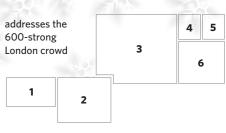
Our Festive Events

Christmas was kicked off in great style and with a little bit of silliness at two ITMA celebrations

1. Balloons provided some light entertainment for guests at the London lunch 2. In Manchester (left to right), Sonia Hill and Jorandi Daneel from Marks & Clerk LLP, with Lisa Kelly of Sacco Mann 3. Keven Bader, ITMA CEO, joins the fun at the Manchester event Maggie Ramage





The London Christmas lunch took place at the Lancaster Hotel, with Maggie Ramage, ITMA President, acting as host and Thomson CompuMark sponsoring a pre-lunch drinks reception that kicked the afternoon off in style.

Nearly 600 guests attended, which shows that even in a recession members view this event as an effective way to maintain existing contacts and market their firms. Some members had travelled a long way, including the US attorney Chris Schulte (Merchant & Gould). Representatives from the IP Office, IPReg, the International Federation of IP Attorneys, the Chartered Institute of Patent Attorneys, the IP Federation and the IP Lawyers' Association were also on hand, helping us further develop our relationships with those organisations.

During the annual student awards ceremony, the following achievements were honoured. Azhar Sadique, Keltie - John Parker Memorial Award, candidate with the highest mark in Paper

T2 (Basic UK Trade Mark Practice). Thomas Alexander Sharman, Reddie & Grose - Adrian Spencer Memorial Award, candidate with the highest mark in Paper T3 (Advanced UK Trade Mark Law and Practice). Katie Smith, Alliance Boots – Payne/Bennett Memorial Award, candidate with the highest mark in Paper T4 (Advanced Trade Mark Search).

Magdalena Ostrowska, Cleveland – Peter FitzGibbon Memorial Award, candidate with the highest mark in Paper T5 (Basic Overseas Trade Mark Law and Practice).

Thomas Daniel Harding, Potter Clarkson LLP - Nick Wilson Memorial Award, candidate with the highest mark in Paper D&C (UK Designs and Copyright Law).

Northern night

Maggie Ramage opened proceedings at the ITMA Northern Christmas dinner in Manchester, giving an upbeat and informative run-through of a busy ITMA year. Among the President's points was the reminder that not only has ITMA brought in a new qualification system for those seeking to become trade mark attorneys in conjunction with Queen Mary, University of London, and Nottingham Trent University in 2011, but it has also increased the number of events for those qualified to gain CPD hours, and introduced CPD webinars to further enhance the opportunities for members.

We also heard that there had been a successful World IP Organization (WIPO) day and that a British day was being arranged in conjunction with OHIM. Members were invited to express their interest in attending and refer to the ITMA website for details. During 2012 ITMA will continue to work to represent the profession and liaise with bodies such as IPReg, the Ministry of Justice and the UK IPO. Reports by Tania Clark of Withers & Rogers and Carin Burchell of Branded!











'Maggie Ramage, ITMA President, opened the Northern Christmas dinner, giving an upbeat and informative run-through of a busy ITMA year'

 Matt Sammon, (Marks & Clerk), Natalie Brindle, (Harrison IP), Stephen Bradley (retired)
Andrew Stone and Roy Crozier (Clarke Willmott)
Michael Green and Nicola Amsel (Amsel & Co, sponsors of the Manchester event), with ITMA President Maggie Ramage (middle) **4.** From left, lfe Adebajo and Luke Dixon (Greenberg Traurig Maher), and Victoria Horsey and Joanna Silver (Herbert Smith) **5.** Katie Smith (right), winner of the Payne/ Bennett Memorial Award, and Maggie Ramage **6.** From left, Hayley Luke (Camelot), David Keltie (Keltie) and Gayle Hodt (GSK) **7.** Stephanie Bodet (GSK), Janette Hamer, Robin Lightner Maisashvili and Colin Fowler (Rouse), Jo Grist (GSK), Arty Rajendra (Rouse), and Steve Nixon (BAT) **8.** From left, Fiona Clark (8 New Square), Isabel Davies (Boyes Turner, Reading) and Lynn Harris (Scott York, St Albans) **9.** Mike Murphy (Com Laude), Grant Whittle (Trade Mark Support Services Limited) and Rebecca Kaye (Sipara)

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