

Gifts of Love

IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A GIFT OF LOVE, THE DIAMOND SHOP ON AUCKLAND'S QUEEN STREET OFFERS THE MOST EXQUISITE SELECTION OF PREMIUM QUALITY JEWELLERY, REGARDLESS OF TASTE OR BUDGET.



The Diamond Shop General Manager Dan, surrounded by sumptuous pearls and sparkling diamonds – could life get any better?

"We have many families who have purchased through The Diamond Shop for generations and will continue to do so."

with Tahitian pearls led him to manage Tahiti's most successful pearl retail business and has resulted in GIA (Gemological Institute of America) Certificates in Pearls and Diamonds. The GIA is the world's foremost authority in gemology. The GIA's mission is to ensure the public trust in gems and jewellery. Dan is also working toward his Diamond Grading Diploma which he expects to complete in 2008.

Dan joined The Diamond Shop in 2006 and is a welcome and valuable addition to the team. Win Charlebois comments, "We are very fortunate to have Dan come aboard with us. He is a talented retailer and is very focused on customer service."

In addition to his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Auckland University, majoring in the Italian language, Dan also speaks fluent French and Tahitian which is a huge bonus for the many international clients of The Diamond Shop.

While Dan and Brigitte are going to miss their home island of Moorea, Dan says that his decision to return to New Zealand was in part thanks to the opportunity to join the team at The Diamond Shop. "I'm able to continue my involvement with Tahitian pearls at a level that extends my expertise and passion for this most enchanting gem." says Dan.

Diamonds in her Blood

Nicola Baker, Manager of The Diamond Shop for three and a half years, has diamonds in her blood. Her father, Perry Frankham, was the original proprietor of Hamilton's Frankham's Jewellers and has been in the industry for over 45

years. "I don't remember a time when jewellery wasn't a part of my life, while most kids were learning their four times tables, I was also learning my four 'C's - cut, colour, clarity and carat!" says Nicola.

After working at the famous Harvey Nichols in London, along with years of experience in high end fashion retail within New Zealand, it's hardly surprising that Nicola has a reputation for her specialized knowledge and exceptional service. "It's extremely rewarding to work with clients on such a personal level. Making a decision about a piece of jewellery is not one that most people take lightly, so when someone is about to buy a ring or other item that will last a lifetime, it's an absolute privilege to be a part of that memorable moment."

Nicola's string of achievements include a GIA Diamond Diploma along with an ATCL and LTCL in piano, a wonderful marriage and an active interest in property development. "I'm always keen to learn something different and try new experiences."

With her outgoing and bubbly personality, Nicola shines as brightly as the diamonds and gems that she is so passionate about. "Our wonderful dynamic team here at The Diamond Shop makes for a vibrant, exciting place to work. Our clients enjoy receiving quality gems and quality service - it's what keeps them coming back year after year. We have many families who have purchased through The Diamond Shop for generations and will continue to do so."

My goal is to find exactly the right piece of jewellery for every client, whether it's a first pair of earrings, an engagement ring, or a unique gift for a special occasion. Regardless of their budget or experience in buying jewellery, I always give my clients the benefit of my experience along with an honest opinion." ♦

The Diamond Shop
280 Queen Street
(opposite Smith & Caughey's
Central Auckland)

Parking is available in the
Wilson parking building on
Kitchener Street.

Open 7 days a week

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With over 20 years in the industry, Company Director Win Charlebois and wife Linda have an extensive network of international contacts and can source rare and precious gems from all over the world, including the recently showcased 'Star of New Zealand' diamond. Mined in South Africa and worth a cool million, the 19.15 carat round brilliant diamond was on show for a short time before being sold to a Christchurch couple.

Globe-trotting clients of The Diamond Shop are well looked after by staff whose languages include French, Italian, Chinese, Mandarin, Cantonese and Tahitian.

Renown for specializing in Ideal Cuts to give maximum brilliance, The Diamond Shop also design and manufacture jewellery pieces to any specification. If you're looking for a truly special piece, their exquisite coloured diamonds are second to none.

Tahitian Pearl Expertise

Dan Robinson, General Manager of The Diamond Shop, is a fine example of what can be achieved through hard work, passion and a desire to succeed. After living in French Polynesia for 14 years, Dan has recently returned to his homeland of New Zealand with his wife Brigitte, and two young sons.

Turn back the clock to 1992 and you'd find Dan serving cocktails behind the bar in Club Med Moorea. Here he met an American pearl dealer who introduced him to the fascinating world of the Tahitian black pearl. Dan was soon captivated by this stunning gem, "With so many intense colours reflective of the deep Tahitian lagoons, the black pearl is truly one of nature's most prized treasures. Tahitian pearls offer such warmth and life, their unique and captivating colours earn it the rightful title as The Diamond of the Sea."

It didn't take long for Dan to become a passionate student of gemology. His fascination

Below: Nicola Baker,
Manager of
The Diamond Shop.

