

BY **STEVE RORKE SC** AND **ANUSHA RAWJEE**

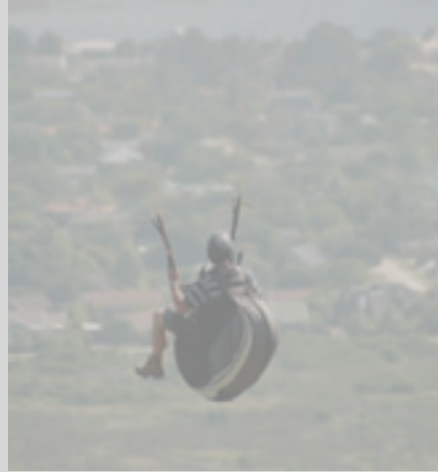
While Port Elizabeth is renowned for its easy laid back lifestyle we are not without the adventurous few who thrive on an adrenalin rush.

During the recent recess period, when most of us enjoyed some well deserved rest, Glenn Goosen SC and his family decided on a primitive hike in the Mfolozi Nature Reserve in northern KwaZulu Natal. Close encounters with wild beasts were certainly expected but not quite as close as occurred. A crossing of the Mfolozi River almost turned into a disaster when Glenn's wife, Therese, stepped over what looked like a log in the murky river water only to feel the log thrash against her leg. Luckily speed and agility were on her side – that and some miraculous walking on water. She escaped from the crocodile and went on to cross the river unharmed.

While Therese had a chance encounter with a croc, Chris Mouton SC, while spear fishing off Cape St Francis, had a tussle with a water creature of a different kind – a ragged tooth shark. To his delight, Chris speared a meter long leervis, his only catch after a long day. His delight soon turned to dismay. His leervis quickly disappeared into the jaws of the shark. Tenacious both in and out of court, Chris was not prepared to give up his catch. Following a course the wisdom of which may be questionable, Chris managed to retrieve the leervis from the very jaws of the shark. Said leervis was therefore thrice in a pickle on that day: first speared by Chris, then swallowed (and coughed up) by the shark and afterwards made into pickled fish by Chris!

Paul Jooste is equally dismissive of danger. As we write, he is enjoying (if that

is the right word) a paragliding holiday in Oku, Turkey. His ultimate fate is as yet unknown, but we certainly will report more fully on his audacity in the next edition.



Paul Jooste paragliding.

Steve Rorke SC is yet another member who thrives on the adrenalin rush. While holidaying at the Semonkong Lodge in Lesotho, his country of birth, he abseiled down the Maletsunyane Falls. At over 200m, it is according to the Guinness Book of Records the longest single drop abseil in the world. Steve reports that he thoroughly enjoyed the experience. Curiously, however, he also reports a firm intention never to abseil again.


Regrettably, it has not just been about adventure at the Port Elizabeth Bar. The first term saw more work than usual for most members with no time to get back gradually into the swing of things – not that anyone complained. Whoever thought Port Elizabeth is too small to sustain 64 practicing advocates?

Our Bar also made its presence felt on the Bench with a couple of our members taking acting appointments. The Labour Court bench was graced with the regal presence of Zolashe Lallie while Glenn Goosen SC held an acting appointment in the High Court last term.

GRAHAMSTOWN

BY **RICHARD BROOKS**

Members of the Grahamstown Bar celebrate the recent publication of a revised Superior Courts Bill which reflects a reversal of the previously expressed intention of the Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development to move the seat of the Eastern Cape Division of the High Court of South Africa from Grahamstown to Bhisho. Unprecedented local support for the retention of the seat in Grahamstown was offered by its citizens, local business community, the leadership of Rhodes University, its municipality and members of its legal profession, and was coordinated successfully in a campaign led by the Archbishop of Cape Town, the Most Reverend Thabo Makgoba.

Some members of the Bar also joined staff and alumni of the Legal Resources Centre in Grahamstown on 4 July 2011 in a celebration of both reflection on a thirty year history and renewal, at which the founding member of the LRC Grahamstown office, Justice Jeremy Pickering, introduced the guest speaker, Justice Lex Mpati. The function followed a debate chaired by Justice Dennis Davis on land reform and rural development which formed part of the ThinkFest program at the National Arts Festival. 

BAR NEWS FREESTATE

BY **HENRIETTE MURRAY**

In memoriam The late Justice EKW Lichtenberg

Excerpts from a tribute to the late Judge President Ernst Lichtenberg by Justice HM Musi JP.

On Thursday 12 May 2011 the Bloemfontein legal community took leave of a former Judge President of the Free State High Court,

Justice EKW Lichtenberg. The memorial in the Free State High Court was attended by the late Judge Lichtenberg's daughter, Ingeborg, as well as by several of his now retired former colleagues on the Bench.

The present Judge President, Justice HM Musi, paid tribute to him as a friend and a mentor. Some highlights from his speech are the following:

'Ernst Karl Wilhelm Lichtenberg was born in Germany on 3 December 1929, matriculated from a Latin Grammar School in Berlin before his family moved to the Free State in 1949. He soon mastered Afrikaans and English well enough to obtain from the University of the Orange Free State his BA and LLB degrees in 1952 and 1955, respectively, while working as a clerk at Old Mutual and later as registrar to the then Judge President, Justice EM de Beer.