

CIPA Introductory Lecture

-

A career in patents

**Emily Collins
Kilburn & Strode
Stuart Forrest
WP Thomson**

1

1

Intro

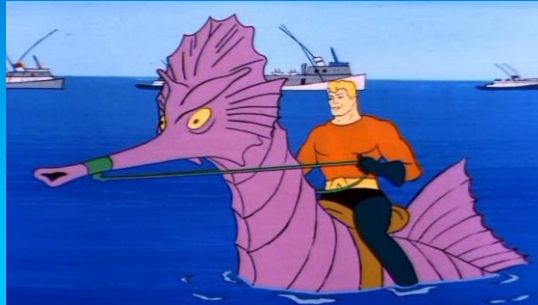
- **What is this lecture for?**
 - Orientation
 - Pep talk
- **Different sides of the story**
- **Emily Collins – first half**
- **Stuart Forrest – second half**

2

2

What do we do?

- Provide a link between inventors and the law
- Meet with inventors
- Draft patents
- Try to get patent applications allowed
- Try to get patents revoked
- Give opinions



3

3

The commercial aspect

- Do patents make people rich?
- Is obtaining a patent going to earn someone money; or
- Is obtaining a patent going to cost someone money?
- Think of your client's commercial aim
 - License or
 - Manufacture



4

4

The Early Years

- **Getting used to a different type of work**
 - Business advice not science advice
 - Remember the client's objectives
- **Demonstrate you are a safe pair of hands**
 - build trust. Focus on learning the basics well.
- **Charging time?!**
- **The job has changed**
 - Instant access to information
- **Ask questions**



5

5

Get Involved!

What to Join or Apply for...

- CIPA – student member
- *epi* – relevant for EQEs

Get involved in the Informals

6

6

Informals

- In usual times...
- Monthly Social Events
 - Boat Cruise
 - Christmas Party
 - Bowling
 - Tutors' Parties
- Now
- Tutorials
- Lectures
- Wellbeing coffee club (+ welfare officers)
- Yellow Sheet Blog



THE YELLOW SHEET
The Official Blog of the Informals Committee

7

Orientation

- What you should know
 - UK Act
 - EPC
 - PCT
 - plus Rules and Guidelines
 - Foreign law
- Useful acronyms
 - CPA PAL CIPA RPA EPA EPO EPI EPC PCT
CPC CPD CPR IPREG PLT WIPO AIPPI APAA
AIPLA ITMA ABA FICPI INTA INPI CNIPA
KIPO SIPO IPO USPTO TRIPS OAPI ARIPO
IPLC HCLC HCAC UP UPC

8

8

Exams

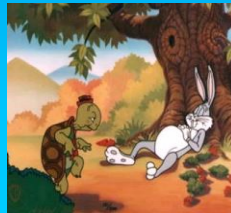
- Juggle studying with work
- No need to rush in
- Failure!
- Picking yourself up and dusting yourself down

To change centimeters to meters
you ?

take out centi

What was Sir Walter Raleigh famous for?

He is a noted figure in history because
he invented cigarettes and started a
craze for Bicycles.



9

The road to qualification



- You will get there

10

10

Exams

- Exams to sit
 - Foundation / equivalent
 - UK
 - EQE
 - Advocacy Certificate / Solicitor
- Courses and Lectures
 - QM(UL), Bournemouth, Brunel
 - CIPA Tutorials (Informals)
 - CEIPI
 - JDD

