

Delegate Biographies



The Honourable Lord Justice John Gillen: Her Majesty the Queen appointed Lord Justice Gillen as a Lord Justice of Appeal in Northern Ireland on 5 September 2014. He was called to the Bar of Northern Ireland in 1970 and took Silk in 1983. He was appointed a High Court Judge in January 1999. In September 2008 he was assigned as the Senior Judge of the Queen's Bench Division and recently was appointed to the Lord Chancellor's Advisory Committee on Private International Law.



Alastair Ross MLA: Alastair Ross has been a **Member of the Northern Ireland Assembly** since May 2007, and is currently Chairman of the Justice Committee. Alastair is a Democratic Unionist MLA and read an MA in Political Science, University of Dundee and read an MA (Postgraduate) Irish Politics, Queens University Belfast. He is also Chairman of the ad hoc Committee Mental Capacity Bill and Chairman of the APG on Rugby. Previous position held include: Assembly Private Secretary to Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Investment; Chairman, Standards and Privileges Committee; Member, Northern Ireland Policing Board; Deputy Whip of DUP Assembly Group and Chairman, Young Democrats. We are grateful to Alastair for acting as our Sponsor for the event.



Jim Fitzpatrick: Jim is an award winning **broadcaster, producer and journalist** with an interest in Ireland's economics and politics. He has led investigations for BBC current affairs flagship - Spotlight. He won the 2013 Irish Film and Television Award for best current affairs programme and has worked as part of BBC Northern Ireland's presenting team during election coverage and has regularly presented on Radio Ulster. He has interviewed many leading politicians from Ireland, the UK and beyond. Prior to joining the BBC he worked as an investigative reporter with UTV, a Business Editor with The Irish News and is an independent producer working on a number of documentary projects and was previously an owner in one of Northern Ireland's leading production companies before it was acquired by a London-based plc. Jim founded the go to website and podcast for entrepreneurs The Profit Margin alongside Naomi McMullan, and together they provide in-depth weekly business insights. Jim is an entrepreneur and one of our local stars.



Billy Foley: As **News Editor for the Irish News**, for nine years, Billy has been central to the daily planning of one of Northern Ireland's most successful newspaper titles. Billy has been a journalist for 20 years and has previously worked with the Irish Independent, Sunday Independent, Evening Herald and Evening Echo. Billy is an intelligent and enterprising news editor who energises news coverage in print and online and produces up to the minute and breaking news to the Irish News readers. Billy is a founding member of the NIELG, which has been instrumental in changing court reporting in Northern Ireland.



Sharon O'Neill: Sharon is part of **UTV's team of Correspondents**. She is a graduate of the University of central Lancashire in Preston. She graduated with a 2:1 degree in journalism. She worked for the Irish News, Belfast Telegraph, and the Daily Mirror before joining UTV. Sharon is a well-known face on NI TV and today we are privileged to get an insight into Sharon's career as a hard hitting, experienced and dedicated broadcast journalist.



Jim McDowell: Jim is an award winning **journalist** with huge charisma. He most recently was honoured by the Chartered Institute of Public Relations in June 2015 having worked in journalism for five decades. Jim McDowell is arguably Northern Ireland's most famous journalist and has sadly received innumerable death threats and attacks on his life and personal safety whilst investigating and exposing crime throughout Northern Ireland. He was formerly Northern Editor of the Sunday World and provides commentary to many local TV and radio programmes. Jim McDowell is a force majeure in journalism with incomparable talent and bravery. Jim is a founding member of the NIELG, which has been instrumental in changing court reporting in Northern Ireland.



Gail Walker: Gail is the **Editor Belfast Telegraph** and began her career in journalism with the Belfast Telegraph as a graduate trainee in 1990. Throughout her career she has won numerous awards, including CIPR Feature Writer of the Year in 2013. It is an honour to have such a skilled, interesting and progressive person such as Gail with us today.



Declan Lawn: Declan has been a **broadcast reporter, writer and director** for several years and has led investigations for the BBC's Spotlight and Panorama documentaries. He has conducted a variety of investigative reports and programmes including Britain's biggest diamond heist, Britain's missing dads, Paisley: A Life and the Other refugee crisis in Lebanon to name but a few. Declan is insightful, talented and considerate and his reports are emotive and evocative.



