

North West

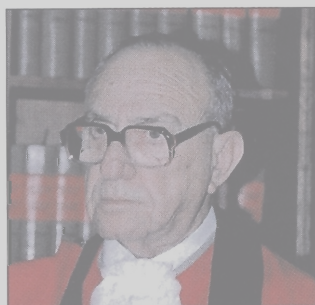
Contributed by
John Stander

My fishing trip (see 2002 August *Advocate* 14) to the Drakensberg is now no more than a fond memory, but I can report that my son Andrew caught and released a five pound rainbow hen at Elands Dam in the Kamberg Nature Reserve. Andrew completely outfished me – just like he outrives me on the fairway...

Anyway...

Johann Pistor will again be acting in our division in the final term of the year. Two vacancies have also arisen and he is one of the short-listed candidates for interviews by the Judicial Service Commission.

Judge president retires



Judge President MW (Mockie) Friedman

At the end of September our judge president retires. Judge President MW (Mockie) Friedman was born in Witbank. He obtained his BA at Cape Town and his LLB at Wits. Thereafter he practised at the Johannesburg Bar, taking silk in 1978. He was elevated to the Bench in 1986. He is a former chairman of the Zionist Labour Group and of the South African Zionist Federation. At one time he was also a member of the World Zionist Executive. Mockie's hobbies include

philosophy, history and music, and he has lectured extensively on philosophical and Jewish subjects. He played, and maintains an interest in, cricket, soccer and rugby. He is married to Daphne, a former attorney. They have six children.

A farewell for the judge president has been combined with our annual Bar dinner.

KwaZulu-Natal

Contributed by Wendalynn Bowler, Durban Bar

Acting appointments

The following persons, of whom several are members of the KwaZulu-Natal Bar, were appointed as acting judges from August 2002 to December 2002: G Kruger, K Pillay, AB Mohammed SC, GH Penzhorn SC, ND Hollis SC and MD Southwood SC.

Pupillage

The pupillage system draws heavily on the time and resources of members of the Bar. Gardner van Niekerk leads the Advocacy Training Programme. At present there are 22 pupils in Durban and two in Pietermaritzburg.

Court building

The long-awaited facelift for the Durban high court building has finally materialised. Members of the Bar must be recommended for their hard work and dedication in assisting with getting the project started. We await with bated breath the end-product.

AGM

At the annual general meeting of the Society of Advocates of KwaZulu-Natal held on 31 August 2002, the following members were elected to the council:

N Singh SC, A Rall SC, R Vahed SC, G Harper SC, A Troskie, T Gorven, R Seegobin, R Singh, W Bowler, T Norman, T Madonsela, T Mbongwa, M Posemann (secretary), G Goddard (treasurer), N Israel (assistant secretary). The KwaZulu-Natal Bar wishes them prosperity in carrying out their duties.

Vrystaat

Bygedra deur Germa Wright

Lede doen pro bono werk

'n Versoek is deur die Vrystaatse regbank aan lede gerig om betrokke te raak by 'n pro bono projek wat ten doel het om verslag te doen oor persone wat die doodstraf opgelê is, maar wie se vonnisse nog nie met gepaste ander vonnisse vervang is nie. Verskeie lede het hulself bereidwillig verklaar om deel te neem. Dit was verblydend om te sien dat selfs sommige senior lede op die uitnodiging gereageer het.

Die regshulpkomitee het aan die werk gespring en die Mangaung gevangenis buite Bloemfontein is op 16 Augustus besoek. Elf lede en pupille het per kombi en die (altyd beskikbare en gewillige) Land Rover in die pad geval. Die deeglike "intekenproses" het veral die praktisyns wat nie strafwerk doen nie, verras. Nadat selfone en sleutels in veilige bewaring geplaas en die advokate en hul besittings deeglik ondersoek is, kon hulle uiteindelik die besoekarea betree.

Die gevangenes was gretig om met die "advokate van Bloemfontein" te praat. Verskeie het aangedui dat hulle jare laas deur iemand anders as polisiebeamptes en personeel van die gevangenis besoek is. Dit was aangrypend om te ervaar hoe gretig hulle was om oor hul lewens en tronkomsstandighede te gesels. 'n Besoek wat aanvanklik as 'n opoffering beskou is, het vinnig ontwikkel tot 'n belewenis. Later het een van die junior lede opgemerk dat sy nie ver wag het om die besoek so te ervaar nie.

Die lede was nie voorbereid daarop om so diep getref te word deur die verhale wat hulle aangehoor het nie. Vir diegene van ons wat gereeld in die strafhowe verskyn en dikwels met persone in aanhouding te doen kry – en moontlik vergeet het waarom ons daardie tipe werk doen – het die boodskap weer sterk deurgekom: daar is mense wat ons nodig het en vir wie die professionele diens wat ons lewer, iets beteken.

