

# JQ Life

Issue 2 - Autumn 2018



JEWELLERY QUARTER BID  
*Life in the Quarter*

[www.jewelleryquarter.net](http://www.jewelleryquarter.net)

FREE

## “ BUILD IT AND THEY WILL COME ”

JAVELIN BLOCK'S  
STUART HOLT SHARES  
HIS STORY OF THE JQ

### ▶ **How We Make It**

Struthers Watchmakers  
reveal what makes a  
watch tick

### ▶ **90 Years of Change**

Marie Haddleton takes  
us on a JQ journey - from  
the slums to the sixties



LIVE

LEARN

WORK

VISIT



The image shows the interior of a jewellery making store. The space is filled with various display cases and shelves. On the left, there are glass display cases with labels like 'CHAIN' and 'JEWELLERY CR'. In the center and right, there are shelves with product boxes labeled 'ESSENTIALS'. The store has a modern, clean aesthetic with wooden paneling on the walls and a light-colored floor. A small table with four blue chairs is visible in the foreground.

## THE UK'S LARGEST JEWELLERY MAKING STORE

With 1000s of products on display including tools, findings, chain, everyday essentials and gemstones, you'll find everything you need in one store. Plus, you can get advice and inspiration from our expert staff, and try before you buy in our Workshop.

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# From a Great British Summer to a Golden Autumn in the JQ



Looking back at the past few months, it's fair to say we have experienced a 'Great' British Summer... the (sustained) heatwave, England reaching the World Cup semi-finals, and the

lunar eclipse. Here in the vibrant Jewellery Quarter, the JQ Festival brought many visitors into the area to enjoy the live entertainment, activities, various trails, tours, and demonstrations (discover more on page 8). The JQBID organises the event but it's very much a collaborative project and we'll be announcing the date for next year's event during the Autumn.

The Clean Air Zone consultation has been one of the major talking points for businesses and residents. Two members of the community put forward their views on page 9. As development continues to shape the JQ, we gain a revealing insight into the world of dynamic and visionary

reanimator, Stuart Holt (pages 14 - 19). Javelin Block has stamped its mark and is creating spaces for the whole community from residents to entrepreneurs.

In this issue, Marie Haddleton is one of our guest contributors, beginning the first part of her reflections on life in the Jewellery Quarter. A well-known figure, her passion and verve for the area is stronger than ever and we're delighted that she shared her story with us (pages 26 -27).

Your Autumn calendar will undoubtedly be filling up but make sure to save the date (16th November) for the official JQ Christmas Lights Switch On event.

Join us from 5pm onwards on the Golden Square as world-renowned sculptor, Willard Wigan MBE, turns on the lights and the Christmas tree!

Enjoy reading.

## Luke Crane

JQDT Executive Director

To find out more about the JQBID, visit [www.jewelleryquarter.net/jqbld](http://www.jewelleryquarter.net/jqbld)

 @jq\_bid

 [facebook.com/JewelleryQtr](https://www.facebook.com/JewelleryQtr)

 @JQBID

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**JEWELLERY QUARTER BID**  
*Life in the Quarter*

The Jewellery Quarter Business Improvement District (JQBID) provides a welcoming environment for visitors, keeps the streets clean and safe, and invests in projects to improve the area.

[www.jewelleryquarter.net/jqbld](http://www.jewelleryquarter.net/jqbld)

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JEWELLERY QUARTER BID  
*Life in the Quarter*

# JQLife

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IF YOU HAVE A STORY YOU'D LIKE  
TO SHARE IN JQ LIFE, GET IN TOUCH  
ON [JQLIFE@DIGITALGLUE.EU](mailto:jqlife@digitalglue.eu)



# Here's what you might have missed in the JQ...

## KAIZEN PERFORMANCE CENTRE

Created as a unique, one-of-its-kind experience in the heart of the Jewellery Quarter, Kaizen Performance Centre offers a personalised and professional service to its customers. The centre was founded by Darryl Canham and accommodates fitness fans from every capacity; whether you're a first-timer or a regular gym-goer, classes are available in gyrokinesis, martial arts, yoga, MetCon, and strength and conditioning, in a programme to suit you.

Kaizen Performance Centre is now open at 60 Frederick Street, B1 3HS

[www.kaizencentre.co.uk](http://www.kaizencentre.co.uk)

## STAN'S CAFE

The JQ's best kept secret, theatre company Stan's Cafe, create work in a corner of the AE Harris factory, touring to critical acclaim in the UK and around the world. Catch them in their home city for the world premiere of new production, *The Capital*, at Birmingham Repertory Theatre, 24-27 October.

Following five very different people's lives as they crisscross the city in pursuit of five very different ambitions, *The Capital* uses moving walkways, bold performance, and a rich soundtrack to turn its themes of financial inequality and strained human relationships into a vivid visual story told without words.

For tickets, visit [www.birmingham-rep.co.uk](http://www.birmingham-rep.co.uk)

## COOKSONGOLD

Cooksongold is commemorating 100 years in business in the JQ with the launch of a new revamped store. The store has been given a complete refurbishment and now has the facility to display thousands more products, as well as a new workshop area, which will allow customers to try before they buy.

You can find Cooksongold at 59-83 Vittoria St, B1 3NZ

[www.cooksongold.com](http://www.cooksongold.com)

## FJD CONSULTING LTD

Congratulations are in order to FJD Consulting Ltd, who were awarded the 'Best Small Medium Enterprise (SME) in UK Civils' at the NCE 100 Awards 2018 for their exceptional work reuniting two sections of the Great Central Railway in Loughborough to create a continuous 18-mile heritage railway.

FJD Consulting are based at 87 Caroline Street, B3 1UP

[www.fjdconsulting.co.uk](http://www.fjdconsulting.co.uk)

## MASGROVES

Quickly settling into the hustle and bustle of second city life after moving from London in June, the award-winning internal communications agency have been busy helping businesses of every size and sector in Birmingham and beyond over the last three months.

Masgroves are based at Warden's Dining Room, Assay Studios, Newhall Street, B3 1SF

[www.masgroves.com](http://www.masgroves.com)

## CHECK OUT WHO'S JOINED THE JQ

### Dental FX Clinic

[www.dentalfxclinic.co.uk](http://www.dentalfxclinic.co.uk)

### Escape Reality

[www.escapereality.com](http://www.escapereality.com)

### KCPA Accountants

[www.kcpaccountants.uk](http://www.kcpaccountants.uk)

### Made

[www.made.uk.com](http://www.made.uk.com)

### Posh Life

[www.instagram.com/poshlifehair\\_uk](http://www.instagram.com/poshlifehair_uk)

### Pure Essence Greetings

[www.pureessencegreetings.co.uk](http://www.pureessencegreetings.co.uk)

### The Rebel Desi

Search 'The Rebel Desi' on Facebook

### The Senator Group

[www.thesenatorgroup.com](http://www.thesenatorgroup.com)

### Tokyo Tattoo

[www.tokyotattoo.co.uk](http://www.tokyotattoo.co.uk)

### Two Phat Cooks

[www.2phatcooks.com](http://www.2phatcooks.com)

### Wellbeing Treatment

[www.wellbeingtreatment.com](http://www.wellbeingtreatment.com)

### White River Diamonds

[www.whiteriverdiamonds.co.uk](http://www.whiteriverdiamonds.co.uk)

In the last issue, we incorrectly listed The Pit Gym's website. Please visit [www.thepitgymjq.com](http://www.thepitgymjq.com) to find out more about the body transformation gym.