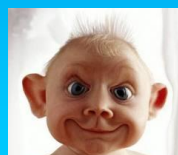


11

11

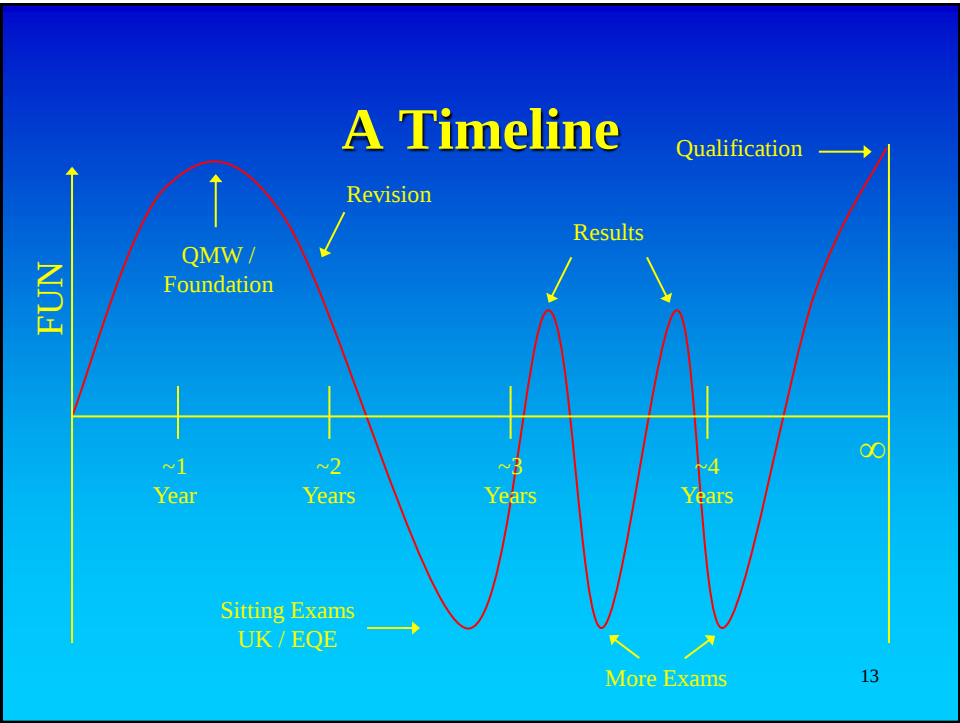
Qualification

- Learning the job
- Steeper learning curve
- Field questions about law
 - You're the most up to date resource
- Know your limitations!

