

The PLS Conference 2024



1 Wimpole Street, London

Thursday 4th July

10:00 - 10:10

Conference welcome

- [Tom West](#), CEO, PLS
- [Rosie Glazebrook](#), Chair, PLS

Tea, coffee and biscuits available through the morning

Guy Whittle Auditorium

10:15 - 10:45

An introduction to collective licensing and the role of PLS

- [Tom West](#), CEO, PLS
- [Amy Byrne](#), Publisher Relations Executive, PLS

10:55 - 11:25

An introduction to practical permissions

Setting up new permissions processes and systems doesn't need to be complicated. Learn how to improve your permissions business whether you're just getting started or are a seasoned permissions pro in this practical workshop

- [Amy Ellis](#), Head of Rights and Licensing, PLS

Max Rayne Auditorium

CLA licensing and technology solutions for the education sectors

An overview of CLA licensing and technology solutions for the education sectors, including revenue updates and new initiatives.

- [James Bennett](#), Head of Rightsholder Relations, CLA

CLA licensing and technology solutions for the corporate and public sectors

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Guy Whittle Auditorium

11:35 - 12:05

How You Can Make the Most of Your Rights

- [Clare Hodder](#), Rights Consultant and Director, RightsZone

Max Rayne Auditorium

IP crime in the news industry

How NLA track and remove publishers' stolen content.

- [Matt Aspinall](#), Head of Commercial Services, NLA Media Access

12:05 - 12:55

Lunch

ENT Room

12:25 - 12:50

Lunchtime talk

Greener publishing: a case study

Publishing has made good progress on sustainability, with several cross-industry initiatives to drive change—but more needs to be done to reduce environmental impacts. In this Conference session, Will Dady of Renard Press, winner of the HP Sustainability Award at the IPG's 2024 Independent Publishing Awards, provides a case study of good practice. He'll tell the story of Renard's journey towards carbon-positive status, share useful tips to help all publishers, and show how the Carbon Calculator, developed by the PA and licenced for free use for all IPG members, can support efforts. The session is chaired by Bridget Shine, chief executive of the IPG.

- [Will Dady](#), Renard Press
- [Bridget Shine](#), Chief Executive, IPG & Board Member, PLS (chair)

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Independent Publishers Guild presents: AI, publishing and copyright; a legal overview

Mary Elliott of Fox Williams provides a timely overview of the **key legal aspects of Artificial Intelligence in publishing**. Her practical guide to various stages of content creation highlights the important issues for publishers to consider, with expert insights into how to harness the power of AI while protecting against risks and copyright infringement.

- [Mary Elliott](#), Managing Partner, Fox Williams
- [Helen Kogan](#), Managing Director of Kogan Page & Board Member, PLS

Publishers Association presents: Strategies for content Protection & Enforcement in Publishing

An expert panel will delve into **practical content protection & enforcement** approaches available to publishers to **disrupt and stop intellectual property crime** such as digital piracy affecting the publishing industry.

- Detective Constable Brandon Savage, City of London PIPCU
- Rachel Alexander a Partner at Wiggin
- Pippa Watts, Senior Contracts and Anti-Piracy Manager, Scholastic & Co-chair of the PA's Anti-Piracy Working Group.

Max Rayne Auditorium

Professional Publishers Association presents: Navigating an evolving landscape; insights from the specialist media sector

As the specialist media sector continues to evolve at pace, the PPA conducted a study to hear first-hand from industry CEOs about the trends and opportunities ahead.

Sajeeda Merali shares the headline findings of this recent [market sector insight report](#), sharing insight into **publishers revenue, talent, ED&I, sustainability, data, AI, and social media strategies**.

- [Sajeeda Merali](#), CEO, PPA & Board Member, PLS

Association for Learned and Professional Society Publishers presents: Global copyright issues in AI & publishing

This panel shall explore the intricacies of **copyright in the age of AI** and the policies that may help foster innovation by safeguarding human creativity.

- Mark Walford, STM Legal Forum & Board Member, PLS
- [Sarah Fricker](#), Group Head of Legal, IOP Group & Board Member, PLS
- [Leslie Lansman](#), Global Permissions Manager, Springer Nature (chair)

Catered networking break

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Guy Whittle Auditorium

14:45 - 15:20

Panel: CLA on AI licensing solutions

CLA will be hosting a panel on AI Licensing Solutions, with participants from various creative sectors discussing the benefits and practicalities of direct and collective licensing of AI, including:

- Lee Martin, investor, board member, senior advisor to the image licensing industry
- Jessica Rutt, International Rights and Licensing Manager, RCNi
- George Rose, Head of Broadcast and Digital, Commercial Partnerships at PRS for Music
- [James Bennett](#), Head of Rightsholder Relations, CLA (chair)

15:25 - 16:00

Panel: The future of selling rights

What does the role of a rights manager look like in a post-AI world? A discussion on how the role of the rights manager has changed with the development of new technology.

- [Margaret Szymczyk](#), Rights Director, John Murray Press
- [Erin Murgatroyd](#), Rights Director, Nosy Crow
- [Amy Ellis](#), Head of Rights and Licensing, PLS (chair)

Catered networking break

Guy Whittle Auditorium

16:20 - 16:55

Panel: What next for Westminster and copyright?

PLS' annual policy panel reflects on recent events in Westminster and looks at what publishing and the wider creative industries will be asking of the next government.

- [Caroline Cummins](#), Director of Policy & Public Affairs, PA
- [Eilidh Wilson](#), Head of Policy and Public Affairs, PPA
- [Luke Alcott](#), Public Affairs and Policy Manager, ALCS
- [Will Crook](#), Head of Policy and Communications, PLS (chair)

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17:00 - 17:45

Keynote: Resistance to change?

The publishing industry has traditionally been resistant to change; from agreeing to the SBN to accepting free pricing of books; from recognising the primacy of intellectual property to supporting collective licensing; from understanding globalisation to experimenting with open access and much else. However, publishing has always evolved and adapted. But what are the current and future challenges for the industry? How will and how should publishing adapt to generative AI? What affect will those changes have on the wider creative industries, not least authors and illustrators?

- [Richard Charkin](#)

17:45 - 18:00

Conference close

- [Rosie Glazebrook](#), Chair, PLS

18:00 - 19:00

Networking drinks reception

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Exhibitors

