

LES BRITAIN & IRELAND YOUNG MEMBERS CONFERENCE THURSDAY, 14 SEPTEMBER 2023



PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

(as of 30 August 2023)

10.00 – 10.20	Registration
10.20 – 10.35	<p>Welcome Address</p> <p>Rose Smalley-Gordon, Co-Chair for Young Members, LES B&I</p> <p>Adam Coughlin, Co-Chair for Young Members, LES B&I</p>
10.35 – 10.55	<p>KEYNOTE: “Leveraging Intellectual Property to Enable Innovation and Creativity for an Inspired Future”</p> <p>Lee McNeil, Founder of Tebex Limited</p>
10.55 – 11.30	<p>Presentation (Session 1): “Licensing Challenges for New Technology - Licensing in the Metaverse / Smart contracts / Artificial Intelligence”</p> <p>Speaker:</p> <p>Jeremy Blum, Partner at Bristows</p>
11.30 – 11.50	Tea/Coffee Break
11.50 – 12.30	<p>Presentation (Session 2): “Developments in Collecting Societies</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>Charlie Rogers, Head of Television at PPL</p> <p>Michael Williams, Senior Legal & Business Affairs Executive at PPL</p>
12.30 – 13.45	Lunch
13.45 – 14.25	<p>Panel (Session 3): Enforcement of licences / litigation – differences in the British and Irish systems, and opportunities/ challenges of the UPC</p> <p>Speakers:</p> <p>David Holt, Partner at Potter Clarkson</p> <p>John Surgue, Senior Associate at William Fry</p>

14.25 – 15.20	<p>Presentation and Break Out (Session 4): “IPO One Transformation”</p> <p>Speaker: Simeon Bowen, Communications Lead (Transformation) at UK IPO</p>
15.20 – 15.40	<p>Tea/Coffee Break</p>
15.40 – 16.20	<p>Panel (Session 5): “Career Development - Alternative routes into licensing / Changing careers / Mentoring / Networking skills”</p> <p>Speakers: Tom Gaunt, Partner (Head of IP) at Lewis Silkin Francesca Rivers, Senior Solicitor at Cancer Research Horizons Samantha Williams, Licensing Manager at Trinity College Dublin</p>
16.20 – 16.30	<p>Closing Remarks</p> <p>Rose Smalley-Gordon, Co-Chair for Young Members, LES B&I Adam Coughlin, Co-Chair for Young Members, LES B&I</p>
16.30	<p>Social Event(s)</p>

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SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

KEYNOTE: “Leveraging Intellectual Property to Enable Innovation and Creativity for an Inspired Future”



Lee McNeil – Founder of Tebex Limited

Lee McNeil is the founder for Tebex Limited, a Nottingham based payment platform software company which allows the monetisation of game server and sale of User Generated Content to end users. Tebex was sold to Israel-based app and monetisation firm Overwolf in a deal worth over £22m in March 2022. Tebex is known for its work across the gaming sector, including longstanding relationships with Minecraft and Rust. The firm was founded in Nottingham in 2011 by Lee McNeil to create new revenue streams for gamers and offers an end-to-end payment solution for content creators, enabling them to have a marketplace for transacting.

Presentation (Session 1): “Licensing Challenges for New Technology - Licensing in the Metaverse / Smart contracts / Artificial Intelligence”



Jeremy Blum – Partner at Bristows

Jeremy is dual-qualified and acts before the UK courts and EU institutions such as the EUIPO and CJEU. He has advised on many high-profile contentious cases involving trademarks, copyright, designs, and confidential information. His cases include L'Oreal v eBay, Cadbury v Nestle, and Glaxo v Sandoz. Jeremy is a specialist in advising on strategies to combat IP infringement in the digital world and has advised on several cases regarding online infringement. Jeremy has extensive litigation experience for a diverse range of products – from luxury jewellery and fashion, plastic containers, artworks, pharmaceutical products and consumer goods. He has considerable experience in arbitration (including before the LCIA, SCC and ICC), specialising in arbitration involving technical subject matter. Many of his cases involve substantial damages claims. Jeremy is widely recognised by legal directories, is listed as a “leading practitioner” by Legal 500 and is one of a small group of Gold ranked litigators by World Trade Mark Review. Currently Jeremy is Chair of the MARQUES Dispute Resolution committee and is a member of various INTA committees.