# JOBID & JQDT Highlights

## AUTUMN 2018



## TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE EVENTS SO FAR...

The Townscape Heritage Project aims to engage local people – both within the JQ and beyond – with the area’s rich history through events and community outreach. The programme is just getting started, but here’s a snippet of what’s happened so far.

- **The Challenge at the JQ Festival** – as part of the programme, we teamed up with The Challenge, the people behind the National Citizenship Service, to help a group of young people organise and run their own kids craft activity at the JQ Festival, which took place on Saturday 21 July. This gave young people the chance to develop their skills and help the public engage with the area’s heritage.
- **The Great Get Together For Ladywood** – we joined up with the Ladywood Project and other partners in and around the Jewellery Quarter to deliver a fun programme of family-friendly events on the 23 June, including a calligraphy class from the Pen Museum and a JQ streetscape craft activity with the TH team.



## SAY HELLO TO THE TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE PROJECT

On the 20 July, the JQDT launched the Townscape Heritage project with our 'Celebrating the Jewellery Quarter: Past and Future' event, held in partnership with the School of Jewellery. Attendees enjoyed casting demonstrations from the School of Jewellery's Dauvit Alexander, an exhibition of recent work from the school's students, and film screenings of Jewellery Quarter archive footage and the new Townscape Heritage film.

The Townscape Heritage programme will take place for three years from 2018 to 2021, aiming to regenerate the 'Industrial Middle' of the JQ through delivering restoration work to buildings, and improving visitor and local engagement with the heritage of the area.







## What's Next

### BIRMINGHAM HERITAGE WEEK (6–16 SEPT 2018)

We've been working hard on this year's Birmingham Heritage Week. As well as organising a history talk in the Big Peg's Sky Lounge and various creative workshops, this year we've partnered with the Roundhouse to bring you 'Love Your Buildings' day – an event dedicated to exploring the history behind two of the JQ's most important buildings. Emma Wright from The Emma Press has also developed a new workshop for children where they use buildings of the Jewellery Quarter as inspiration to 'build a poem'.

### SPOTLIGHT ON A STREET

Longing to know more about the heritage of the JQ? Look no further than our Spotlight on a Street event, which highlights the histories of some of the JQ's most important and historic streets. Join us this November to find out what Legge Lane used to look like, facts about its history, and the stories of the people and businesses it was home to. Keep an eye out for more details coming soon!

## WANT TO BE INVOLVED IN THE TOWNSCAPE HERITAGE PROGRAMME?

There's plenty of ways to get involved with the programme. Here's just a few of them...



#### Volunteering

Whether you want to assist us on one of our events, undertake some research, write a blog or interview people for our oral history project, we're always on the lookout for more volunteers!



#### Businesses

If you have skills you'd like to volunteer or a space for an event, get in touch to discuss how we might be able to work together.



#### Share your story

Do you or someone you know have a slice of JQ history you'd like to share? Get in touch!

To get involved, get in touch with JQTH Activities Programme Manager [kate.oconnor@jqdt.org](mailto:kate.oconnor@jqdt.org)



# THE LATEST FROM THE JQ BID



## JQ FESTIVAL – THAT’S A WRAP!

The JQBID worked with partners to deliver this year’s JQ Festival. Now in its fourth year, the event celebrates the heritage, craft, and everything else that makes this area fantastic, and attracted visitors from across the region.

If you are interested in getting involved with the JQ Festival 2019, please get in touch via phone on **0121 233 2814** or email [info@jqdt.org](mailto:info@jqdt.org)





# Breathing easy in the JQ

## THE CLEAN AIR ZONE PROPOSES A CHALLENGE FOR THE JQ, BUT ALSO PLENTY OF OPPORTUNITIES

GUEST COLUMN

Nearly 900 Brummies die annually because of issues linked to air pollution. That equates to 9 people who work in the Jewellery Quarter dying early every year and many more who suffer with issues such as asthma and heart disease.

Birmingham has been told by central government, following a Supreme Court ruling, that it needs to tackle the problem by introducing a Clean Air Zone (CAZ). The details of such a zone have been left for Birmingham City Council to determine through consultation, but we must achieve a significant reduction in air pollution, otherwise the city faces annual multi-million-pound fines and the potential for further legal action.

The JQ is one of the worst hotspots in the city – Great Charles St Queensway has air pollution more than 25% higher than the legal safe level. Vittoria Street, Newhall Street, and Graham Street also exceed safe limits.

The introduction of a charge will be a challenge for the JQ. Small businesses who rely on multiple deliveries or despatches may struggle to upgrade their fleet, and it will disadvantage those with older cars who cannot easily switch to public transport. Shoppers may choose to go somewhere that offers free parking, and our

pollution hotspots may simply move from the A38 to the ring road.

However, there are benefits beyond public health. Commuters parking in the JQ will be discouraged, freeing space for shoppers, workers, and residents. Traffic levels will improve. Better streets and air quality is a big sell for the Quarter. More use of public transport increases footfall, and more people visit shops, cafes, and bars when they are on foot rather than in the car. Plus, revenues and grants related to the CAZ should allow for more investment in public transport.

The CAZ – or something like it – *will* happen, but there's an opportunity for the JQ to say what it wants in return. We need to make it easier for pedestrians to get around. We need more cycling facilities – secure parking, bike hire, dedicated cycle lanes. An extension to the tram's £1 short-hop, live transport timetables, 24/7 public transport along arterial routes – these things will help the JQ thrive. Plus, we could finally break down the barrier that is Great Charles St Queensway and get more people coming in from town. But throughout this, it's important to remember that the JQ community – especially our manufacturing businesses – will feel the impact of the CAZ and need help to make the transition. It is crucial



MARK LEVER



MATTHEW BOTT

that we shape our priorities now to help the JQ adapt as it has done throughout its history.

The CAZ is an opportunity and a challenge. It's a chance to not only clean up our air and reduce traffic, but to drive investment into transport, provide a better pedestrian environment, and get more people on our streets. For our part, we need to raise the JQ's profile further and provide a compelling reason to come. If we can give visitors, shoppers, businesses, and residents a unique experience that can't be found anywhere else in the city – or country – they will flock to us, and the CAZ won't even be on our radar.

Mark Lever is a Transport Planner, a JQ resident, and a member of the JQDT. Matthew Bott is a resident and a member of the JQDT. Both write here in a personal capacity.

