

Eastern Cape

PORT ELIZABETH

Anusha Rawjee

MEMBERS

THE PE Bar has welcomed five new members who successfully completed the pupillage programme in 2014 and joined our Bar on 15 December 2014. Their details are as follows:

- David Bands completed his LLB through UNISA before commencing pupillage.
- Lodéne Gagiano was an associate attorney at Wilke Weiss Van Rooyen Attorneys before she commenced pupillage.
- Michelle Phyllis Morgan completed her articles at Lexicon Attorneys before commencing pupillage.

- Nolubabalo Lisa Ntsepe was a public prosecutor before joining the Bar.
- Miranda Pango practised as an attorney at the Office of the State Attorney, Port Elizabeth before joining the corporate world. Pango was employed at Coega Development Corporation and held the position of Unit Head: Legal and Risk Management Services.

We have six pupil members this year, five of whom have commenced pupillage in January with the sixth pupil member to commence pupillage on 1 April 2015.

ACTING APPOINTMENT

Mark Euijen has been appointed to act in the Labour Court for the first term.

OBITUARY

The PE Bar was deeply saddened by the sudden death of Mthomasebe Booï, better known as Tommy, on Sunday 22 February this year. He practised at our Bar for some 14 years.

He served on the Bar Council and was a member of Advocates for Transformation. Tommy will be remembered for his warm smile and will be dearly missed by all. 

GRAHAMSTOWN

Thomas Miller

ANNUAL DINNER

The annual dinner of the Eastern Cape Society of Advocates was held at the Boardwalk Hotel in Port Elizabeth on the evening of 30 January 2015, much to the delight of Izak Smuts SC. The guest speaker was the Dean of the Faculty of Law at NMMU, Professor Vivienne Lawack, who spoke passionately about the future of legal education in South Africa.

ACTING APPOINTMENTS

Gerald Bloem SC and Richard Brooks SC have been appointed as acting judges of the Eastern Cape during the first court term.

NEW MEMBERS

We welcome three new members who successfully completed pupillage in 2014 and wish them all the best for their careers at the Bar.

- **Akhona Baninzi** was born in Grahamstown and, after matriculating from Victoria Girls' High School in 2002, left for Johannesburg to study at Wits obtaining her LLB degree in 2009, having previously obtained her BA degree in Internatio-

nal Relations and Economic Studies from the same institution. Akhona then worked as a compliance officer at a commercial bank in Johannesburg. However, Akhona's heart always longed to join the Bar and when she found out that she was pregnant she decided to move home to Grahamstown and undertake pupillage. Akhona's son, born in the first month of her pupillage, has just turned one year old and she is enjoying motherhood immensely. Akhona's interest lies in tax law and she hopes to commence her Master's this year at Rhodes University where she has been accepted to read for a Master of Commerce and Taxation. Amongst other things Akhona enjoys reading, travelling and the outdoors. Like Olivia Pope, in *The Fixer*, Akhona enjoys a glass of red wine after a long day.

- **John Knott** grew up on a farm near Bedford and was educated at St Andrew's, in Grahamstown. He went on to study at Rhodes University, obtaining his LLB degree in 2013, having previously obtained his BA from the same institution. John's interests include golf, cricket and the outdoors. John listens to old time rock 'n roll' and a bit of country and is nauseated by the 'rap and pop or whatever' that he says people listen to these

days. John's bucket list includes playing golf at the Old Course, watching the US Masters live and riding a motorbike (largely on dirt roads) up the length of Africa. Last year he was pleased to tick-off 'watching a Bruce Springsteen concert' from that list.

- **Carien van der Merwe** was born in Johannesburg and graduated from North-West University, Potchefstroom in 2008 with an undergraduate degree of BComm Law and Economics. Thereafter she studied towards her LLB degree at Witwatersrand University and completed it in 2010 together with a certificate in International Trade. Carien did her articles at Ridgeway Merry & Weldhagen Inc in Johannesburg where she stayed on as a practising attorney and worked predominantly in civil litigation and commercial law. Carien moved to the Eastern Cape, Port Alfred, at the end of 2013 with her fiancé.

PUPILS

Grahamstown accepted five new pupil members. We would like to wish Jannie Coltman, Thando Mgidlana, Nkcazelo Nabela, Willem Olivier and Sarah Sephton the best of luck for the remainder of their pupillage. 