

Natal

*contributed by A Gordon,
Durban*

The Bench

JUDGES Andrew Wilson and Hassen Mall were appointed to the Amnesty Commission from 1 February 1996. Chris Nicholson SC who had been acting for the past six months, was appointed to the Natal Bench on 1 January 1996.

Acting appointments

From 1 February 1996 Vivienne Niles-Dunér SC took up an acting appointment on the Natal Bench, where she is to act until 30 June 1996. Lewis Skweyiya SC acted for two weeks in the Ciskei Provincial Division during February 1996 and is at present acting in Natal. Yoga Moodley SC has been acting in Natal and on his return from America, where he is lecturing, Marumo Moerane SC will take up an acting appointment. Natal is also exporting judges with Sandile Ngcobo at present acting in Cape Town.

Silks

No new silks were appointed in Natal in the last quarter.

Members

M Bingham, A Collingwood, T Majake, K Samuel, P Schumann, T Seery, G Vos and S Walker in Durban, and B Rajah in Pietermaritzburg, joined the Natal Bar after successfully completing their pupillage in December 1995. The Bar wishes them every success.

Departures

R S Douglas SC, R P van Rooyen SC, M Cassimjee, B Ford, A Holgate, M Jacobs, J le Roux, R Nel, C van Rensburg and F van Zyl left the Natal Society of Advocates in January 1996.

Pupils

Twenty new pupils in Durban and one in Pietermaritzburg commenced pupillage on 1 March 1996 in preparation for the June 1996 Bar Examination.

Bar Council

At the Annual General Meeting of the Natal Society of Advocates, held at the Oyster Box on 23 September 1995, the following members were appointed to the Bar Council:

Durban –

David Gordon SC (chairman), Archie Findlay SC, Marumo Moerane SC, S Gyanda, Mark Harcourt, C M Patel, Dave Phillips, Richard Salmon, Colleen Thomas and Rashid Vahed.

Pietermaritzburg –

Kobus Booyens SC (vice-chairman), Rob Griffiths, Fayed Moola and Christo Snyman.

Bar dinner

On 14 November 1995 a successful Bar dinner was held for members and their spouses at the Royal Hotel in Durban.

There was a good turnout of judges and members from both Durban and Pietermaritzburg. After a splendid dinner, Judge Willem Booyens entertained the audience with a witty and amusing speech, full of historical an-

ecdotes.

A good time was had by all, but for those who were not ready to stop partying, a sumptuous breakfast was provided by Jeff Hewitt SC at Hewitt Hall, with the stragglers finally departing at about 3 am.

Sport

Durban: indoor soccer

The football feud between the 7th and 8th floors of Salmon Grove Chambers resumed on 1 March 1996.

However, it seems that the 7th Floor are intending to steal a march on the 8th Floor as they resumed their training sessions earlier. Perhaps last year's lesson was too much for the 8th Floor! Come on guys, let's see you working those legs in the gym, your arms had enough exercise during the Christmas vacation!

Pietermaritzburg

The Pietermaritzburg Bar held two successful social events of note during November and December 1995, the first being a formal members only dinner at the Royal Hotel, Pietermaritzburg. In accordance with tradition, the formality was soon diluted by alcohol, resulting in an evening of fun and entertainment.

The second social event was the annual cricket match at the Fleur de Lys Club, Hilton, between Dickson's 11 and Southwood's 11. Southwood's 11 got "carrots", with Dickson's 11 winning by fifteen (15) runs. The lamb on the spit was a great success and once again many brain cells were severely damaged.

Ciskei

Appointments

TWO members from our local Bar were appointed to the Bench of the Ciskei Provincial Division in an acting capacity for the first term. The members were Roger Claassen SC and Deva Pillay.

The Bar wholeheartedly supported these appointments.

Members

The number of members at the Bar remains static and no pupils have enrolled.

Bar dinner

The 9th Annual Bar Dinner was held at the King William's Town Club on 16 February 1996. It was proved a most enjoyable evening and was well-attended by the Bar, the judiciary and members of the Attorney-general's staff.