Want to have your say on one of the JQ's hot topics? Email [jqlife@digitalglue.eu](mailto:jqlife@digitalglue.eu)

Find out more about the **Clean Air Zone** at [www.birmingham.gov.uk/caz](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/caz)



# *What's On: What to watch out for in the JQ this Autumn*

**AS WE HEAD INTO THE AUTUMN, THERE ARE A RANGE OF EVENTS TO SHOWCASE THE JQ - EXPECT CHRISTMAS LIGHTS, FIREWORKS, EXHIBITIONS, AND MORE.**

## LIGHTING UP THE JQ

Date: 16 November  
Time: 5pm onwards  
Location: Golden Square

Yes, it's that time already - we're kick-starting the festive period in November with our annual Christmas lights switch on and fireworks display. This year we're illuminating the JQ with our jewellery-themed lights which will be officially switched on by Willard Wigan MBE, creator of the world's smallest handmade sculptures. You'll also be able to grab a bite to eat from some of Birmingham's favourite street food vendors and enjoy some brilliant live performances held on the stage on the Golden Square.



Keep up to date with all the happenings in the Jewellery Quarter by visiting [www.jewelleryquarter.net/whats-on](http://www.jewelleryquarter.net/whats-on)

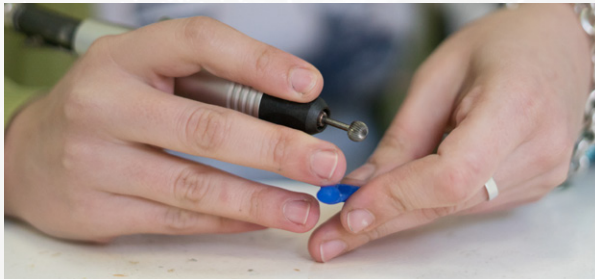


## OPEN STUDIOS

Dates: 24 - 25 November

Times vary: visit [www.jqopenstudios.wordpress.com](http://www.jqopenstudios.wordpress.com) or Twitter - @JQOpenStudios

The JQ is a hub of hidden studios and workshops, and it's often tricky to know where to find them. But look no further - this autumn, makers, artists, and designers will be opening their doors and inviting you to come and see what they do. Come along to discover some of the behind-the-scenes secrets that lie in our makers' studios - commission a piece of jewellery, buy bespoke pieces, and find out first-hand why the area is so buzzing for the maker community.

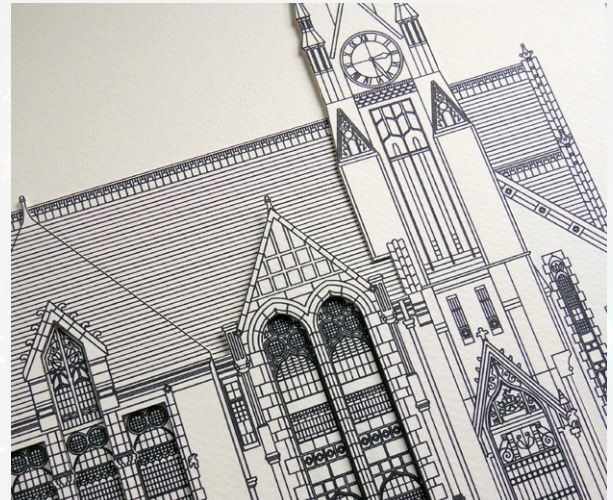


## MADE ON THE CANAL - 'THE JEWELLERY QUARTER AND A LITTLE BEYOND' EXHIBITION

Dates: 15 June - 10 November

Location: The Museum of the Jewellery Quarter

Thomas Parry, AKA MadeOnTheCanal, is the man behind the Museum of the Jewellery Quarter's latest exhibition, 'The Jewellery Quarter and A Little Beyond'. The exhibition showcases the changing skyline of Birmingham, featuring some popular and some more obscure landmarks that span a couple of centuries. The buildings are all captured in Thomas' intricate 3D illustrations, which he designs and makes on his narrow boat, The Menace. Head on over to the Museum of the Jewellery Quarter and take a closer look at some of the stories the historical buildings of the JQ and surrounding area hold.





# *Collaboration, Opportunity, Respect, and Excellence in the JO*

**“ WHEN A SCHOOL IS AFFECTED BY FACTORS OUT OF ITS CONTROL, THE SCHOOL AND STUDENTS TAKE A KNOCK TO THEIR SELF-ESTEEM. ”**

ADRIAN PACKER, CEO OF THE CORE (COLLABORATION, OPPORTUNITY, RESPECT, EXCELLENCE) EDUCATION TRUST SHARES HIS VISION FOR THE ACADEMIES LOCATED IN THE JO AND WHY HE IS WELL-PLACED TO CREATE A SECURE AND EXCITING FUTURE FOR THE SCHOOLS.

JEWELLERY  
QUARTER  
ACADEMY





Adrian Packer is no stranger to facing challenging schools – in 2016, he was appointed to take over two Birmingham schools involved in the so-called Trojan Horse scandal, and tasked with turning around Perry Beeches Academy Trust. Praised for their passion and determination by Ofsted inspectors, Adrian and his team are well-placed to create a secure and exciting future for the Academies located in the Jewellery Quarter.

The CORE Education Trust sponsors two schools in the JQ – the Jewellery Quarter Academy and Central Academy (previously City Academy). The Trust has adopted an outward-facing approach that will help transform the Academies in a way which will benefit not only the students, but the JQ community.

“Our vision for the Academies is to provide students with specific opportunities to get involved in the JQ – whether that’s through involvement in local events or gaining experience in industry. The JQ has such a strong business element; we need to take advantage of that and encourage students and the community to interact with each other – there’s not enough conversation between the two at the moment.”

To encourage this conversation, the CORE Education Trust are focusing on a collaborative leadership approach, whereby a bespoke network of partners that will benefit the aspirations of the schools and the surrounding community is developed. “We listen to leaders, look at our students, and seek out partnerships that will work for them. Although the schools are similar in ethos, the JQ Academy and Central Academy have, and are encouraged to have, their own individual identities.”

These identities are seen in the two areas the schools have a particular appetite for – Sports, and Arts and Culture. “When looking for partnerships, we make sure it’s the right match,” Adrian says. “Our students’ passion for Sports, and Arts and Culture means we are focusing on generating opportunities in those fields.”

And Adrian certainly makes the most of his connections when it comes to creating these partnerships. He set up the Everton Free School, sponsored by the Premier League football club, in just three months in 2012, and spent 12 years as Senior Artistic Director at South London’s performing arts school, The Brit School.

***We listen to leaders, look at our students, and seek out partnerships that will work for them.***

An Arts partnership recently set up by the Trust is the Echo Eternal project which is supported by the UK Holocaust Memorial Foundation. The JQ Academy and Central Academy are the first two schools in the country to trial the project, where students are encouraged to reflect on stories of British Holocaust survivors through the Arts. The performances are captured on film and will be showcased at the memorial event in London in 2021. These can be watched at [www.echoeternal.uk](http://www.echoeternal.uk).

In line with encouraging students of the Academies to engage positively with the



**ADRIAN PACKER**

community, the Trust are also working in partnership with Sainsbury’s on a sports project – a nationwide summer camp aimed at getting kids active over the summer holidays. “Many of our students don’t have the opportunity to take part in physical activities over the 6-week break,” Adrian explains. “This is a really positive way to keep students active and encourage them to develop their social skills outside of school. In the future, we’d like to explore how this partnership can translate into the wider community, such as setting up family or community activity days.”

So, what does the future look like for the schools in the JQ?

