



NPA
**Conference and
Awards
2026**



Sponsors

General Sponsor for
Awards Dinner



YEHUDA

Exhibition from gam

AGM and Conference
starts at 10.30am

General Conference &
Awards Dinner Sponsor



Auction Revolution

Headline Sponsor

cashconverters

Headline Sponsor

H&T
PAWNBROKERS

Headline Sponsor

RAMSDENS

Networking Event
Sponsor

CASH SHOP

Morning Coffee



Lunch

Travellex

50
ANNIVERSARY
1976

Live Band

LG

THE LEWY GROUP

Champagne Reception

**STERLING VAULT
AUCTIONEERS**

Welcome Breakfast



Employee of Year Award

MM
MASTERMELT

Community Award



Store of Year Award

Clarity & Success

Certificate in Diamonds
Award

**GEMMOLOGY
ROCKS**

Student of the Year
Award

KV Consulting
Business Training & Support

Photobooth & Employer
of Year Award Sponsor

TH March
Insurance Since 1887

NPA's 133rd Conference

Friday 9th October

Hilton Tower Bridge Hotel, London

**Pull out
section**

Sponsors

Our Conference & Awards Sponsors

The NPA runs its Conference and Awards Dinner for the benefit of members. This is not a commercial event and we aim to keep the costs as low as possible. Costs to members are therefore subsidised by the kind support of our sponsors detailed in this section.

Associated Security Solutions



Associated Security is sponsoring the morning teas and coffees.

Associated Security is a family business with a well-earned reputation for being at the forefront of security innovation. With a nationwide network of depots and multiple manufacturing sites, we are proud to be the largest supplier of physical security solutions in the UK.

Auction Revolution



Auction Revolution is a general sponsor for both the Conference and the Awards Dinner.

Auction Revolution Ltd holds monthly auctions of watches, jewellery and silver and regular auctions of art, antiques and commercial stock. We are always seeking new stock for our regular auctions as well as classic cars and vehicles, collections and arranging commercial clearance for our constantly growing global client base.

Cash Converters



Cash Converters is a Headline sponsor.

Cash Converters is a leading UK pawnbroker and one of the country's biggest retailers in the buying and selling of second-hand goods. With 197 UK stores, split across corporate-owned and franchised, the business is focused on supporting its local communities and treating customers fairly through the variety of products and services it offers. The franchise groups can range from standalone stores to up to 30+ store operations. Corporate stores account for approximately one-third of the total UK network.

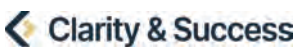
Cash Shop



Cash Shop sponsors the pre-conference Networking Event.

Cash Shop is a leading UK pawnbroking and retail financial services provider, dedicated to delivering fast, flexible and responsible solutions to our customers. With a strong high street presence and a growing digital offering, we specialise in pawnbroking, buy-back, retail jewellery and foreign exchange services. Our experienced teams pride themselves on exceptional customer service, transparency and building long-term relationships within the communities we serve.

Clarity & Success



Clarity & Success is sponsoring the Store of the Year Award.

Clarity & Success is now the single largest provider of stock management systems for retail jewellers in the UK. Since we acquired Bransom Retail Systems six years ago, we have been curating the knowledge and experience of the bsmart Pledge team and our valued clients to develop an entirely new Pledge system based on our Evolution platform. With an anticipated launch of summer/autumn 2026, parts of the new system are already in use. The Buy In module is already helping retailers buy and sell second-hand or scrap gold and jewellery, managing all the aspects of this sector including the margin scheme.

Gemmology Rocks



Gemmology Rocks sponsors the Certificate in Diamonds Award.

Gemmology Rocks, founded by Kerry Gregory (FGA, GIA GG, DGA, EG), delivers expert training and support for pawnbrokers and jewellers looking to strengthen their expertise. Blending real-world commercial experience with gemmological knowledge, the training helps you and your staff feel more confident handling, identifying and valuing gemstones and jewellery. Training is practical, engaging and tailored to your business, covering diamond and coloured gemstone identification. Gemmology Rocks also specialises in supplying recycled gemstones along with gemmological gifts and accessories. It's all about helping you feel more confident in what you do and getting better results!

