

# PRESS RELEASE

## STEPHENS & SON SOLICITORS

### SOLICITORS STEP UP TO THE MARK

Congratulations must go to two local solicitors at Stephens & Son in Chatham who have just qualified as full members of the Society of Trust and Estate Practitioners (STEP), a leading professional network of more than 14,000 members in over 60 countries.

Caroline Brooks-Johnson and Julie Weekes, both specialising in Wills, Probate and Trusts at the North Kent firm, were delighted to hear that they had reached the required academic standard and are among the first in Medway to have achieved full membership of STEP. Caroline and Julie had to submit three assignments of 3,000 words each at Masters level, on subjects selected from a list drawn up by STEP.

Both solicitors are rightly proud of their full membership of STEP, which was the culmination of many hours of study over 2 years and clearly demonstrates to clients and

peers alike their expertise in this highly specialised field. Caroline Brooks-Johnson, who is a partner and head of the Inheritance Department at Stephens & Son, said that clients are increasingly looking for ways to distinguish between advisors and this qualification is a means of showing that “we have more to offer clients than the average high street solicitor”. On a personal level she said that she



Caroline Brooks-Johnson



Julie Weekes

has enjoyed the challenge of juggling academic study with a busy job and home life.

With full membership of STEP, Caroline and Julie look forward to developing their portfolio of clients and further demonstrating their commitment in this very specialised area of work.