“Our main goal is to continue to encourage a collaborative community culture that connects our students and the people, industry, and heritage of the JQ. This is an exciting time for both the Trust and our students, and we look forward to exploring more of these opportunities that will benefit the community as a whole.”

Find out more about the **CORE Education Trust** at [www.core-education.co.uk](http://www.core-education.co.uk) or on Twitter at [@COREeducate](https://twitter.com/COREeducate)



# *In Their Own Words: Stuart Holt*

IN EVERY ISSUE, WE INVITE A MEMBER OF THE JQ COMMUNITY TO TELL US ABOUT THEIR JQ IN THEIR OWN WORDS.

IN THIS ISSUE, STUART HOLT, FOUNDER OF JAVELIN BLOCK, SHARES HIS AWARD-WINNING JQ JOURNEY.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY TOM BIRD





NAME: **STUART HOLT**  
ORGANISATION: **JAVELIN BLOCK**  
JOB TITLE: **FOUNDER/MD OF JAVELIN BLOCK**



“ IT WAS 2005 AND I WAS RUNNING A LOT ALONG THE CANALS, TRAINING FOR THE NEW YORK MARATHON.

I didn't know Birmingham at all, so I came off the canals into the JQ to see what was going on a few times. I couldn't believe how neglected a lot of the buildings were. I was living between Birmingham, New York, and LA at the time, and knew that people would grab these buildings in other cities and do something constructive with them. There was so much opportunity, it was screaming out for somebody to do something. When I looked a bit deeper, one of the main reasons behind no one doing anything was people asking crazy money for these buildings. No one was prepared to put a spade in the ground and just go for it.

So, I bought a little map and started earmarking all the buildings I thought would be good to bring back to life. I was by no means a developer; I'm still not a developer, I'm a reanimator. Before this time, I'd only worked on my own properties. People were feeling what I was doing but it wasn't a business. That all changed when the credit crunch hit. The financial crisis actually did this city a lot of favours. It flushed out people who were holding on to these buildings hoping that someone was going to come in and pay them stupid money. People had to start letting them go, and as soon as I saw that, that was my opportunity.





Viceroy House was the first project we did in the JQ. We bought it for around 20% of its original price, which gave me the opportunity to practice all my ideas and concepts in this one unit. I had a vision of creating old artists' lofts like the ones in Soho, New York. It was a big risk doing something like that at that time.

***Not many people believed in me, they thought I was mad. But I knew it was going to showcase what Javelin Block was going to be and what it is today.***

And that's what set us apart. No one else was doing anything at that point because we were in a recession. But in recession comes opportunity.

It wasn't just about my ideas and what we were doing, it was about finding the right people. And that's what makes the JQ stand out. You can find people to do anything. There were and there still are a lot of great people here making things, and that's what I wanted to instill into every project.

***If you can get local people to gravitate to what you're doing, and you can form a community from it, it benefits the whole area.***

It's the people that have made Javelin Block the success it is today. I never set out to win awards but it's incredible when you do! The Riflemaker Building has recently been awarded the Birmingham Civic Society Centenary Renaissance Award, and The Compound has won multiple RIBA awards. This level of success has come from the passion of everyone who's worked on these projects. The awards aren't about me; they're about everybody else that works alongside us to make things happen.



## MY JQ, MY VISION:

One of the biggest things with development and redevelopment these days is getting people to understand that the world is changing. We don't need to be in an office. We can work in the park if we really want. The way the commercial world works is changing really quickly. We need to understand that maybe we don't need as much commercial space as we did previously, but we will always need places for people to both live and work; spaces that are inspiring people every day, in everything they do. We've got to look forward and consider what's needed.

Our vision means we haven't faced opposition to our projects. People recognise that we're doing the right thing by saving dilapidated buildings.

***If you destroy the heritage of the JQ, that's gone forever.***

It would have been a lot cheaper and easier to knock down a building like Comet Works but we wanted to save it. If you take the Riflemaker, for example, that'll still be here in 100 years with all that history and provenance. Does anyone actually want to live in a new shiny tower? I never build anything that I wouldn't live in myself. I want to build something that will make people stand back and say, "Wow, that's brought that back to life".





I worked with a blank slate on Water Street. An empty street with nothing on it. It allowed me to commit to restoring and reanimating these buildings so that people wanted to come and live in them. What we're doing now is creating spaces that will attract people to come to Birmingham to live and work. I want to populate our area with creative, free-thinking, forward-looking individuals. That was always something that was in my mind from day one. I don't think we had those individuals when I first started. When I first came here, there was nobody around.

***Now we have a diverse set of people working in so many different fields, and I don't think you can compare this area to anywhere else in Birmingham.***

Its proximity to the city and facilities make it ripe for forming an incredible community.

People should always come first in the JQ. We need people living in the JQ to feed the businesses here. There's a fine balance between commercial and residential; the

residential feeds the commercial, filling businesses like Saint Kitchen, The Indian Brewery, and Henrietta Street Gym every day. We have the opportunity to form a small local economy in the JQ. People complain about the ring road cutting the area off, and it is a pain to an extent, but it also defines the JQ from the city.

***Let's worry about what we're doing on this side of the road. Build it and they will come.***

We've proved that with some of the big names we've had come through the doors of The Compound; Steven Spielberg, Ed Sheeran, Microsoft, Red Bull, to name a few. I took everyone from Red Bull to the Hen and Chickens and all the crew at Warner Bros ate there most lunchtimes!





# MY JQ, MY ONES TO WATCH:

One of the things that really infuriates me is when people build something and don't care about what they're doing and the community around them. Most developers, if they've got to put a commercial entity within their building, don't really care about it. They're not bothered about who goes in. I don't work like that. Developers have a responsibility to make sure that all the spaces in their building are taken up. There's a lot to be said about going out to the local community, which is what I did.

## SARTO

Most developers would forget about a basement, but we wanted to use every inch of the Riflemaker Building. It started when Aaron, the owner of Sarto, cut my hair a couple of times. My mum, a hairdresser, told me it looked nice and she never said that! So I knew he must be doing something right and I had a chat with him. Aaron told me what he wanted, and he listened to my ideas. He's a local lad that needed to be given an opportunity. We designed the salon, set it all up, and we let him run with it. He's employed two local people in his first few months which is brilliant. I'm a big believer in giving people responsibility.

Book an appointment at Sarto at [www.sartohair.co.uk](http://www.sartohair.co.uk)



## HENRIETTA STREET GYM

Neil, the owner of Henrietta Street Gym, was considering moving out of the city because it just wasn't affordable. I showed him what we could do with the space he's in now (which was previously an old garage). Now he's paying no service charge, less rent, and is in a bigger and better building. He was open enough to run with my ideas and his business is now flourishing.

Join Henrietta Street Gym at [www.henriettastreetgym.com](http://www.henriettastreetgym.com)



## PMP

In the Riflemaker, we've got PMP Consultants, who do all my quantity surveying. They wanted their own space, so we built it for them. They're a relatively young and progressive company, and it's exciting to see them grow.