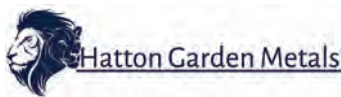
H&T Group



H&T Group is a Headline sponsor.

H&T is the UK's largest pawnbroker and a leading retailer of high-quality new and pre-owned jewellery and watches. They provide a range of transparent and accessible financial products tailored for a customer base with limited access to, or exclusion from, the traditional banking sector.

Hatton Garden Metals



Hatton Garden Metals is sponsoring the Community Contribution Award.

Hatton Garden Metals is a trusted UK precious metals dealer serving the trade since 2007. As an Affiliate Member of the London Bullion Market Association and an official partner of The Royal Mint, we are proud to deliver competitive pricing on scrap metals, in-house melt and assay services and reliable same-day payments. Known for accuracy, transparency and efficiency, Hatton Garden Metals supports pawnbrokers, jewellers, and retailers with scrap metal services, second-hand jewellery, and investment gold and silver products.

Sponsors

KV Consulting



KV Consulting is sponsoring the Student of the Year Award.

For over 12 years, KV Consulting has been offering comprehensive support to clients in the pawnbroking industry. Our expertise in this area ensures precise compliance guidance, ranging from reviewing or providing documentation to advising on handling complex customer inquiries resulting from forbearance.

Lewy Group



Lewy Group is sponsoring the Live Band at the Awards Dinner.

The development of the Lewy Group empire all started with just one store in Walthamstow, London, in 1998. Over the years, more stores have been added – now, there are 30 stores under the Lewy Group umbrella. Our success is down to the simple fact we are a family business, family run and owned. We are proud winners of the NPA's Employer of the Year Award 2025.

Niton



Niton sponsors the Welcome Breakfast.

Niton UK Limited is a family-owned business with over 25 years of experience and is a recognised leader in portable materials analysis across the UK and Ireland. Founded in 2000, the company specialises in handheld XRF and LIBS instruments, providing fast, accurate, non-destructive analysis for a wide range of industries. Built on professionalism, reliability and technical expertise, we pride ourselves on delivering exceptional service and long-term client relationships. With a dedicated UK-based sales and service facility,

Mastermelt



Mastermelt is sponsoring the Employee of the Year Award.

Mastermelt provides tailored precious metal reclamation and management solutions to a range of industries worldwide. We enable our customers to reduce their precious metal losses, generate value, even from complex waste materials, and contribute to sustainability through enhanced recycling. Mastermelt is committed to sustainability and responsible resource management.

Ramsdens



Ramsdens is a Headline sponsor.

The company is a diversified financial services provider and retailer, operating in the four core business segments of foreign currency exchange, pawnbroking loans, precious metals buying and selling, and retailing of second-hand and new jewellery. Headquartered in Middlesbrough, and from roots that can be traced back to the 1970s, the Group operates from over 160 stores within the UK (including two franchised stores) and has a growing online presence.

Sterling Vault Auctioneers



Sterling Vault is sponsoring the pre-dinner Champagne reception.

At Sterling Vault Auctioneers, we make selling and buying watches simple, secure and exciting. From vintage classics to modern marvels, our specialist team helps connect passionate collectors with standout timepieces. Trusted by clients across the globe, we're redefining the watch auction experience. We have a new service and NPA members are offered a 30-day free trial of Aperture giving unprecedented access to auction house sale prices for watches.

T.H. March



T.H. March sponsors the Employer of the Year Award and the Photo Booth.

With over 136 years as specialist insurance brokers, it offers products to suit the requirements of pawnbrokers. Cover can be arranged by professionally qualified, UK-based staff. Join in with the team to celebrate 136 years of Tommy March, the creator of the world's first jewellery insurance brokers in the heart of London's Hatton Garden.

Travelex



Travelex is sponsor of the Conference lunch.

Founded in 1976, Travelex's mission is to simplify access to international travel money, however and whenever. Through our retail, outsourcing and wholesale distribution models, we're able to serve our customers' travel money needs all around the world in over 80 countries.

