modern brilliant cut stones of 0.30ct approx each, white metal peg setting to yellow metal shank stamped 18ct, size M. *Golding Young Ltd, Lincoln. May 12. HP:*