Find out more about PMP Consultants at [www.pmpconsultants.co.uk](http://www.pmpconsultants.co.uk)



## P&CO

P&Co did a shoot in The Compound not long after they started, and I've really enjoyed seeing their growth. They were just two lads who started a t-shirt brand who are now selling all over the world, based out of the JQ.

Check out P&Co at [www.pand.co](http://www.pand.co)





# MY JQ, MY PICKS:

## FAVOURITE PLACE IN THE JQ?

Is it narcissistic to say my office?



The Compound is a former textile factory, which has been converted by Javelin Block into an incredible creative space.

[www.the-compound.co.uk](http://www.the-compound.co.uk)

## FAVOURITE MEMORY IN THE JQ?

Painting over the swastikas on the side of Viceroy House! It was the first thing I did when I bought the building.



## FAVOURITE PLACE TO EAT IN THE JQ?

Hen and Chickens.



The much-loved traditional Birmingham pub was taken over by brothers Sonu and Sunny Rull from Handsworth in 2012, transforming it into a popular desi pub.

[www.henandchickens.co.uk](http://www.henandchickens.co.uk)

## WHAT EXCITES YOU ABOUT THE JQ'S FUTURE?



I'm excited about seeing how the AE Harris site develops. I think if that's done right, that could be a massive game changer for the JQ. The opportunity to create something amazing in this area is huge, and a development of that size done right and done sympathetically, could be a real winner for everybody. Plus, we are close to announcing something extremely special where people will have the opportunity to 'Buy To Live' within one of the JQ's most iconic buildings.

Keep a look out on our Instagram ([@javelinblock](https://www.instagram.com/javelinblock)) for news on this.

## FAVOURITE PUB IN THE JQ?

The Lord Clifden.



The Lord Clifden is a JQ staple, mixing tradition with quirky, and housing one of the best beer gardens in the city.

[www.thelordclifden.com](http://www.thelordclifden.com)





Make Sure

It Falls  
On Her Finger



# DIAMOND DEALER DIRECT

DIAMONDDEALERDIRECT.CO.UK

## FIND US AT

43 Warstone Lane  
Jewellery Quarter  
Birmingham  
0121 236 1907

## Our Service

When you visit Diamond Dealer Direct whether you are looking for a diamond engagement ring, diamond earrings or any other piece of diamond jewellery, you will always have a pleasant experience with one of our diamond specialists who will discuss your idea, needs, and budget, then present you different options and choices from our broad in-stock inventory.

## Delivering YES for over 40 years!

Diamond Dealer Direct established itself as a diamond wholesaler in 1972. As a longstanding supplier of finely polished diamonds, we quickly grew, and in 2005 the company decided to open its first public showroom in the Birmingham Jewellery Quarter and offer its wholesale prices to the general public. Since then, demand for our services has grown, and we have opened a further two showrooms and undertaken a significant internet presence.

GET COUPON



# Changing Spaces:

## A NEW CHAPTER FOR CONNOLLY'S

“ THE WINE INDUSTRY CAN SO OFTEN BE SEEN AS STUFFY AND ELITIST; WE WANTED TO CREATE SOMETHING COMPLETELY FRESH AND UPDATED, WHILST REMAINING TRUE TO OUR ORIGINAL VALUES. ”



### ABIGAIL CONNOLLY SHARES HER VISION FOR NEW WINE BAR, ARCH 13, WHICH MARKS A NEW CHAPTER FOR THE CITY'S OLDEST FAMILY-OWNED WINE MERCHANTS.

Nestled underneath the arches of the Jewellery Quarter's Livery Street lies Arch 13 – newly positioned in the front of Connolly's Wine Merchants. Abigail Connolly, daughter of Chris Connolly who has run the business since 1980, has taken the opportunity to transform the front space of the shop into a stylish wine bar.

Family-owned Connolly's certainly has a rich Birmingham heritage – shipping wine into the city since 1906, and in turn building a loyal following over the decades. After working as a sommelier in various fine dining restaurants in the region for a number of years, Abigail Connolly has jumped at the chance to refresh the business. "The idea for a wine bar to sit alongside the shop was born after I joined the family business," Abigail says. "And as the idea for Arch 13 grew, it just made sense to utilise the

front of the space and turn it into the wine bar."

In 1991, Connolly's opened underneath the arches on Livery Street. The historic industrial setting has become a part of the bar's identity. "We love where we're based, as you can probably tell by the name we adopted for the bar!" Abigail says. "Our aim with Arch 13 was to reflect the heritage of Connolly's and the bar was designed to emulate a traditional wine cellar. The fret cut metal work throughout is inspired by traditional stencils found on cellar barrels whilst flashes of copper, honed stone and zinc keep it slick and modern."

With such an established business at her fingertips, the desire to shake up the industry was a factor that contributed to Abigail's decision to change the format of the shop with her new venture. "The wine industry can so often be seen as stuffy and elitist; we wanted





to create something completely fresh and updated, whilst remaining true to Connolly's original values. I knew, for example, that I wanted to offer meats and cheese which would pair perfectly with our wine list."

And although the new bar looks to give the shop a fresh and modern edge, these engrained values are still retained and extend to the service provided to customers. "We pride ourselves on the personalised service we provide to our customers - the individuals who visit the bar are, and will always be, our main focus. The new format of the space means that people can now sit in, enjoy a glass or two of wine, and maybe something to eat. It's all about creating that experience."

***We love where we're based; the arches have become part of our identity as you can probably tell by the name we adopted for the bar!***



So, what makes the JQ the best place for Arch 13? "The JQ is really coming into its own and flourishing as an area, attracting a lot of investment and development in recent years. It's an interesting and unique place where modern builds are juxtaposed with pockets of history, much like Arch 13 itself."

**Arch 13 is now open.**

Find out more at [www.arch13bar.co.uk](http://www.arch13bar.co.uk)  
or call **0121 794 6636** to book a table.

# Ones To Watch

## TODAY'S JQ IS STILL A VIBRANT JEWELLERY MANUFACTURING HUB AND A HOTBED FOR ASPIRING CRAFTSPEOPLE.

GENERATIONS OF TALENTED MAKERS HAVE GRADUATED FROM THE SCHOOL OF JEWELLERY, GOING ON TO START THEIR OWN BUSINESSES OR WORK FOR THE BIGGEST NAMES IN THE JEWELLERY INDUSTRY.

UGNE NIKITINAITE

HND JEWELLERY AND SILVERSMITHING



"I'M MOSTLY INSPIRED BY NATURE, SPACE, AND ANYTHING THAT HAS A MYSTICAL OR MAGICAL TOUCH TO IT."

"A university focusing on jewellery in the very heart of a place literally called the Jewellery Quarter? It was an obvious choice for someone interested in a career in jewellery design. I was surrounded by makers and suppliers; not only would I get the education I wanted, but also the connections and services.

The JQ has everything a student needs. Everything is within a 5-10 minute walk, including many transport links to and from the city."

Check out Ugne's work at [www.moonlume.com](http://www.moonlume.com)

ELEANOR TUCKER

BA (HONS) HOROLOGY



"MY FINAL DEGREE PIECE IS INFLUENCED BY THE INCREDIBLE ASTRONOMICAL TOWN CLOCKS SUCH AS THE ONE IN PRAGUE, AND BY 16TH CENTURY TABLE CLOCKS - BOTH OF WHICH ARE SPECTACULAR WORKS OF BOTH ART AND ENGINEERING - ALTHOUGH THE MOVEMENT ITSELF IS ENTIRELY MY OWN DESIGN."