Kathleen Carragher: As **Head of News BBC NI** Kathleen is in charge of all BBC NI news output across BBC NI television, BBC Radio Ulster and online. She began her journalism career in newspapers in England before joining BBC Radio Foyle in 1983. She then moved to London to work on World at One and Woman's Hour on BBC Radio 4. Kathleen is one of Northern Ireland's most talented and well respected journalists providing leadership and insight in the most challenging of landscapes. Kathleen is a founding member of the NIELG, which has been instrumental in changing court reporting in Northern Ireland.



Les Allamby: As **NI Human Rights Chief Commissioner** he took up post on 1 September 2014. He is a solicitor and formerly the Director of the Law Centre (Northern Ireland). He was appointed honorary Professor of Law at the University of Ulster and is a trustee of the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland. He was also formerly the Chair of the Social Security Standards Committee for Northern Ireland, a member of the Legal Services Commission (Northern Ireland) and a member of the Legal Services Review Group. He has undertaken election monitoring for the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and International Organisation for Migration in Bosnia, Pakistan and Georgia. Les was also a former Chair of the immigration sub group (OFMDFM) and a former member of the Northern Ireland Strategic Migration Partnership (Home Office).



Michael Kealey: Head of Legal, Associated Newspapers Ireland. Michael is a solicitor with an established reputation in defamation, privacy and media law. Having been a partner in two large Dublin based solicitors firms, he now advises Associated Newspapers, publishers of the Irish Daily Mail, Irish Mail on Sunday, Evoke.ie and MailOnline. He has written and lectured on all aspects of media law. Michael's sound and experienced advice is on point for extremely challenging and innovative legal issues.



John Battle: As **Head of Compliance for ITN** which makes ITV News, Channel 4 News and 5 News John advises on all legal and Ofcom regulatory issues relating to pre and post broadcast/publication and manages compliance/legal complaints and litigation. Prior to ITN he was Group Legal Adviser at The Daily Mail and Mail on Sunday and before that Legal Manager of Today newspaper. John was on the broadcast industry group that lobbied to get cameras in court in England and Wales and for the Crown Prosecution Service Media Protocol –the Protocol by which the CPS discloses footage shown in court to the media for broadcast. He is committed to openness, greater public awareness and understanding of the justice system. John is the Chair of the Media Lawyers Association and a member of the Society of Editors' Parliamentary and Legal Group. He was called to the Bar in 1985.



Gill Phillips: Since January 2009 Gill has been **Director of Editorial Legal Services, Guardian News & Media Limited** formerly she was Head of Litigation at Times Newspapers Limited. She has a wealth of experience in print, online and broadcast and is a powerful and visionary lawyer in the multimedia and technology evolution of the media industry. From 1997-2000 she was a Senior Lecturer at the College of Law and worked as a legal advisor for News International from 1996-1997 and was an Assistant Solicitor at the BBC from 1987 to 1996. Gill deals with a wide range of media-issues including libel, contempt, court-reporting, disclosure of sources, breach of confidence and the Official Secrets Act. She trained and qualified at Clifford Chance, where she worked in commercial and civil litigation until 1987. Gill is also a part-time Employment Judge. Gill Phillips is probably the most influential media lawyers of her time and has led the way on legal developments and setting legal precedent.



Richard Sullivan: Richard is **Head of Content and Northern Editor at the Sunday World**. He started work as a journalist in 1987 having been educated at Queens University. Whilst Richard has worked for a number of leading local newspapers he worked in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait in 1991 covering the aftermath of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and covered the famine in Somalia in 1992, the genocide in Rwanda in 1994/5 when he also reported the refugee crisis in Zaire. In 2013 he reported from the Philippines on the devastation caused by Typhon Haiyan. Richard has been at the coalface of journalism in Northern Ireland and in spite of his life threatening work as an investigative journalist he never wanes in passion for freedom of expression and exposing some of Northern Ireland's most dangerous criminals.



Stuart Robinson: As **Programme Controller for Downtown & Cool FM radio, Bauer Media Group**, Stuart is an experienced and talented broadcaster. He started out in radio as wide-eyed teen in the mid 90's. He has responsibility over Northern Ireland's largest radio audience and at the weekend he is the presenter of 'The Cool Saturday Show' and 'Hits NI' on a Sunday.

