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BESPOKE ART AT A STROKE FROM LOCAL FLAMSTEAD BUSINESSWOMAN

Harriet Kelsall, Founder and Managing Director of leading bespoke jewellery design company www.hkjewellery.co.uk has been named Woman of the Year 2011 at the Specsavers Everywoman in Retail Awards.

At a glittering ceremony held last night at London's Savoy hotel, Harriet won the top award of the evening.

Harriet had been shortlisted in the Entrepreneur of the Year category but went on to triumph over all of the other nominees to clinch the highly-coveted Woman of the Year award.

The judges said that "Harriet's vision, innovative approach and success make her an outstanding role model that will inspire more women to choose a career in retail.

"The Woman of the Year Award recognises the woman who is a truly inspirational and visionary individual and Harriet Kelsall is an exceptional role model for the industry".

Harriet Kelsall started the business in 1998 from her spare bedroom and in just over 10 years she now employs nearly 30 staff with an annual turnover of £1.5 million.

Harriet said: "I am absolutely amazed and thrilled to receive this award, it is a huge honour and to be recognised by the retail industry for our efforts and successes is very rewarding.

"I see this as an award for the whole team rather than being just about me.

"They are so brilliant and we all passionately drive the business forward together", Harriet Kelsall Jewellery Design has had a fantastic year so far.

In February, the company's Cambridge studio was revamped making it the UK's first and only truly bespoke high street jewellery studio.

The company was also one of only 20 jewellers in the UK chosen by the Fairtrade Foundation to offer Fairtrade and Fairmined gold.

As a result of its achievements in 2011, the company won Business Initiative of the Year at the UK Jewellery Awards, was one of Professional Jeweller's Hot 100 and was placed number 25 in Retail Jeweller's list of the top 50 Inspiring Independents. Now, the company has received an outstanding accolade from the retail industry as a whole.

Harriet is passionate about inspiring designers and entrepreneurs and is embarking on a number of initiatives to help develop the next generation including working with Doug Richard on his Creative School for Start-ups and running a bespoke jewellery design competition with the University for the Creative Arts in Kent.

Harriet is also gaining a celebrity following and is designing a bespoke pendant for TV presenter, DJ and model Lisa Snowdon.

