Conference 2019

The Association's largest meeting opportunity this year will be opening its doors on the 14th September, and in its 29th year it promises to be bigger and better than ever.

Organisers of the very popular Loughborough Conference have titled the weekend event: 'adding value to your jewellery journey', resulting in more keynote talks and practical sessions lined up to help individuals and businesses prosper, both technically and commercially.

Building on previous years, guest speakers will take delegates through technical topics such as designer and antique jewellery, diamond testing, gem identification (including jade, opal, pearls and emeralds), silver and hallmarking. Exciting keynotes on how to market and protect your business also form part of the line-up. On site, the conference will also be running practical workshops on valuation and appraisal methodology, covering image enhancement, valuation software packages, probate, post-loss assessment, Capital Gains Tax, gemstone pricing and colour grading.

Keynote speakers include:

- **Kerry Gregory**
- **Rosamond Clayton**
- **Harriet Kelsall**
- **Steve Carson**
- **Ginnie and Leo De Vroomen**

Held at the University of Loughborough, nestled in the well-connected East Midlands, the conference venue benefits from an on-site, four-star hotel forming an inclusive location for new and returning conference attendees. The 2019 Conference has 25 workshops in total, six of which sessions can be chosen for delegates to attend., with each lasting for 90-minutes.









▲

Frank Wood, PTSI Chair said: "We welcome everybody to this popular event, both from the UK jewellery industry and colleagues from around the world. One of the key components of the event is our range of workshops from lecture-based talks to 'get down and dirty' hands-on sessions. My advice would be to book these up early as space is limited."



Whether, you want to learn something about a fashion house, how to identify green gemstones, promote your business on the internet or embellish your valuations with quality images we'll have a workshop for you – not to mention others covering topics you may not have even thought of. The 2019 conference is setup to have something for everyone, whether you've been in the trade for more years than you care to mention or have only recently joined – the Loughborough Conference has it all.

In addition to the workshops the event ensures an invaluable networking opportunity with dinners and breakout sessions built into the weekend's activities. Delegates will also have the chance to debate and discuss trade-related issues of importance to them and to the trade as a whole.

Entry routes into the world of appraisal are held as part of the conference, with a 'Welcome to Valuing' session on the Sunday for **£75** plus VAT, which includes the rest of the day's programme, lunch and refreshments. FIRVs **Shirley Mitchell** and **Tim Bicknell** will run through what a valuer does in their day-to-day business to give an insight into this specialised aspect of the jewellery trade.

Retail Therapy

Between talks and workshops and before the evening meals, delegates will have time to visit exhibitors in the **Gemstone Market**. The Gemmological Association will offer attendees the opportunity to purchase books and instruments from selected suppliers, and gemstones will be available from selected dealers. Further exhibitors are set to join the line up in due course.

What does attendance at the 2019 conference include?

The Conference Package Fees includes meals but not overnight accommodation (delegates must book this direct with the venue), starting from £428 plus VAT for members, including:

- **Keynote presentations on each day, and selected supporting presentations**
- **Six 90-minute workshops across the Saturday, Sunday and Monday**
- **Opportunities to purchase instruments and books**
- **Valuation software skills surgery**
- **Access to the Gemstone Market**
- **Refreshments throughout the conference, three lunches and two dinners (with wine)**
- **A Welcome Reception (with wine)**
- **Entry into a conference raffle (additional tickets will be available to purchase at the conference)**

Non-members can also attend for an **additional £125** plus VAT per person, and part attendance is also available for 1 or 2 days.

"This event is informative, educational and entertaining – you really shouldn't miss it. Just ask the delegates who have been coming every year for the last 25 years or more!"



▲

For enquiries contact Sandra Page:
029 2081 3615/
irv@naj.co.uk /
naj.co.uk/conference