Yehuda



Yehuda is a general sponsor for the Awards Dinner.

Sherlock AI and Watson AI uniquely use advanced AI to clearly mark and identify five types of stones - natural diamonds, CVD, HPHT, moissanite and CZ - in real time. With patent-pending CZ positive identification, they eliminate uncertainty, reduce errors and boost efficiency, empowering professionals to test multiple stones simultaneously with unmatched speed, confidence and precision.

Don't miss the evening's line-up of a pre-dinner Champagne reception, 3-course black tie dinner, Awards presentations, Lightspeed live band and the popular photo booth.

Exhibitors

Allica Bank



Allica Bank is on a mission to give established businesses the no-nonsense banking they deserve. That means a current account with no monthly fees, a relationship manager whose name and number they actually know, and technology that makes life easier, not harder. It's business banking how it used to be, just better.

Associated Security Solutions



Associated Security is a family business with a well-earned reputation for being at the forefront of security innovation. With a nationwide network of depots and multiple manufacturing sites, we are proud to be the largest supplier of physical security solutions in the UK. Our product range includes safes, strongrooms, security and fire-resistant doors, windows and roller shutters.

Bank of England

Detecting counterfeit banknotes should be standard loss-prevention practice. To help businesses identify genuine banknotes, the Bank of England provides a range of free staff training materials including a banknote app, computer-based training, booklets, posters and deterrent stickers. Its team will be giving advice about the Bank of England Banknotes Scheme which the NPA supports.

Bates Studio



Bates Studio is a specialist workplace design and project management company, delivering end-to-end interior solutions that transform how people work and interact with their spaces. From concept to completion, we partner with clients to design and deliver inspiring, functional workplaces that align with their culture, values and business goals.

Betts Group



The Betts Group is one of the world's oldest precious metal businesses. We offer a range of specialist services, such as precious metal refining and stone-set recovery from scrap, and provide access to an unrivalled breadth of products, including investment bullion and coins, wedding rings, responsibly sourced precious metals, grain and findings, and professional tools. We are the only licenced Fairtrade and Fairmined gold refiner in the UK.

Birmingham Assay Office



BIRMINGHAM ASSAY OFFICE

Birmingham Assay Office is one of the United Kingdom's four Assay Offices, established in 1773 to test and hallmark precious metals. A cornerstone of the UK jewellery industry, it offers a wide range of services beyond hallmarking, including jewellery and watch valuations, luxury authentication, gemmological analysis, and analytical and elemental testing.

FASHIONPHILE



Since 1999, FASHIONPHILE has served as the ultra-luxury source for luxury lovers and resellers alike. As the first re-commerce brand of its kind and the exclusive partner of Neiman Marcus, we make pre-owned ultra-luxury accessories ultra-attainable and more sustainable.

Financial Conduct Authority



The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) regulates UK pawnbrokers as consumer credit lenders to ensure fair treatment, overseeing authorised firms and setting conduct standards. Pawnbrokers must follow CONC 6.6 rules regarding record-keeping, interest charges and handling unredeemed pledges, with oversight focusing on preventing financial crime and ensuring fair customer outcomes. The FCA reviews the sector to ensure reasonable expenses of sale for unredeemed items and fair treatment of surplus funds.

Gem-A



The Gemmological Association of Great Britain (Gem-A) is the world's oldest provider of gemmology education and a globally respected authority on gemstones. We deliver internationally recognised courses and practical hands-on training for everyone from complete beginners to experienced industry professionals, leading to a prestigious, world-recognised professional membership designation.

The Genie's Wish



We grant wishes that lift spirits, create lasting memories and celebrate resilience, supporting children and young people living with serious illnesses or life-limiting conditions, as well as young carers, across England and Wales. The Genie's Wish is a UK-registered charity, operating since 2021. Our purpose is to enhance the lives of people aged up to 40 years who are living with a terminal or serious illness or a life-limiting condition.