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Lede

Xolani Mabusela het die eksamen geslaag en praktiseer nou as volwaardige lid van die Vereniging. Celesté Reinders, Lentswe Setouto, Craig Snyman en Makhosi Madlala is tans besig met hul pupilskap. Johan Horn het hom weer by ons aangesluit. Die ledetal staan tans op 48.

Regbank

Een van ons lede, Corné van Zyl, het weer eens as regter waargeneem. Israel Menong, 'n streeklanddros, was die ander waarnemende regter. Regter Irma Schoeman, 'n oud-lid van die Vrystaatse

Balie en tans op die Transkeise regbank, het 'n paar weke hier kom diens doen terwyl regter Dawid Lombard 'n saak in Transkei aangehoor het.

Port Elizabeth

Contributed by Peter Kroon, Port Elizabeth

Pupils

Two pupils, Kerry Lee and Rasia Laher, passed the Bar examination. Rasia has decided to take up chambers and to practise at the Port Elizabeth Bar. Kerry has, however, chosen to pursue a career in the attorneys' profession.

Acting appointments

René van Rooyen SC accepted an acting appointment for September 2002. He has been shortlisted for a permanent appointment to the Eastern Cape Bench.

Social

At the end of term function in June 2002 a farewell party was arranged for Jimmy van Rensburg, who has recently retired from the Bench. Judges who were doing duty at the time in Port Elizabeth were all invited to what was an enjoyable function.

Judges/advocates tackle backlog

In an effort to clear a backlog of about 400 appeals, ten silks have joined forces with the judges and offered their services to the state without charge to sit in specially convened appeal courts to hear the outstanding appeal cases. From the Port Elizabeth Bar these included Richard Buchanan, Chris

Vrystaatse tronkbesoek



Vlnr: Bertie Fourie, Lentswe Setouto, Germa Wright, Craig Snyman, Ian van der Merwe SC, Stanley Reinders, Xolani Mabusela, Neil Snellenburg, Talitha Carstens, Inez Bezuidenhout, Makhosi Madlala.

Mouton, Hendrik van der Linde and Dup de Bruyn. They were appointed as acting judges for the second week of October and were sworn in on 7 October 2002. This effort is in the true tradition of the Bar and is to be admired. (I note in this context that one junior member of the Bar was overheard to say that, having done cases for the Legal Aid Board, he too is well practised at working for no money.)

Pretoria

Bygedra deur Henk Havenga

Waarnemende aanstellings

Die volgende lede van die Pretoria Balie het in die tydperk Julie tot September (die afsnydatum vir Balienuus vir hierdie uitgawe) waargeneem as regters: LJJ Visser SC, CD de Jager SC, RD Claassen SC, FH Terblanche SC, DS Fourie SC, PC van der Byl SC, MNS Sithole SC en L Molopa. During the course of the year a number of our female members who have not yet

taken silk, accepted acting appointments. Some, if not all, did so with some hesitation, because of the perceived break with tradition. They all performed their duties with great distinction and in a manner which did the Pretoria Bar proud.

Baliedinee

Gedurende September het die Pretoria Balie by sy jaarlikse dinee, ook sy 125-jarige bestaan op feestelike wyse herdenk. Die aand is gekenmerk deur uitstekende toesprake. Mabel Jansen SC dedicated her speech to "... the memory, not only of those pioneers whose lives and personalities are forever woven into the fabric of our sunlit, Jacaranda-lined city, but also to a way of life which is ours, and uniquely ours. It is also an attempt to record 125 golden years during which the Bar was conceived as a small society, was born and has grown to maturity." This poetic start to her speech was followed by a colourful and interesting journey through our history. Regter Eben Jordaan se toespraak, waarin die temas "regters is ook mense" en "hoe voel dit om 'n regter te wees" aange-

spreek is, was een van die pittigste toesprake in jare. Die junior toespraak is gelewer deur Christopher (Tiff) Woodrow, 'n jong man met 'n blink toekoms voor hom.

Arbitration facilities

When the bulk of the Pretoria Bar moved to the High Court Chambers in Vermeulen Street, a fully-fledged arbitration centre was established on the 1st floor, consisting of two arbitration rooms, each with recording facilities, and three adjoining consultation rooms. The facilities are available to both AFSA and other arbitrations. Further information can be obtained from the office manager, Mr Deon Gericke.

Ons neem afskeid

Sedert die vorige uitgawe het die Pretoria Balie met leedwese afskeid geneem van twee van sy gewaardeerde lede, HJ (Saai) Saaiman, wat al vir etlike jare ook 'n erelid was, en HT (Hennie) Venter. "Oom Saai" was een van die Balie se ware karakters en menige wonderlike staaltjies sal nog vir lank oor hom vertel word. Hennie Venter is tereg in 'n huldeblyk