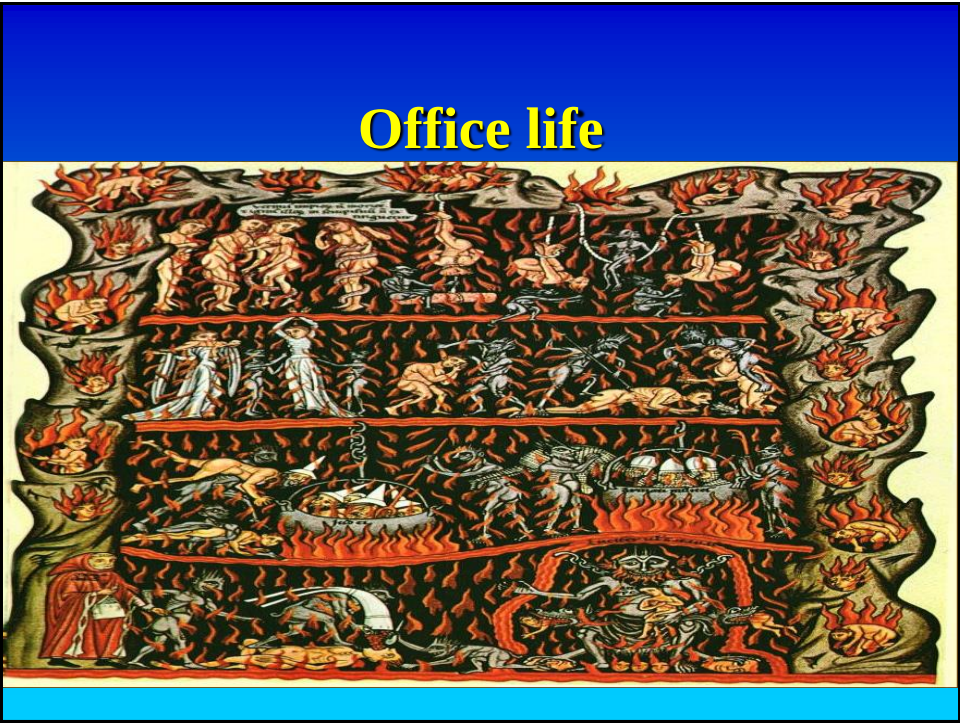


12

12



13



14

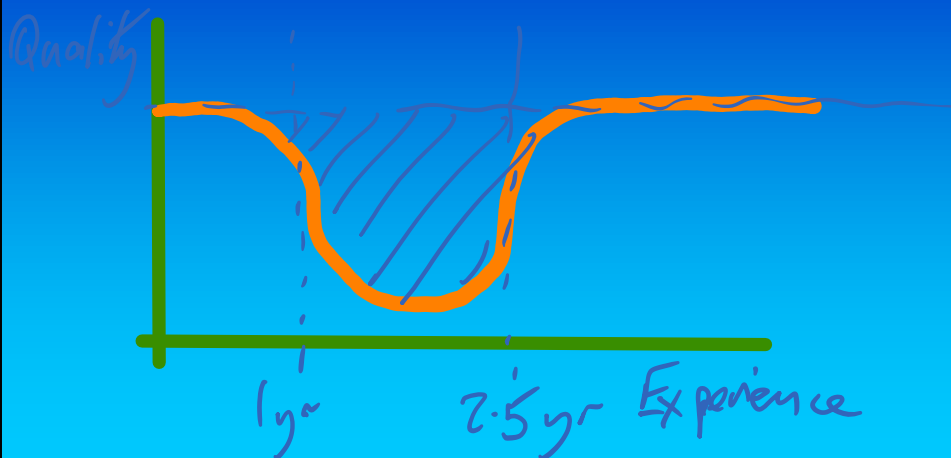
Your boss

- Make their life easy.
- Treat your boss as a client. Respect their time and come prepared
- Build trust
- If you can't impress the boss, you won't impress the client
- Expect training
- Understand who is responsible for what

15

15

The Learning Curve



16

16

The partners

- 10000 hours +++
- Remembering what you once didn't know
- This is a business...
- ...but expect training

17

17

Office life

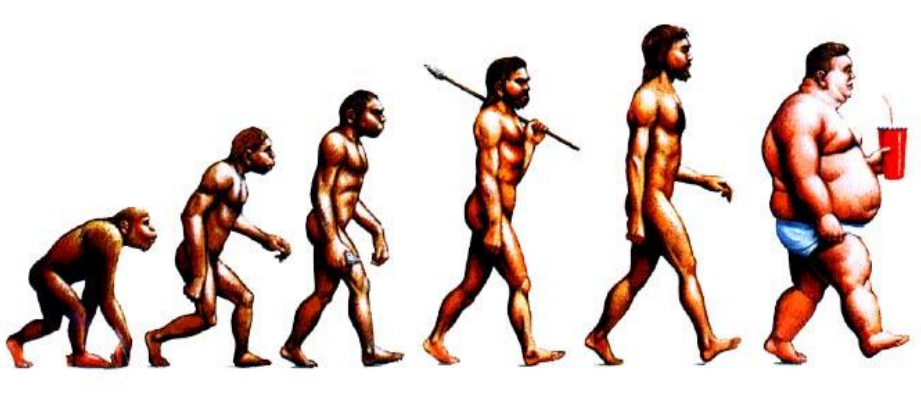
- Embrace the community
- The benefits and perils of flexibility
- Many businesses adjusting to remote working
- Management are terrified of millenials



18

18

Years 5-40



19

19

**Leave the profession a better
place than you found it**

- **Whatever path you choose try and give something back**

20

20

Recently qualified

- Learn the job
- Be happy to ask
- Understand who is responsible for what
- Understand what you want next

21

21

The client

- This is who you answer to now
- What professionalism is
- What client care is

22

22

The longer term

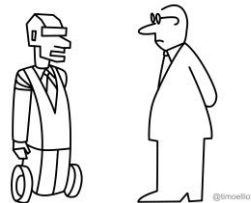
- Had you decided what you want next?
- Find new stresses:
 - Get the business
 - Run the business
 - Grow the business
 - Teach
 - Think legacy
- Or not – but enjoy the job, and give something back!

23

23

The horizon

- Brexit
- Is UPC a thing?
- Is AI going to take over?
- What are the real threats?



"The good news is I have discovered inefficiencies.
The bad news is that you're one of them."



24

24

Private Practice or Industry?

- **Private practice**
 - More variety, more stress, more pay, less familiarity with inventors and their projects
 - Foot soldier

25

25

Private Practice or Industry?

- **Industry**
 - Less variety, less stress, less pay, more contact with the inventors, awareness of company strategy
.....
 - generals

26

26

Conclusion

- Either side of the fence it is a good job
- Good luck
- Get training
- Think longer term a bit – for you and for your colleagues
- ~~Get to the pub~~

27