HS Walsh



HS Walsh is the tool and equipment supplier of choice for some of the biggest names in the pawnbroking, watch and jewellery industries. We have been supplying the trade for almost 80 years and are renowned for our quality products and excellent aftersales service. We offer all NPA members 10% discount – please use the 'NPA10' discount code when ordering online.

Exhibitors

Hatton Garden Metals



Hatton Garden Metals is a trusted UK precious metals dealer serving the trade since 2007. As an Affiliate Member of the London Bullion Market Association and an official partner of The Royal Mint, we are proud to deliver competitive pricing on scrap metals, in-house melt and assay services and reliable same-day payments. Known for accuracy, transparency and efficiency, Hatton Garden Metals supports pawnbrokers, jewellers, and retailers with scrap metal services, second-hand jewellery, and investment gold and silver products.

John Pye



Established in 1968, John Pye Auctions is the UK's leading online auction house, operating across 20 locations in the UK and Europe. We specialise in luxury assets, seized stock, retail surplus and automotive assets. Our diverse range of weekly auctions includes luxury watches, jewellery, gemstones, handbags and technology. By collaborating closely with our clients, we develop tailored sales strategies to meet your pawnbroking needs. As a frontrunner in the online auction industry, we connect national retailers with savvy customers, making the excitement of the auction saleroom accessible to everyone, from individual bargain hunters to commercial investors.

Mastermelt



Mastermelt provides tailored precious metal reclamation and management solutions to a range of industries worldwide. We enable our customers to reduce their precious metal losses, generate value, even from complex waste materials, and contribute to sustainability through enhanced recycling. Mastermelt is committed to sustainability and responsible resource management. Our precious metal recycling services enable the recovery and reuse of valuable metals from diverse industries.

Niton UK



Niton UK Limited is a family-owned business with over 25 years of experience and is a recognised leader in portable materials analysis across the UK and Ireland. Founded in 2000, the company specialises in handheld XRF and LIBS instruments, providing fast, accurate, non-destructive analysis for a wide range of industries. Built on professionalism, reliability and technical expertise, we pride ourselves on delivering exceptional service and long-term client relationships. With a dedicated UK-based sales and service facility, Niton UK provides trusted solutions that help customers work efficiently, with accuracy and confidence.

Pawnbrokers Charitable Institution



It is well known that pawnbrokers in times of trouble will join together to help those in need get back on their feet. But what if you are an individual who is ill or simply struggling to afford a new cooker? Well there is help available from the Pawnbrokers Charitable Institution (PCI). Master Pawnbrokers founded the PCI in 1823. It provides financial assistance in the form of yearly grants to pawnbrokers and their dependents in need.

Sterling Vault Auctioneers



At Sterling Vault Auctioneers, we make selling and buying watches simple, secure and exciting. From vintage classics to modern marvels, our specialist team helps connect passionate collectors with standout timepieces. Trusted by clients across the globe, we're redefining the watch auction experience. Visit our exhibition stand and check out our pawnbroker focussed special offers.

Watch Collecting



Watch Collecting is a leading online auction platform for rare and luxury pre-owned watches. We cater for enthusiasts around the globe, offering a wide variety of watches from the world's most revered brands. Whether you are a seasoned collector or a first-time buyer, we provide personalised service at every step and a secure user-friendly interface to help you find your next watch.

Explore the selection at: www.watchcollecting.com

Watch Register



The Watch Register is the global leader in due diligence and crime prevention for the luxury watch market. Part of the Art Loss Register, it holds the world's largest database of lost, stolen and counterfeit watches, built over 35 years. The database offers vital protection to pawnbrokers, dealers and collectors against the financial and reputational risks of stolen and fake watches in the market.

Yehuda



Sherlock AI and Watson AI uniquely use advanced AI to clearly mark and identify five types of stones - natural diamonds, CVD, HPHT, moissanite, and CZ - in real time. With patent-pending CZ positive identification, they eliminate uncertainty, reduce errors, and boost efficiency, empowering professionals to test multiple stones simultaneously with unmatched speed, confidence and precision. The AI system uses colour-coded markers to clearly identify and differentiate each stone type. Cubic Zirconia (CZ) is identified with a distinctive pink fluorescence, ensuring accurate recognition.

