

STEP London Central Seminar – Review

STEP London Central held a well-attended talk for student and full members on the 25th of June 2009 at the Institute of Actuaries, Staple Inn Hall. The event was kindly sponsored by UBS and featured speakers from New Square Chambers in Lincoln's Inn. The first hour (three talks) was intended for student members of the Branch and the second hour (also three talks) for student and full members.

Alexander Learmouth presented “Proprietary Estoppel Against Estates: Basics and Update”, prompted by two recent cases: *Cobbe v Yeoman's Row Management* and *Thorne v Majors*. Estate practitioners need to be aware of proprietary estoppel, because it gives claimants rights, potentially resulting in assets being removed from an estate and given to someone other than the beneficiaries.

Mark Hubbard explained the reasons for and possible consequences of using offshore trusts from the perspective of England & Wales practitioners. The presentation highlighted areas that an onshore practitioner should be aware of, if assisting a client in choosing an offshore trust structure and jurisdiction.

Jane Evans-Gordon gave students an insight into the workings of the Family Division: “Chancery in the Family Division: The Dreaded Nuptial Settlement and Other Attacks on Third Party Assets”. Students were guided through important case law relating to trusts and divorce settlements.

During the second hour, Leigh Sagar explained some of the issues that Trustees should be aware of if administering a trust with an underlying company and some of the different structures that Trustees may encounter. John Ross Martyn presented “Avoiding Testamentary Drafting Traps”, providing useful advice for students and full members and giving examples of the results of relatively simple errors. Rodney Stewart Smith updated members on rectification, rescission and Hastings-Bass and explained the issues raised by *Sieff v Fox*.

Find out about student events happening in your region at
www.step.org/events