

JULY 2012

HAMID BROS OFFER...

- Stock consisting of a wide variety of fine quality gems individually selected to meet our high standards (also parcels of less significant gems for small orders and jobbing).
- Extensive selections of gems on approval to customers to show their clients.
- Experienced and thoughtful sorting and matching gems for special orders.
- Matching gems for repairs and small orders.
- Educated and experienced staff in all areas of gems, their properties and treatments.
- Advice on values for existing pieces.
- Education and trade advice.
- Credit on purchases (where applicable).
- A friendly smile.

Beauty, rarity, individuality and durability are attributes which have made gemstones popular throughout history. Gemstones have been coveted for use as personal adornment, in charms and amulets to ward off evil, for religious artefacts and in the collections of celebrities and royalty. They have stood the test of time as they are handed down through generations and even endure centuries as the treasures of Tutankhamen prove.

We are looking forward to our buying trip this month to source new stock and to supply our customers with beautiful fine quality gems. The demand for gems is increasing and the diminishing supply has caused prices to increase. Although we will purchase some beautiful less expensive gem varieties in conjunction with the usual more valuable gems we will never compromise on quality as we know from experience, regardless of price, a fine quality gem is more saleable than a poor quality one at a lower price. As prices increase there is a trend to start searching for cheaper sources and alternatives. Our experience tells us that if something seems 'cheap' there is always a reason.

We have been asked to assess many 'cheap' rubies recently purchased through various means, some via internet, others while travelling overseas, at fairs etc. They were all glass filled or very poor quality and worth a fraction of their purchase price. Bargain priced Sapphires have proved to be synthetic or diffusion coated. The blue gem featured left was purchased on the internet as blue Tourmaline at a 'bargain' price but is in fact a synthetic sapphire... not such a bargain any more. Although some internet sellers offer money back guarantees, these are not always easily obtained and return postage and insurance can be costly.

WORKSHOP WARNINGS

In the past month we have seen a few casualties!

- An unsuspecting Jeweller was re-sizing a new Ruby ring for a client. The Ruby was not identified as glass filled and was destroyed during the sizing process. The jeweller was responsible for replacing the Ruby.
☞ *Check gems before starting work.*
- A busy Jeweller carelessly cleaned a Tanzanite in the ultrasonic, the Tanzanite fractured and had to be replaced by the Jeweller.
☞ *Never put Tanzanite in the ultrasonic.*
- A Peridot's surface was etched when put in a hot rhodium plating solution, it had to be repolished.
☞ *Peridot can be damaged in acids.*

BRONZE SAPPHIRE SET
7.45CT

SAPPHIRE SET
4.97CT

UNHEATED SAPPHIRE SET
3.26CT

TOURMALINE SET
9.97CT

TOURMALINE
3.55CT

TSAVORITE
1.28CT

APRICOT SAPPHIRE
2.78CT

PURPLE SAPPHIRE
3.14CT

PINK SAPPHIRE
3.32CT

YELLOW SAPPHIRE
1.26CT

YELLOW SAPPHIRE
1.75CT

YELLOW SAPPHIRE
1.16CT

CHRYSOBERYL
2.59CT

PADPARADSCHA
1.89CT