

# Wilberforce Insolvency Conference & Dinner 2026

Wilberforce  
CHAMBERS

## “It’s not what you think!”: Counter-Intuitive Answers to Questions in Insolvency

3.5 CPD

Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March  
InterContinental Park Lane, London, W1J 7QY

### Programme

12.45pm **Lunch and registration**

1.40pm **Opening remarks**

1.45pm **“If it’s a TUV it will be set aside”:  
When transactions are not avoided**  
**Daniel Lewis and Theo Dixon**

- What are the relevant transactions?
- Should detriment to the transferor trump benefit to the transferee?
- When is the good faith of the transferee relevant?
- What is the relevance to relief of a fall in the value of the asset post-transfer?

2.10pm **“It’s never too late”:  
Limitation in bankruptcy,  
liquidation and administration – claims by  
and against insolvent estates**  
**Marcia Shekerdemian KC and  
Jamie Holmes**

- Similarities and differences between bankruptcy, liquidation and administration
- s32 - fraud & dissolved companies, concealment & wrongdoer control
- Claims against the company vs claims against office holders

2.35pm **“It would have happened anyway”:  
When is causation an answer to a claim against a  
director?**

**Jia Wei Lee and John Grocott-Barrett**

- Is it possible for directors to misappropriate company assets, yet cause no loss?
- To what extent do burdens of proof matter?
- Does it matter that the director could have done what they did lawfully?
- Is bad weather ever a defence? A primer on legal attribution and remoteness

3pm **“Leave the decision-making to the directors”:  
Section 172 post-Saxon Woods**  
**Francesca Mitchell and Ram Lakshman**

- “They’ll thank me in the long run”: Can the ends ever justify the means?
- What will the Supreme Court do?
- Practical guidance for directors and officeholders (and their advisors)

3.25pm **Break**

4.05pm **“I know it says 12 months”:  
Noal SCSp v Noalpinia Capital LLP**  
**Tom Robinson KC and Daniel Jukes**

- The orthodoxy
- The judgment
- What is a debt?
- Where does the judgment leave the criminal offence in section 89 Insolvency Act 1986?
- Where does the judgment leave Insolvency Practitioners?

4.30pm **Common law liability for assisting a tort, it’s  
not what you think**  
**Graeme Halkerston**

- Suing directors, employees, family members and group companies is key to recovering value in many insolvencies
- Dishonest assistance needs dishonesty. Conspiracy is falling out of judicial fashion
- Common design is often overlooked as a way of imposing primary liability in tort
- What is the doctrine of common design?
- How is it different from unlawful act conspiracy?

4.50pm **Foreign judgments and liquidation,  
it’s not what you think**  
**Lexa Hilliard KC and Tara Taylor**

- Winding up orders on foreign judgments after *Drelle*
- Winding up orders on foreign arbitration awards after *Drelle*
- Is the UK out of step with other jurisdictions?

5.15pm **The A to Z of Insolvency**  
**Andreas Giannakopoulos and Zihang Liu**

Andreas and Zihang each present facts from real insolvency cases without naming the parties or the judge. You, the audience, will vote which way you think each case was decided

5.45pm **Closing remarks**

5.50pm **Drinks reception**

7pm **Dinner at Theo Randall**

