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And the WINNER IS...

Find out who triumphed at the 10th Annual
STEP Private Client Awards



RBC Wealth Management

STEP 
ADVISING FAMILIES ACROSS GENERATIONS



Contents

Regulators

- 08 STEP news**
STEP outlines upcoming conferences, Tony Fulton remembered, and highlights from STEP webcasts
- 11 Back to the fifties**
Richard Frimston wants to reform the UK notion of domicile
- 14 Company news**
- 17 What makes a fiduciary?**
Joseph Kellogg ponders, following reform of the fiduciary rule for US investment advisors
- 18 Industry news**
- 88 Networking and development**
- 90 Book review**
Alexander Learmonth finds himself glued to *Testamentary Capacity: Law, Practice and Medicine*

Professional development

- 25 Never turn a blind eye**
John Harper examines *Agip (Africa) Ltd v Jackson*, and explains what Admiral Nelson's eye has to do with constructive trustees
- 27 Splitting the bill**
Amanda Edwards considers how trustee management expenses should be apportioned

Issue focus I

Private Client Awards

- 29 A night to celebrate**
Welcome to the tenth annual STEP Private Client Awards

Regional focus I

Crown Dependencies

- 41 Strategic surrender**
Jonathan Speck and Henry Brandts-Giesen consider a Jersey case illuminating when a trustee might surrender discretion to the court
- 45 Full steam ahead**
Guernsey is on track for the next stage in automatic exchange of information, explains Laila Arstall
- 51 Still in the race**
Amy Coole and Kevin O'Loughlin discuss changes to Isle of Man trust law that are keeping the island competitive



A night to celebrate

'Lords, ladies and gentlemen, it is a pleasure to welcome you all to the tenth annual STEP Private Client Awards where we, trusts and estates specialists, celebrate outstanding work of our peers,' and with this, Paul Stibbard TEP, Chair of the Presiding Judges, opened the ceremony for the STEP Private Client Awards 2015-2016.

The tenth anniversary was celebrated in style by over 700 private-client professionals at the Park Plaza Westminster Bridge Hotel in London on 8 September. An impressive number of entrants – more than 200 from 17 jurisdictions – meant competition was stiff.

TV newsreader, presenter and journalist Huw Edwards hosted the evening. He held an impromptu Q&A and had the pleasure of announcing the winners.

We present these standout firms and individuals over the following pages, but special mention should go to this year's high-achieving practitioners. Christopher McCall QC TEP was honoured with STEP's Lifetime Achievement Award; Nathan Potton of Grant Thornton was celebrated as Young Practitioner of the Year; and Julia Abrey TEP of Withers was voted Trusted Advisor of the Year in the People's Choice Award.

Thank you to all who entered – your contributions raised over GBP87,258.67 for STEP's charity partner, the International Senior Lawyers Project.

Next year's Private Client Awards will take place on 8 September and will also be held at the Park Plaza Westminster Bridge Hotel, London. ➤





ACCOUNTANCY TEAM OF THE YEAR

WINNER EY

(L-R) David Kilshaw, Eleanor Sallabank, Sophia Watsham and Katherine Bullock from EY; and Jeremy Knowland from Citi Private Bank



The judges were impressed with EY's investment in people and its seamless approach to dealing with international clients through its 'passport system'. It was also felt that EY's work on the US *Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act* (FATCA) intergovernmental agreements was both groundbreaking and critical to the broader profession.

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BOUTIQUE FIRM OF THE YEAR

WINNER AVANTIA ASESORAMIENTO FISCAL Y LEGAL

(L-R) Javier Estella Lana, Patricia Garcia Mediero and Gabriel Perez De Cardenas from Avantia Asesoramiento Fiscal y Legal and Greg Harris from Maitland



The judges felt this firm's mix of corporate, tax and private client advice, and its excellence in collaboration, sensitivity to culture and technical rigour, makes it a formidable player that punches well above its weight in the international arena.

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CHAMBERS OF THE YEAR

WINNER TEN OLD SQUARE

(L-R) Ross Webber from Bermuda Business Development Agency and James MacDougald, Francis Barlow QC, Marc Schofield, Richard Dew, Charlotte Kynaston, Julia Beer, Eason Rajah QC and Keith Plowman from Ten Old Square



In a category teeming with excellent submissions, the judges felt that Ten Old Square stood out as a result of its secondment programme, innovations in service to clients and contributions to the wider community.

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CHARITY TEAM OF THE YEAR

WINNER FARRER & CO

(L-R) Joanna Poole from Farrer & Co, Chris Cole from Towry and Sam Macdonald from Farrer & Co

FARRER & Co

Farrer & Co's submission was considered very strong and demonstrated the complexity of the transactions in which the team has been involved. The judges were also impressed by the technical skills of the firm's lawyers and training programme for charity trustees.

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Towry provides lifetime financial-planning services to individuals, families, deputies and trustees in the key areas of cash-flow planning, pensions and retirement, inheritance tax planning and investments.

Avantia Tax and Legal Services is one of the most prestigious Spanish independent Firms in the field of national and international tax and legal services to Private Wealth clients, including individuals, family businesses, entrepreneurs, company directors, trusts and estates.

'Avantia Asesoramiento's mix of corporate, tax and private client advice and their excellence in collaboration, sensitivity to culture and technical rigor make them a formidable player that punches well above their weight in the international arena.' – Presiding Judges commentary, STEP Private Client Awards 2015/16.

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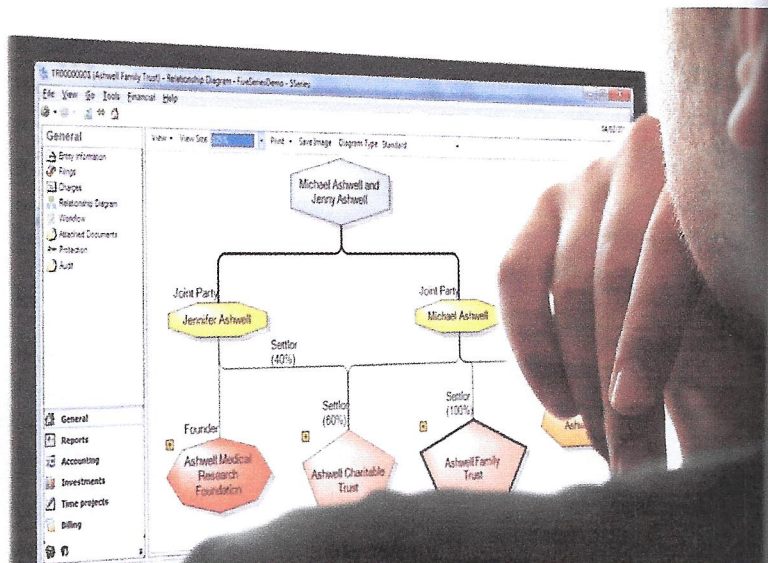
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