"The technical staff's expertise and the machinery available to us have been invaluable, and the rare processes or expertise not immediately available within the school are always easily sought within the Quarter. I think I speak for all horology students when I say that HS Walsh have been a total lifeline. Being able to pop around the corner and buy a very specific drill bit or watch part at ten to five in the evening has saved me on several occasions."

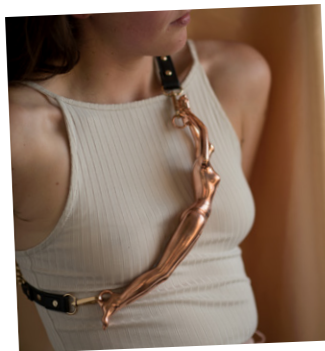
You can find Eleanor's work on Instagram: [@alittle\\_time](https://www.instagram.com/alittle_time)



## HECTOR MICHALOPOULOS

BA (HONS) JEWELLERY DESIGN AND RELATED PRODUCTS

"Birmingham's School of Jewellery is the best dedicated institution of its kind in the UK. There are some other excellent universities who have courses specialising in Jewellery Design, but none are placed in an area with such a rich history of craft and design whilst also offering access to technicians who cover virtually any specialist process you could need. Having the luxury of a network of artists and technicians is something I'm not sure I would have found in any other city."



"WHAT INSPIRES ME MOST IS THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TECHNOLOGY AND ART. ARTISTS TODAY MUST DEVELOP THEIR PRACTICE ON A PLATFORM LIKE THE INTERNET IN WHICH STYLES AND TRENDS CHANGE AT A MUCH FASTER RATE THAN THEY USED TO. I HOPE THAT MY WORK CAN MAKE PEOPLE MORE AWARE OF THE VULNERABILITY OF THEIR WORK AND IDEAS SINCE MEANS OF 'COPYING' USING TECHNOLOGY ARE BECOMING INCREASINGLY ACCESSIBLE."

PHOTO BY @L.ANNAJANE.L AND @HARISROUSSOS

You can find Hector's work on: [www.hectormichalopoulos.wixsite.com/artist](http://www.hectormichalopoulos.wixsite.com/artist)



## TYLER DAVIES

BA (HONS) HOROLOGY

"I am an Antiquarian Horologist and the proprietor of a small clock and watch repair business in the JQ. I was fortunate to gain three years practical experience on the bench at an established clock shop before my degree. As an apprentice clockmaker, the Jewellery Quarter presented unrivalled opportunities. Studying here, you are constantly reminded of the history we are becoming a part of. Although times have changed, it makes you feel proud to be involved; to some of us, that is the inspiration which drives us."

Visit Tyler's business, **Up to the Time**, located in **Unit 101a, Argent Centre, Frederick Street**



"IN AN AGE WHERE INFORMATION IS PRACTICALLY AT OUR FINGERTIPS, SURELY, WE MUST HAVE THE UPPER HAND? FROM MY STUDIES, I AM ASTONISHED BY THE COMPLEXITY, INTRICACY, AND WORKMANSHIP PRODUCED IN TIMES WHERE CANDLELIGHT LIT THE BENCHES AND KNOWLEDGE WAS NOT FREELY SHARED."



## ANDREW COWLEY

BA (HONS) JEWELLERY  
AND SILVERSMITHING – DESIGN FOR INDUSTRY

"Being in the middle of the Jewellery Quarter while studying made me really feel a part of the jewellery industry. I currently work for S.P.Green in the Jewellery Quarter. I work in the workshop doing a mixture of stone setting, mounting, jewellery repairs, CAD, and bespoke work."

"I WOULDN'T CONSIDER MYSELF A NATURAL DESIGNER, BUT I REALLY ENJOY MAKING JEWELLERY, AND THROUGHOUT MY TIME AT UNIVERSITY, I'VE ALWAYS SAID TO MYSELF I WANT TO MAKE EVERYTHING MYSELF AND NOT OUTSOURCE THE WORK TO OTHER PEOPLE."

You can find Andrew's work on Instagram:  
[@andrewcowley\\_jewellery](https://www.instagram.com/andrewcowley_jewellery)



Discover the latest from the School of Jewellery:  
[www.bcu.ac.uk/jewellery](http://www.bcu.ac.uk/jewellery)

Want to read the full interviews?  
Visit [www.jewelleryquarter.net/news](http://www.jewelleryquarter.net/news)

# 90 Years of Change:

## FROM THE SQUALOR OF THE SLUMS TO THE SWINGING SIXTIES

'The Queen of the Jewellery Quarter', Marie Haddleton, has witnessed 90 years of change in the JQ. In this issue, she shares the first part of her JQ story, taking us from the slums to the sixties, when the JQ as we know it began to emerge.

"Born in Tenby Street, I have spent most of my life in and around Birmingham's famous Jewellery Quarter. I left the Jewellery Quarter just before the start of WW2 as part of the Hockley slum clearance to live in the clean air of Great Barr in a brand new semi-detached house with modern sanitation, electricity, and a garden. When I returned to the JQ in the 1960s, memories came flooding back of the dirt, smell, and squalor of my former life in Hockley.

So, why did I return? In the 1960s, I was working as a Grade 1 Shorthand/Typist Temp and was sent by an agency as a 'trouble-shooter' to

firms where girls had refused to work. One of my assignments was at a silversmith's where the conditions were filthy; there was dust and pots of rat poison everywhere, some with dead rats lying beside them, and the toilet was in an open corridor with people walking past. You had to whistle to announce your presence!