Zempler Bank



Are you happy and confident with your existing banking arrangements? Have you considered alternative or additional options? Zempler Bank (formerly Cashplus) have many years' experience working with our industry and are delighted to continue supporting NPA members with vital banking requirements. Pawnbrokers wishing to secure alternative banking services, as a main provider or just as a back-up, are encouraged to speak with us at the NPA Conference. Working closely with the NPA, we have established a bespoke onboarding process for members, enabling us to meet your needs.

Conference Programme

Industry Collaboration – Friday 9th October 2026

Headline sponsors



General sponsor



Time	Topic	Speakers	Sponsors
09.00	Tea, Coffee and Exhibition		
09.30	Welcome Breakfast		
10.30 - 11.45	NPA Annual General Meeting NPA Update Update on the watch market	NPA Officers Peter Hall – NPA Chief Executive Adrian Hailwood from The Watch Scholar	
11.45	Tea, Coffee and Exhibition		
12.10 - 13.20	Power of Development Update on AML Precious Metals Update	Ken Vaughan from KV Consulting Stuart Lennon from Lime Consulting Philip Newman from Metal Focus	
13.25 - 14.25	Lunch		
14.30 - 15.45	Risk and Compliance update FCA Consumer Finance Political insight	Stephen Atkins – SACM Mark Burns, Financial Conduct Authority The Rt Hon Esther McVey MP	
15.50 - 16.10	Panel Q&A (time permitting)	NPA Officers, Stephen Atkins and Peter Hall – the NPA Chief Executive	
16.25	President closes the Conference		

Awards Dinner and Awards Ceremony

Photo Booth sponsor



General sponsors



Time	Topic	Detail	Sponsors
19.00	Champagne Reception	Time to network with friends.	
19.45	Welcome by NPA President and Dinner		
21.00	Charity game – Heads and Tails Please bring some cash to join in.	The amazing The Genie's Wish charity aims to enhance the lives of people aged up to 40, living with cancer, serious illness or a life-limiting condition.	
21.30	Awards Presentations	Have you won this year?	
22.00	Live band – Lightspeed	Time to relax, have some fun and enjoy the Photo Booth.	
Midnight	End		

Community Contribution

Hatton Garden Metals

Employer of the Year
T.H. March

Top Student
KV Consulting

Employee of the Year
Mastermelt

Apprentice Award
Education and Skills Partnership

Store of the Year
Clarity & Success

Certificate in Diamonds
Gemmology Rocks

Speakers

Stephen Atkins

SACM Ltd

Regulatory update



Stephen Atkins is the Managing Director of SACM and specialises in consumer credit and mortgages. He acts as an FCA Skilled Person and is a recognised court Expert Witness. Stephen was a member of the statutory FCA Practitioner Panels for 7 years and was later appointed to the HM Treasury committee to co-ordinate the transfer of the CCA to the FCA. He has worked with the NPA and members since 2014.

Mark Burns

The FCA

Consumer finance



Mark has over 25 years of experience in financial services, working in roles across banking, mortgages, life assurance and self-invested pensions. He joined the FCA in 2014, supervising many of the largest retail banking groups, digital and overseas banks. As Head of Department in Retail Banking he led the supervision aspects of the FCA's Access to Cash work. He joined Consumer Finance in September 2022 and is currently Head of Market Intervention, Consumer Lending with responsibility for High Cost and Mainstream Lending, Credit Unions and Pawnbrokers, as well as supervision work on Access To Credit.

Adrian Hailwood

The Watch Scholar

Watch market update



Adrian Hailwood is the Founder of The Watch Scholar, providing consultancy to global online marketplaces, authentication services and educational support to the pre-owned watch market and associated industries. His 30+ years' experience has covered high-end retail, and both traditional and online watch auctions. He is a Founder Specialist Member of the Jewellery Valuers Association, the NAJ's representative to the BSI's Horology Committee and Head of Delegation to the ISO.