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Nazli Selek: Is a **Media Lawyer** in Istanbul. She graduated from Istanbul University, Faculty of Law in 1995. She attended various law programmes in England on commercial and maritime law. She has a LLM degree on Maritime Law from Yeditepe University with her thesis prepared on Salvage under Turkish Commercial Code. She is Senior Partner at NSN LAW FIRM and mainly focusing on Maritime Law, Media and Entertainment Law, Corporate and Commercial Law, and Environmental Law. NSN Law Firm is well regarded for its knowledge of the filmmaking industry, having assisted a number of popular Turkish films with copyright, licensing and artist contracts. Nazli Selek is a highly regarded media lawyer.



Colin Williams: Is an award winning **Creative Director** who formed Sixteen South in 2008 with a passion to create shows that children could relate to, laugh and sing along with, and look back in years to come as shows that influenced or shaped them in some way. Colin began his career graduating with a first class degree in graphic design, and set up his commercial production house, Inferno after several years of working in creative agencies in Belfast. Colin oversees all the company's output as well as leading the company's development team. He is joined and supported by his strong full time development and production teams. There are too many awards to list but include Chicago International Film Festival Television Awards (Hugos), Golden Eagle Cine Awards, Irish Animation Awards and nominated for Outstanding Pre-school Series EMMY® Awards, awarded Best Children's programme BAFTA Scotland. Colin is a creative guru and we are proud he is from NI.



Richard Williams: The **Chief Executive of Northern Ireland Screen** which has, in the last 10 years, taken the lead role in developing the film and television industry in Northern Ireland. Under Richard's leadership, it developed the Paint Hall at Titanic Quarter and developed what is now collectively known as Titanic Studios. The full facility is now let out to HBO's GAME OF THRONES which has returned to Northern Ireland for its sixth season. During his time, Northern Ireland Screen has supported the development and production of many independent films, all genres of television and a growing number of digital content projects, including HUNGER for which Steve McQueen won the Camera D'Or and Terry and Oorlagh George's Oscar® winner THE SHORE. Richard previously worked for Waddell Media, during that time representing Northern Ireland on PACT, the Producers Alliance for Cinema & Television. He also previously worked in newspaper management and was a commercial solicitor.



Justin Binding: Justin has been the **Commissioning Executive for BBC Northern Ireland** for more than seven years, during which time he has been executive producer across a range of genre from documentaries, specialist factual, features, arts, obs-doc, history as well as comedy, entertainment and fact-ent programmes. He launched and delivered some of the first films into BBC NI's new high profile documentary strand and is also Executive Producer on BBC NI's Comedy output. Working with the independent sector and in-house production, Justin runs BBC Northern Ireland's commissioning and development slate across all programmes and is BBC Northern Ireland's first point of contact for the submission of new ideas and proposals; Justin works on the development of new ideas and ensures we have the best quality and exciting programmes on our screens.



Glen Killane: Glen joined the **RTÉ Executive Board, as Managing Director of Television** in May 2010 and is currently President of the European Broadcasting Union TV Committee. As MDTV, he oversees Ireland's leading public service channels; RTÉ ONE, RTÉ2, RTÉ ONE+1 and RTÉjr, Ireland's only dedicated cross-platform children's service which he introduced in 2013.

He established RTÉ Global in 2013 to consolidate RTÉ's programme and format distribution business and to more effectively collaborate with the independent sector to provide a platform for Irish creative talent. Glen is currently overseeing RTÉ's range of programming and events to commemorate and celebrate 1916 across television, radio, online and mobile. Glen first joined RTÉ Television in 1996 and has held a number of senior management and editorial roles before becoming Managing Director of RTÉ Television. He was appointed Head of Sport in RTÉ Television in 2004 and was central to major rights contracts for GAA, Champions League, FAI, Six Nations, Magners League and UEFA negotiations. He helped establish key agreements both for RTÉ and for the EBU (European Broadcasting Union) on a multi-platform basis and co-ordinated the amalgamation of RTÉ Sport on a tri-media basis in 2009.

Glen Killane was born in Dublin and received a BA in English Literature from Trinity College before taking a Masters in Journalism at DCU. He trained, as a TV producer/director with the BBC and later helped establish the Live Football production arm of ITV Digital in London, as Editor of Live Football.