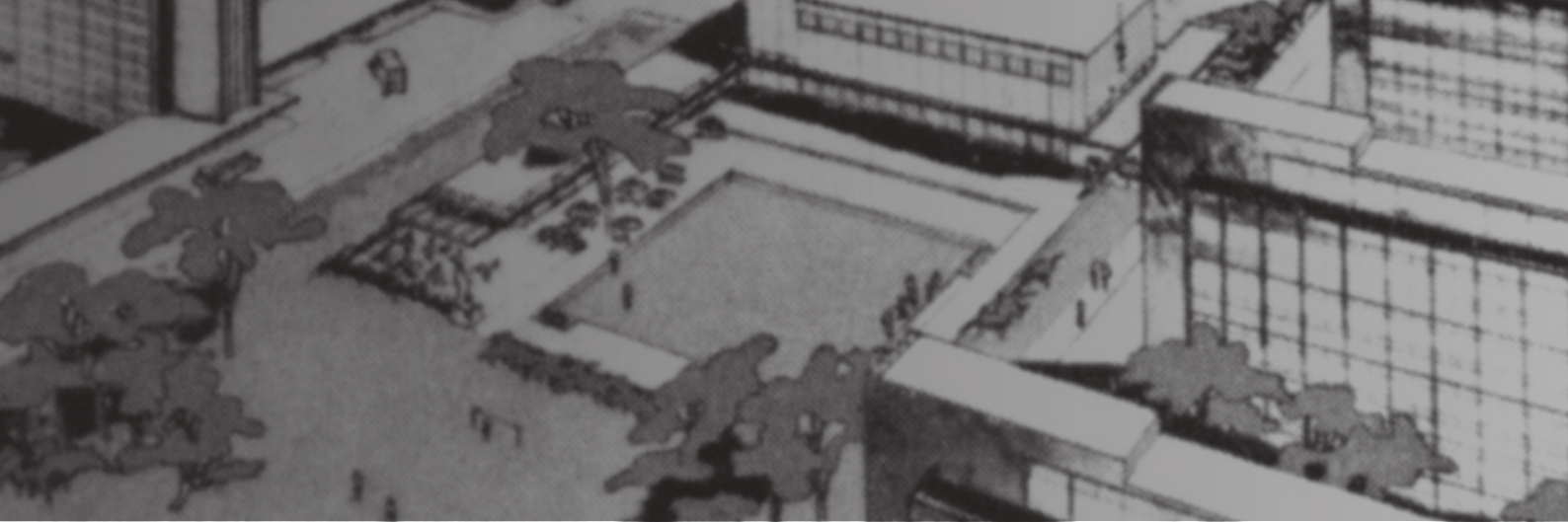
Over the next few years, I worked as a Temp for a number of different companies in Hockley. Some were clean, but you could not avoid the rundown slum houses, which were by then occupied by jobbing jewellers, and the dreadful state of the area in general.

Rubbish in the streets clung to your ankles as you walked along the badly maintained pavements, the broken guttering spilled water all over you when it rained, and at 6pm every Monday through to Friday, the whole area shut down and became deserted.



***...there was dust and pots of rat poison everywhere, some with dead rats lying beside them, and the toilet was in an open corridor with people walking past.***





## SIGNS OF CHANGE

The first real change was the building of The Hockley Centre (now The Big Peg). Where The Big Peg now stands was once the slum houses of the Quarter. By 1939, the tenants had been re-located, leaving empty dilapidated buildings which was made worse by German bombing and the many fires which were characteristic of the area. The need for redevelopment arose from the obsolescence of nearly all the property, the waste of space, the untidy layout, and the almost complete absence of amenities. In 1945, a scheme was prepared for the rehousing of the jewellery industry in six-storey flatted factories, and in 1966 the first building went up – The Hockley Centre. Mr Herman Kay of Kay Bevan Ltd., the developers, said that the name Hockley was famous in the USA and would immediately be connected with first-class jewellery!

Although it was designed to replace the rundown buildings around the central area, the developers failed to consult with the jewellers and the rooms were far too large with high ceilings, and the new factories along Vyse Street were also not suitable as small workshops. As the shortcomings of the brave new planning of the 1960s became all too apparent, people began to regret the loss of the terraced streets and of the communities that had lived in them. The Victorian Society

stepped in and the other Flatted Factories project was stopped at this point.

By this time, the factoring method of bringing work into the area had almost finished, but the small firms still depended on larger companies for outwork. High street jewellers also provided them with work, adding a huge mark-up to their own customers. This method kept the 'jobbing jeweller' very poor as agents visited self-employed individuals, or even groups, to get the lowest prices possible. The Birmingham Jewellery Association tried to set prices for work, but if you were hungry, you just ignored such recommendations.

At that time, the area was 'trade only' and visitors were unwelcome to say the least! But one sign in a window was about to change all that..."

**In the next issue, Marie talks about the JQ's retail transformation and the birth of The Hockley Flyer.**



**THE BIG PEG, THEN AND NOW**



Marie Haddleton is a founder member of the Jewellery Quarter Association and the founder of The Hockley Flyer, which she still publishes with her son, Mark. The Hockley Flyer celebrates its 400th issue in November.

Find out more about **The Hockley Flyer** at [www.thehockleyflyer.info](http://www.thehockleyflyer.info)

# How We Make It

## STRUTHERS WATCHMAKERS



### THE CARTER: A 19TH CENTURY WATCH FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

"The London industry is fast disappearing... we could only do what we do now in the Jewellery Quarter," says Rebecca Struthers. Struthers Watchmakers have had a home in the JQ since 2012, but Rebecca and Craig Struthers' connections to the area go back a lot longer than that – they first met here in 2004 at the Birmingham School of Jewellery. Since setting up in the JQ, the Struthers have operated from their workshop in Regent Place, restoring vintage watches and creating tailor-made and bespoke watch builds. They're a small team, but it doesn't stop them from working with the best in the business – both in the JQ and internationally. "We call it collaboration when a lot of other businesses would call it outsourcing because these people are very much part of the process," says Rebecca, "and they are very valuable to us."

The Carter, named after the client for whom it was built, is one of their tailor-made builds and their first pocket watch. Some of the pieces will go on to inform their first ever complete in-house movement – the first time this will have been done in Birmingham in 100 years. The process begins with Craig creating intricate illustrations as opposed to photo-realistic rendering, which is in line with the fact that most of their work is done by hand, using machines dating from anywhere between the 19th century to the 1950s. But the Struthers aren't stuck in the past – the Carter is undoubtedly the epitome of a 21st century luxury. In an age where all our handheld devices can tell us the time and more, watches aren't a necessity. Rather, they're something to enjoy. And with a watch made by Struthers Watchmakers, how could you not?



## HOW IS THE CARTER INSPIRED BY THE PAST?

### Parachute shock setting.

Modern watches use a system called an Incabloc Shock Absorber, a small spring system which absorbs the shock and protects the pivots if a watch is dropped. The Carter uses a different system. Invented in Paris in around 1790 by Abraham Louis Breguet, the parachute was the first shock absorption mechanism used in watches. As an 1880s watch movement with a 1790s shock system, the watch is the product of many different time periods. So why use this mechanism? In Craig's words, Struthers are driven by art more than technology.

## WHAT MAKES A WATCH TICK?

### English lever escapement.

The lever escapement was invented by British watchmaker, Thomas Mudge, in around 1755. A pin on the balance roller engages with the lever, knocking it back and forth, controlling the release of power from the mainspring. This is the part of a watch that creates the 'tick'.

## HOW DOES A WATCH TELL THE TIME?

### Balance assembly.

Comprising of a balance wheel, staff, hairspring, and roller; this is the part of a watch that oscillates to control the rate at which the watch runs.