Stuart Lennon

Lime Consulting

Update on AML



Stuart Lennon is the director of Lime Training and Consultancy. He has worked in financial services since 1988, specialising in anti-money laundering since 2005. He's worked in foreign exchange and money transfer in operations, learning and development and compliance. He has been at the counter, managed teams, trained supervisors, been an MLRO and a Managing Director. Stuart is a fellow of the International Compliance Association, with diplomas in anti-money laundering and financial crime prevention.

Rt Hon Esther McVey

MP for Tatton

Political insight



Rt Hon Esther McVey MP is a businesswoman, broadcaster and the current Member of Parliament for Tatton. She is also a former Cabinet Minister who served in David Cameron's, Theresa May's, Boris Johnson's and Rishi Sunak's Cabinets. Her government roles include Secretary of State for Work and Pensions, Minister for Employment, Minister for Housing, Minister in the Cabinet Office and Deputy Chief Whip. Originally from Liverpool, Esther trained as a lawyer before working as a producer and broadcaster for the BBC, after which she established her own business and was nominated for Woman of the Year in both Cheshire and Merseyside. A champion of social mobility, through her charity, 'If Chloe Can', Esther provides career support, inspiration and ambition for school pupils. She has written several careers books for girls and boys which have been turned into plays by the National Youth Theatre and have been performed around the country as well as in London's West End. She has her own weekly column in the Daily Express and weekly podcast with them called the Daily Expresso and also appears on political & news programmes.

Philip Newman

Metals Focus

Precious metals update



Philip Newman is Managing Director and a founding partner of Metals Focus, the London-based independent, precious metals consultancy. With over 30 years in the precious metals sector, he specialises in gold, silver and platinum group metals markets. Before establishing Metals Focus in 2013, Philip spent almost two decades at GFMS, including as a Research Director. Philip is a regular speaker at international events, including the International Precious Metals Institute in the US, and the India Gold Conference. Philip holds a BSc (Hons) in Economics from the University of Surrey.

Ken Vaughan

KV Consulting

Power of development



Ken has held senior management and operational roles in the pawnbroking industry, with experience across operations, training and disposition. He has built expertise in precious metal alloys, policies and procedures, and customer service. Since founding KV Consultancy in 2012, Ken has helped more than 20 clients secure full FCA authorisation, drawing on current knowledge of legislative and regulatory requirements in the pawnbroking sector. His clients range from high-end providers to high street businesses. Passionate about developing employees at every level, Ken believes knowledge and experience are not defined by length of service alone. He helped create the NPA eLearning modules and now manages their updates and regular content reviews. He also delivers the NPA Introduction to Pawnbroking course, tailoring the content for newcomers, those seeking a refresher, and people looking to progress their careers.



Employee of the Year



Who can enter?

Any member, any size, any store

Criteria?

Going above and beyond, supporting customers and the business. Evidenced by results and feedback from customers, colleagues and business leaders.

Community Contribution



Who can enter?

Any member, any size, any store

Criteria?

Good engagement in supporting the local community. Active partnership to support community and/or national organisations, e.g. staff opportunity to volunteer their time on agreed programmes.

Employer of the Year



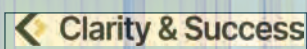
Who can enter?

Any member, any size, any store

Criteria?

A company that blends people-first leadership with strong business results and regulatory adherence. Nominees are evaluated on a robust people development programme, high employee engagement and retention.

Store of the Year



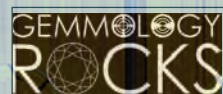
Who can enter?

Any member, any size, any store

Criteria?

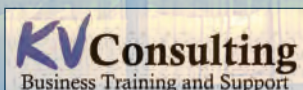
The pawnbroking store that demonstrates excellence in customer service, responsible lending, store operations and community impact.

Certificate in Diamonds



Student that receives the highest score on the diamond course in 2026.

Student of the Year



Student that has passed the main modules with the highest mark in 2026.

NPA's 133rd Conference | Hilton Tower Bridge Hotel, London
Friday 9th October

To attend contact: sonia.sahota@thenpa.com or call: 07735 886930