

Legal abstracts

Obiter doffs its metaphorical cap to south-east firm DMH, which recently received a special commendation in the arts, business and SME category at this year's Arts & Business national awards. DMH has a new exhibition every eight weeks at its Brighton and Crawley offices and nobly allows the great unwashed, the general public, in to have a look. But what really caught the eye was this painting from head of commercial Simon Bellm at the firm's arts club. Providing an appropriate title for his latest work does not come easy – 'The Red Worms Attack the Yellow Worms' is perhaps a bit too obvious. It is hard to know where Bellm's inspiration comes from. If he worked in the private-client department, it could perhaps have been Damien Hirst's 'The Physical Impossibility of Death in the Mind of Someone Living'. If he'd been a family lawyer, it might have been Tracy Emin's 'Everyone I Have Ever Slept With'. As he is in the commercial department, maybe we should see traces of Hogarth in his work. Readers will appreciate that it is hard to pigeon-hole such a rare talent.



Settee limits

Normally, *Obiter* would not feature a firm in consecutive weeks – we like to share the honour around as much as possible. But we make an exception this time for Nottingham firm Berryman Shacklock. Last week, our good friends at the firm's corporate department kindly sent us a photo of one of its lawyers in a tradi-

tionally silly pose with clients after a telecoms deal – covering different time zones, would you believe – was completed. This week, the team has gone one better and sent us a picture of a sofa made by another of its clients. So here is that sofa – and a mighty fine specimen it is, we're sure you all agree.



The Price of fame: As part of *Obiter's* tireless efforts to bring you pictures of celebrities and the legal profession, here are two shots from a recent party held by London-based David Price Solicitors & Advocates, which doubled as the launch bash for the third edition of *Defamation Law, Procedure and Practice*, by David Price and colleague Korieh Duodu. First, we have a picture of Mr Price himself and trainee Kathryn van Gelder alongside television legend Keith 'Cheggers Plays Pop' Chegwin. We also have a photograph of our own celebrated media law columnist... and some bloke with a beard. Amber Melville-Brown is clearly schmoozing with the best of them. The chap she's schmoozing is reality television junkie Nick Bateman – as the party went on late into the night, the guests voted him out. Oh all right, not really (they are libel lawyers, after all).



All-singing, all-billing...

When US firm Chadbourne & Parke announced a new managing partner for its London office recently, *Obiter* was disappointed to hear that the lawyer heading across the pond was not product liability specialist Lawrence Savell – singer/songwriter extraordinaire and counsel at the firm. However, we now have the next best thing – a copy of Mr Savell's 'The Lawyer's

Holiday Humor' album and his latest three-track EP, also described as the 'new supplemental pocket part addendum extra afterthought disc'. The extra tracks arrive, unsurprisingly since it comes from a product liability lawyer, with a warning that 'repeated listenings may cause drowsiness and nausea' printed on the disc. Standout tracks on the album include 'Santa and I are gonna pull an all-nighter on Christmas' and

'Bill those hours' (sung to the tune of 'Jingle Bells'). A *Gazette* office favourite on the new EP is 'Billin' on Christmas Eve'. *Obiter* calls on UK lawyers to demonstrate their own lyricism by penning alternative words to a well-known song. Mr Savell has kindly donated a copy of his album to give away to the best effort. His work can be accessed through www.lawtunes.com and its sister site, www.lawhumor.com.