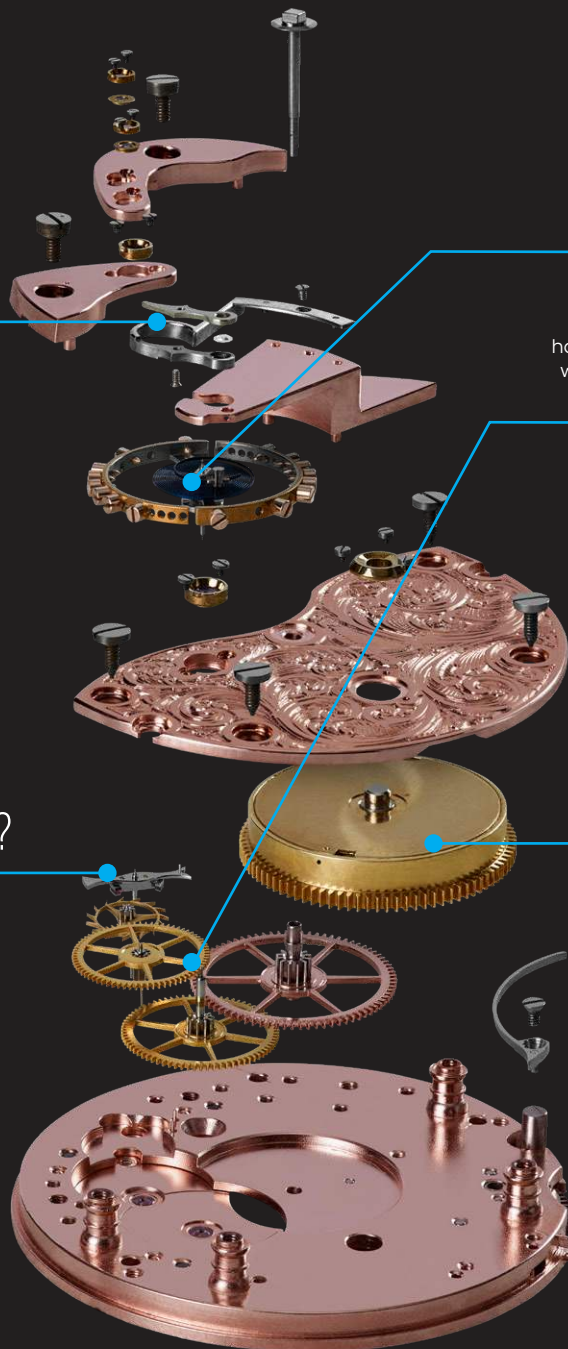
### Gear train.

A series of wheels and pinions gear the power of the mainspring down to speeds useable for timekeeping. The largest wheel, known as the centre wheel, turns once an hour.

## HOW IS A MECHANICAL WATCH POWERED?

### Mainspring barrel.

This contains a coiled spring which is manually wound. As the spring unwinds, it turns the toothed barrel creating the motion which powers the train.



[www.strutherswatchmakers.co.uk](http://www.strutherswatchmakers.co.uk)  
[www.twitter.com/StruthersWatch](https://twitter.com/StruthersWatch)  
[www.instagram.com/strutherswatchmakers](https://www.instagram.com/strutherswatchmakers)

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JONNY WILSON  
[WWW.JONNYWILSONPHOTO.COM](http://WWW.JONNYWILSONPHOTO.COM)

# My piece of the JQ

## A UNIQUE JEWELLERY REQUEST, FOR A SPITFIRE TEST

# VICTORIA JAMES

BESPOKE DIAMOND & GEMSTONE FAMILY JEWELLERS

It was a request Geoff Hinton had never had in his 50-plus years of being a jeweller in the Jewellery Quarter.

Diane Dudley walked into Vyse Street's Victoria James Jewellers over the summer, determined to turn her late husband's wedding ring into a Spitfire airplane.

"I'd never been asked to do anything like that in 53 years in the trade," Geoff said. He first politely declined Diane's wish as he didn't think it would be possible to melt the ring down enough to make the perfect Spitfire.

"It's fair to say Diane was quite persistent, and now looking back, I'm so happy she was."

Married for 21 years, Diane and Terry Dudley were very much the jet-setting couple; travelling everywhere from Goa to LA, Sri Lanka and Thailand, to name a few places.

"We had a wonderful life and saw many different countries together. Our special place was India; that's where Terry's ring was actually made. It was 9ct rose gold, he picked the diamond himself, and it only took a couple of days to make."

With a strong passion for airplanes and a devoted hobbyist, Terry has been described as 'absolutely plane mad' by his wife Diane. Working in precision toolmaking all of his working life, Terry sadly passed away in February this year after a short battle with cancer, aged 76.

With the Spitfire iconic of their hometown of Stoke, Diane deemed it only appropriate that his ring should, and would, be turned into the plane that he loved.

"I started looking at jewellers in the Jewellery Quarter. Victoria James just stood out to me from the rest, and as soon as I walked in and saw Geoff, I knew I'd made the right choice. I honestly couldn't be happier with how it's turned out and I'd say Geoff is my hero for doing such an amazing job."



Taking around four weeks to make, Geoff melted down the wedding ring into a stick of material, then proceeded to shape it and even make moving propellers, a separate heart piece, and a clip on the back to wear as a chain; something which Diane does every day.

***"I'm absolutely delighted, I know Terry would have loved it. I think Geoff saw it as a challenge, one of which I'm eternally grateful for."***

Geoff added: "I'm overjoyed to have made the Spitfire for Diane and it's a piece of jewellery I'll treasure making forever. It was an honour."

Looking for your perfect piece of jewellery? You can find Victoria James Jewellers on 39 Vyse Street, online at [www.victoria-james.co.uk](http://www.victoria-james.co.uk) or give them a call on **0121 515 1161**.





## ST PAULS CHAMBERS

£1.75m

A stunning three-bedroom duplex apartment which features a master suite complete with its own Steam Room. There are three outdoor terraces to enjoy views across the idyllic St Paul's Square.



## BROUGHTON WORKS

£625,000

A first floor loft conversion, set within a former Victorian Printers. The apartment benefits from having large living accommodation with dual aspect windows allowing a good level of natural light.



## NEW HAMPTON LOFTS

£499,950

An impressive duplex penthouse apartment set within the sought after Grade II Listed development New Hampton Lofts which must be viewed to appreciate the level of accommodation on offer. Measuring approx. 2200 sq.



## SQUIRREL WORKS

TO LET £2,500pcm

A well designed first floor two bedroom loft apartment in the heart of the Jewellery Quarter offering an immense amount of space throughout. The property comprises a large open plan living, kitchen, dining and study area.

RESULTS THAT MOVE YOU

0121 634 1520

maguirejackson.com

IN THE CONVENTION QUARTER - LIBERTY PLACE, SHEEPCOTE STREET. B16 8JZ

IN THE JEWELLERY QUARTER - 33 GEORGE STREET. B3 1QG

IN THE CITY CORE - 26 WATERFRONT WALK. B1 1SR





ENJOY

# Christmas in the Jewellery Quarter

SAVE THE DATE

Christmas Lights Switch On

*Friday 16<sup>th</sup> November from 5pm onwards*

Join us on the Golden Square for our annual festive fireworks, delicious street food and live entertainment. Stay warm with mulled wine and cider and watch as the lights are switched on by Willard Wigan MBE. Our special guest is the creator of the world's smallest handmade sculptures in history!

**EXPLORE** Get in from the cold with a visit to one of our museums

**SHOP** Find the perfect gift from over 100 jewellers & independent shops

**DINE** Meet for a meal at one of our huge range of restaurants & cafés

**CELEBRATE** Toast the festive season at one of our pubs & bars



**JEWELLERY QUARTER BID**  
*Life in the Quarter*

VISIT [WWW.JEWELLERYQUARTER.NET](http://WWW.JEWELLERYQUARTER.NET)

 @JQBID

 /JewelleryQtr

 @jq\_bid