

Online Auction #176 Report: The Jewellery Sale, 22 April 2020

499 lots of jewellery were offered, achieving total sales of £135,300 including premium. Just 14 lots were unsold on the day, giving a sales rate of 97%. Of the lots sold, 99% achieved top estimate or higher. There seems to be a scramble for portable valuables at present. We, and our vendors, are very much encouraged by this result.

This auction was conducted entirely via online, postal, and telephone bids. No room bidding, or even viewing in person was possible due to the 'lock-down'. Extra photographs and condition reports were provided to interested bidders, and the result seems as good, if not better than we might have hoped for before the crisis. In spite of everything that's going on it's actually an excellent time to sell.

The whole auction was fought over by online bidders between EasyLive and TheSaleroom; with the highest price being £13,000 hammer for lot 12; the 18ct white gold tennis style necklace set with 89 graduated diamonds.

Trends noted included strong bidding from Australia for opals. Gold is "up" therefore most lots were boosted by the demand. Masonic items, and quirky unusual charms were selling way above estimate. Art Deco style jewellery was in demand, including some heavy rings such as Lot 238 (£1850 hammer), and Lot 195 (£1050 hammer).

We aim to have another Jewellery Sale together and ready to schedule for around mid-July. The ease of communicating such material online, and shipping these portable items, together with the fantastic result, means that this type of auction could be a real winner for us and our clients during these challenging times. We urge potential vendors to get in touch without delay, as the market and demand for jewellery is extraordinary. This is likely to endure as the economic consequences of the present crisis play out. Portable valuables and collectables we anticipate to perform remarkably well.

Forthcoming online auctions are as follows: 2nd May: Banknotes. 13th May: Watches, Clocks, Silver & Collectables. 30-31 May: Coins, Medals & Militaria. Another Coins, Medals & Militaria auction is scheduled for 4-5 July, with consignment open until 22 May.

Other auctions to be scheduled include Toys and Ephemera. The Stamps, Postcards, Cigarette-Cards & Sporting Programmes may have to wait until the lock-down is lifted for public viewing, but we will have a bumper sale of these when possible.

Auctions will be built around material consigned to us directly. This means your own collection could form the nucleus of an online auction, or warrant a sale of its own depending on size/value. To re-iterate: Recent results indicate massive demand for collectables. We have the facilities, and staff (with all anti-viral precautions) in place to make the sale of your goods as convenient as possible. Don't hesitate to get in touch if you would like to find out more.



Lot 317: Victorian yellow metal Essex Crystal pendant sold for £720 hammer.