Michael Wilson: Michael is **Managing Director of Television at UTV**. He oversees the day to day running of UTV in Northern Ireland and UTV Ireland. His brief covers business development, online channels, regulatory affairs and the Contract and Licence commitments of the two channels. Michael has extensive knowledge, experience and skills in the media sector and brings an entrepreneurial flair and dedication to the media industry in Northern Ireland. Michael was the driving force behind Royal Television Society NI Futures and is keen to see fresh talent and young people get skills, training and opportunities in NI. Michael is a founding member of the NIELG.



Mark Gordon: Is **Programme Development at Generator NI**, Northern Ireland's music business support programme. The Generator NI programme supports the development of new markets, knowledge and networks for the NI music business; and also seeks to foster and stimulate cross-sector links within the wider creative industries.

Mark also runs **Score Draw Music**, an award-winning music production company specialising in the delivery of original music to film, television, animation and gaming. Mark is an inspiration and is the main man in music to know! We are thrilled that Mark will share his expertise today.



Davy Matchett: Third Bar is an **Artist Development company** based in Belfast run by Davy Matchett & Gary Lightbody. Davy mentors, manages and plans single and album campaigns. He works with advertising agencies, publishers and production companies to assist artists in placing their tracks in films, adverts, online and games.

Anyone in the music industry, should know our Davy, a business man with banking experience and a love and passion for music. His generosity is unprecedented and his sole objective is to support emerging artists.



Chris Smith: Chris Smith joined the **Intellectual Property Office** in 2008. Prior to this he obtained a degree in Astrophysics at Cardiff University. With this technical background Chris started at the office as a Patent Examiner specialising in measurement devices such as smoke alarms, optical devices and Nuclear Magnetic Resonance machines.

As of December 2012 Chris became a permanent member of the Business Outreach team where he delivers seminars on IP across the UK. Chris frequently blogs on IP issues and runs the IP Master Class from the IPO.



Olivia O'Kane: Olivia is a **Media Lawyer** in Northern Ireland in the firm of Carson McDowell LLP. She graduated with a 1st class honours degree from Queens University Belfast and qualified as a Solicitor from the IPLS QUB. She later qualified as a Solicitor Advocate and she regularly represents media organisations providing both non-contentious and contentious legal advice on copyright, advertising, defamation, privacy, contract, contempt, reporting restrictions, commercial litigation and a wide variety of media related legal issues. She contributes to debates on issues of media responsibility, lectures at QUB and provides in house legal training to media organisations throughout NI. Her steady, creative and strategic advice often provides calm to her clients' especially when faced with the urgent and short deadlines. She is a founding member of the NIELG, which has been instrumental in changing court reporting in Northern Ireland.



James Brady: James has worked at Hiscox since 2007 and held a number of different roles across the UK business. Having initially worked as an Art and Private Client underwriter, both in Glasgow and London, he went on to specialise in Technology, Media and Telecoms in London. In 2015 he took up the role of **Head of Media, UK & Ireland**. He now is responsible for providing insurance coverage to a broad range of Media businesses from one man band graphic designers and cameramen to major film studios, global advertising agencies and national newspapers & broadcasters.



Mick Fealty: Award winning blogger Mick Fealty is a **writer and editor**, a communitarian thinker and digital mentor, who founded Northern Ireland's Slugger O'Toole is an inspiration and whose commitment to reporting responsible and about the truth is unrelenting. He has worked with The Daily Telegraph helping them to broaden and popularise their blog offering. He has also written for The Irish Times, The Financial Times, The Observer, Prospect Magazine, the Sunday Independent and Belfast Telegraph. He was a visiting research fellow at the Institute of Governance at Queen's University Belfast between December 2004 and August 2008. He works as a consultant on online engagement and works with a range of public, voluntary and private sector organisations. He has given talks for London-based Editorial Intelligence, the US Institute of Medicine, the Reuters Institute at Oxford University, and worked with UTV on their social media preparations before the 2011 Assembly elections. Publications include: A Long Peace: the future of Unionism in Northern Ireland (2003); Public Diplomacy, Cultural Interventions & the Peace Process in Northern Ireland, Annenberg School of Communication, University of Southern California (2009).