



LESI International Management & Delegates Meeting (IMDM)

Madrid, Spain
28 April 2024

2024 LES Society Fact Sheet

Thank you for providing us with an updated LES Society Fact Sheet. This information helps us share your annual activities with the LESI Board and the Membership Committee. We have also asked for (optional) data on your members (while helpful, we appreciate that not all societies might have this data).

SOCIETY INFORMATION

SOCIETY NAME: LES Britain & Ireland

CONTACT PERSON

(This person is responsible for communication with & timely submissions to the LESI Office. You may alternatively update your information directly on the website [here](#) and indicate below that it is up to date)

Name: Esha Cruickshank

Company: NNE

Address: 238 Main Street, Rutherglen, G73 2HP, Scotland

Phone: 01355 244966

E-mail: les@northernnetworking.co.uk

Website: www.les-bi.org

Twitter handle: @LESBandI

CURRENT SOCIETY OFFICERS

President: Graham Johnson

Secretary: Tom Gaunt

Treasurer: Hayley French

Society Administrator(s): Esha Cruickshank

Delegates:

Graham Johnson - graham.johnson@appleyardlees.com

Karl Barnfather - kbarnfather@withersrogers.com

(please provide delegate e-mail addresses)

Term of Current Society Officers/ Date of Next Change of Officers: TBC - 2025

(please notify LESI with a complete list of officers when the change takes place)

Annual Membership Dues: £250/€250 for individual
£390/€390 for 2 corporate members
£980/€950 for 3-7 corporate members
£1,300/€1,300 for 8-10 corporate members

MEMBERSHIP DATA

Category	Total Number	% Change from last year
Total Number of Members: <i>(please also note separately categories of membership)</i>	200	0.1%
Young Members (< 40 years of age):	40	

Date and Location of Next Annual General Meeting (AGM): ?? June 2024

Notable Society Activities / Educational Events during the past year:

(please include the date, purpose and number of attendees)

LES Britain & Ireland 2023 Annual Conference “Embracing Emerging Technologies” and LES100 Training Course in-person in Dublin on 1-2 June 2023. 70 attendees for Conference / 15 attendees for LES100 Training.

Presentations included:

- The increasing importance of public Intellectual Property support for SMEs and Startups
- Aerogen from bootstrap startup to global leader- a 25 year journey
- Commercialisation from the Research Base – A Case Study involving CropBiome Ltd, an innovative new Irish agritech company with exploration of the university, company and investment perspectives
- Green Economy and Innovation
- The use of AI-related technologies in different sectors
- How businesses manage IP disputes
- Data protection and the challenges facing companies
- Discussion on the UPC impact

“How To Tackle Lookalikes” in-person event in Edinburgh on 13 June with 45 attendees.

LES Scotland Committee hosted event with Geoff Steward, IA Director at Stobbs who discussed the following:

- Sleight of hand by the supermarkets
- The fixed action patterns at work
- No need for costly confusion evidence
- What is the unfair advantage?
- How is it proved?
- The best registration strategy

YMC Conference in-person event in London on 14 September with 40 attendees.

Panellists and contributors discussed a wide range of topics impacting the protection and licensing of intellectual property including: “One IPO Transformation” project, looking at how the Unified Patent Court could impact licensing (and litigation) in Britain and Ireland, and developing hot topics such as global licensing structures and metaverse.

“Ooni – The Story So Far...” in-person event in Edinburgh on 23 November with 30 attendees.

Kristian Tapaninaho and Christie McCluskey from Ooni discussed Kristian’s initial idea and how the technology and brand have achieved global success. They also covered what the future looks like for Ooni. Hosted by LES Scotland Committee

“Trade Secrets vs. Patents – How to Optimise ROI for your hard earned innovation” in-person event in London on 16 January with 35 attendees.

A panel chaired by Dr Karl Barnfather, Senior Patent Practitioner at Withers & Rogers LLP, and speakers:

- Jennifer Burdman, Chief IP Officer at Valo Health in Boston
- Nigel Swycher, CEO and founder of Cipher (recently acquired by LexisNexis)
- Dai Davis, Solicitor and Chartered Engineer at Percy Crow Davis & Co.

LESI “Ask Me Anything” Session webinar on January 18 with 110 attendees.

Moderator: Graham Johnson – Partner at Appleyard Lees IP LLP

Speakers: Patrick Cantrill, General Counsel at Getech Group PLC – “Technology licensing – a checklist for striking deals with larger players”

Dai Davis, Solicitor and Chartered Engineer Partner at Percy Crow Davis & Co. – “IP, Brexit and Licensing: some high level issues now the dust has settled”

Tom Gaunt, Partner and Head of Intellectual Property at Lewis Silkin LLP – “The Unitary Patent and the UPC a few months in and the mood music from the UK”

“What’s the Gen? An Overview of Global Trends in Generative AI Litigation and Practical Use Cases for IP Professionals” in-person event in Edinburgh on 17 April with 35 attendees.

Mark Cruickshank, Managing Legal Counsel at RBS, talked about RBS’ GenAI global case tracker they have compiled, pulled out some key themes from the litigation and offered a few thoughts on where it might end up and what the impact will be. Anoop Joshi, Chief Trust Officer at Trustpilot, spoke about some Practical Use Cases of GenAI that Trustpilot and shared his view on the opportunities it presents for them.

Please List Your Professional Committees (e.g., Education, Life Sciences, Transportation):

- Young Members
- Regional (Ireland, Scotland, North-West)

Does your society have (or plan to start) a Young Members Congress (YMC)? Would your Society be interested in becoming more involved in WILA? If so, please provide a contact for each.

Yes to both.

YMC Contacts – Adam Coughlin (Adam.Coughlin@Bristows.com) and Rose Smalley-Gordon (rose.smalley-gordon@wbd-uk.com)

WILA Contact – Samantha Williams (WILLIASA@tcd.ie)

How can LESI or other LES Societies further support you?

Joint online seminars and international speakers at in-person events.

Encourage LES Societies to help promote each other's events.

Report completed by : Esha Cruickshank

Date : 17 April 2024

Appendix

Additional LES Society Membership Data

If known:

	Total Number	% Change from last year
Lawyers or patent agents in --	Approx.	
private practice:	10	
law/patent firm:	180	
production or sales company (goods and materials):		
IP consulting or transaction entity (NOT production/sales):		
Non-lawyers/non-patent/trademark agents in --		
law/patent firm:		
production or sales company (goods and materials):		
IP consulting or transaction entity (NOT production/sales):	10	
Other members (please define):		
Female Members:	80	