Presentation (Session 2): “Developments in Collecting Societies”



Charlie Rogers - Head of Television at PPL

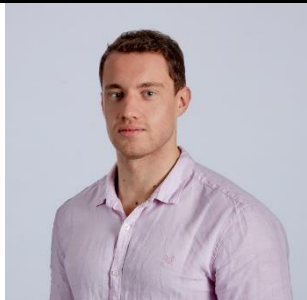
Charlie is the Head of Television at PPL, the UK’s music licensing company for over 140,000 performers and recording rightsholders. Charlie negotiates licences with TV broadcasters so that they can use recorded music in their programming. Charlie is also responsible for licensing the BBC, which covers both their TV and radio services. Charlie’s role involves developing PPL’s broadcast licensing strategy to maximise revenue for PPL members, project managing negotiations, compiling analysis to support licence proposals and fee valuations, drafting contracts with PPL’s Legal team, and ongoing stakeholder management with broadcasters and the wider music industry. Before joining PPL, Charlie’s background was in financial services. He graduated with an Accounting & Financial Management degree from Loughborough University, and subsequently worked in several pricing roles at American Express. As a passionate music fan, Charlie switched industries to join PPL in 2018 and has not looked back since.



Michael Williams - Senior Legal & Business Affairs Executive at PPL

Michael is a Senior Legal and Business Affairs Executive at PPL, the UK’s music licensing company for over 140,000 performers and recording rightsholders. In this role, Michael provides legal and business affairs advice across the whole of the PPL business – including negotiating agreements with major broadcasters, international partners and IT suppliers. After completing his legal training at the BBC, Michael has worked in the legal teams at BBC Studios, DreamWorks Animation, and Universal Studios, in each case focussing on IP licensing. Prior to embarking on a career in law, Michael started his post-university career with EMI Records as a licensing executive.

Panel (Session 3): “Enforcement of licences / litigation – differences in the British and Irish systems, and opportunities/ challenges of the UPC”



David Holt - Partner at Potter Clarkson

A qualified solicitor in England & Wales and a Partner in Potter Clarkson’s litigation and licensing team, Dave specialises in non-contentious intellectual property law, with experience in significant contentious patent matters. Dave specialises in the biotechnology, synthetic biology and cancer therapeutics sectors, with a major part of his practice focussing on novel therapeutics. His practice includes drafting highly complex, multi-jurisdictional agreements, as well as providing IP strategy and enforcement advice for his clients, and he continues to advise clients on the implications of the Unitary Patent in the world of licensing including enforcement through the UPC. Prior to joining Potter Clarkson in April 2018, Dave trained and qualified at a leading national law firm before spending a period as Assistant General Counsel at Unidays Ltd - the world’s largest student affinity network, managing its IP portfolio, agreements and international expansion.



John Surgue - Senior Associate at William Fry

John is an Irish-qualified solicitor and Senior Associate at William Fry LLP, a leading corporate law firm in Ireland. William Fry's Intellectual Property team works with some of the world's leading businesses to identify, protect, commercialise, defend and enforce their intellectual property. John advises small, medium-sized, and multi-national businesses on intellectual property matters across the full range of IP rights. He represents clients on claims in the Irish High Court, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court concerning trademarks, passing off, copyright, trade secrets and rights in confidential information, and advises on Irish law aspects of multi-jurisdictional litigation. He has particular experience in patent litigation in the life sciences sector, brand protection strategy, and non-contentious IP licensing advice. John was named as a Rising Star in the 2020, 2021 and 2022 editions of Managing IP – IP Stars. He studied at University College Cork (BCL, LLB) and the Law Society of Ireland (Professional Practice Course). He is also a registered trademark agent in Ireland.

Presentation and Break Out (Session 4): “IPO One Transformation”



Simeon Bowen - Communications Lead (Transformation) at UK IPO

Simeon is Communications Lead for the One IPO Transformation Programme. He has worked in public sector communications for over 10 years, having previously worked in a variety of comms roles at the Office for National Statistics and UK Statistics Authority. Simeon joined the Intellectual Property Office (IPO) two years ago and acts as a key link between IPO developers and customers.

Panel (Session 5): “Career Development - Alternative routes into licensing / changing careers / Mentoring / Networking skills”



Tom Gaunt - Partner (Head of IP) at Lewis Silkin

Tom is a European and UK Chartered Patent Attorney who leads Lewis Silkin's Intellectual Property Legal Practice Group. He primarily handles mechanical, electrical and software patents, European oppositions and infringement opinion work, and registered design filings focusing on technical products. Tom holds an Honours degree in Biomaterials and a Master's degree in Materials Science and Engineering from Birmingham University. He has a strong background in electronics and processing, having started his career at a Patent Attorney firm in Japan handling patent applications for the consumer electronics industry. Tom also has experience in power systems, medical devices, software, and green technology patents, handling significant portfolios in telecommunications, streaming, and cloud computing services. Tom has a keen interest in licensing and is an active member of LES, as well as previous president for LES International Young Members. He is a strong believer that networking is key to both business and personal development and frequently attends events with LES International, AIPPI, APAA and INTA. He is enthusiastic about career development, frequently delivering training to junior patent attorneys and upskilling team members.



Francesca Rivers - Senior Solicitor at Cancer Research Horizons

Francesca is Senior Solicitor in the Research and Innovation Legal Team at Cancer Research Horizons (CRH), the innovation engine for Cancer Research UK. Francesca supports CRH in its varied activities as a specialist oncology drug discovery, development and commercialisation company, including advising on complex research collaborations, licensing deals and clinical trial agreements. Francesca was previously an Associate in the Intellectual Property department of Bird & Bird LLP, where she supported life sciences patent litigation and provided commercial IP contracting advice. Before training as a solicitor, she worked as a writer and editor for The Pharmaceutical Journal (Young Pharmacy Writer of the Year, Avicenna Media Awards 2010). Francesca has a Master's Degree in Molecular and Cellular Biochemistry and a Postgraduate Diploma in Intellectual Property Law, both from the University of Oxford.



Samantha Williams - Licensing Manager at Trinity College Dublin

Samantha is Licensing Manager within the Office of Corporate Partnership and Knowledge Exchange at Trinity College Dublin in Ireland and is responsible for negotiating Trinity's IP Licence Agreements to established companies and to new Trinity spin-out companies. Samantha completed a B.Sc. in Medical Biochemistry at the University of Wales College, Cardiff, then aDPhil in Biochemistry at the University of Oxford, and then worked as a research scientist Unilever Research in the UK. She joined the UK Medical Research Council's Technology Transfer Group in London in 1998 and has since remained in the area of technology transfer, with over 20 years' experience in both the UK and Ireland, in the successful transfer of intellectual property from the academic sector to industry. As well as her role at Trinity, Samantha is also Chair of the LES Ireland Chapter, a member of the Council for LES Britain & Ireland, as well as Ambassador for Britain & Ireland in the Women in Licensing Alliance (WILA).

Welcome Address and Closing Remarks



Rose Smalley-Gordon - Co-Chair for Young Members, LES B&I

Rose has held the role of co-chair for Young Members for Licensing Executive Society Britain & Ireland since 2020. Rose is a Managing Associate at transatlantic law firm, Womble Bond Dickinson, and advises clients on the protection, exploitation and enforcement of IP. Rose drafts and negotiates assignment and licensing agreements and advises on the implementation of licensing structures as well as portfolio management. Her contentious experience covers issues such as ownership, validity, registrability, and infringement, and she has worked on claims in the High Court, Intellectual Property Enterprise Court (including specialist small claims), Court of Appeal, the UK IPO and Company Names Tribunal, as well as domain name disputes. Rose is passionate about developing skills of juniors in the IP profession and, in addition to LES, contributes to knowledge-sharing initiatives with the Chartered Institute of Trade Mark Attorneys (CITMA) and the International Trademark Association (INTA).



Adam Coughlin - Co-Chair for Young Members, LES B&I

Adam has held the role of co-chair for Young Members for Licensing Executive Society Britain & Ireland since 2020. Adam is a senior associate at Bristows, and specialises in transactions relating to the development, commercialisation and transfer of intellectual property. Adam has particular expertise within the life sciences sector and advises a broad range of clients from drug discovery start-ups to investment and commercialisation partners to international pharmaceutical companies. Adam advises on a variety of life sciences and technology matters, spanning the commercial and academic sectors, including technology transfer and spin-out arrangements, research and development collaborations, IP ownership, financings, licensing deals and merger and acquisition transactions. Adam also has significant expertise in complex manufacturing and distribution arrangements, advising clients across the breadth of the pharmaceutical, biotechnological and medical technology supply chain.