Bar news • Balienuus

Johannesburg

contributed by Mark Stranex
Johannesburg

Pupils

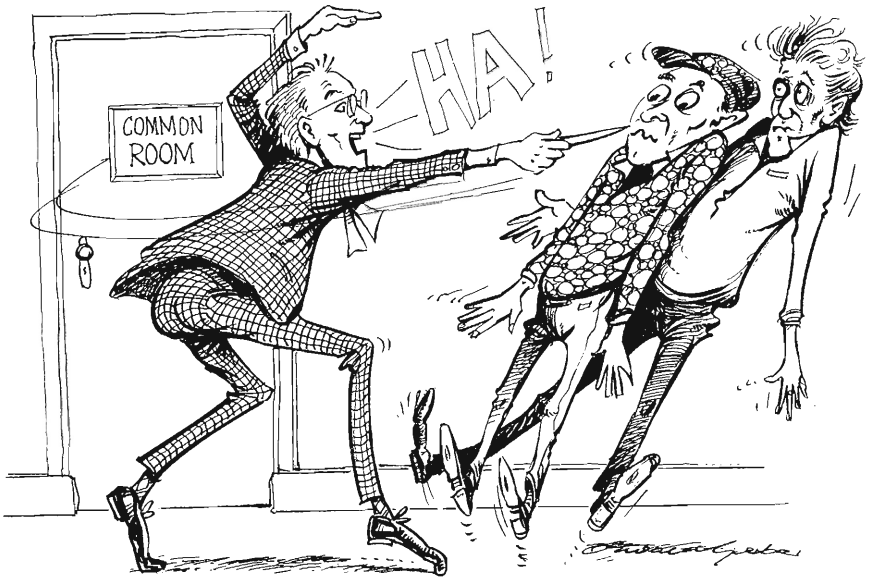
The Johannesburg Bar accepted 52 pupils in the first half of 1998 and presently, 43 pupils are undergoing pupillage. As in 1997, the number of black pupils has exceeded the number of white pupils – giving doubt to views expressed that the Bar is a white preserve. In June of this year 43 pupils wrote the National Bar Examination and 28 passed.

Acting appointments

The following members of the Johannesburg Bar were appointed acting judges in the Witwatersrand Local Division in 1998: P A Hattingh SC, M Hannon SC, J J Brett SC, H Shakenovsky SC, T M Masipa, N A Cassim SC, I A M Semenya, A P Joubert SC, F H D van Oosten, W H G van der Linde SC, J R Gautschi SC, G I Hoffman SC, Ms N Cassim SC, D M Fine SC, M D Kuper SC, P A Solomon SC, P J van Blerk SC, A J Horwitz SC, and N P Willis SC.

Investec Relay

The Johannesburg Bar was represented by two teams at the Investec Relay in April, drawn from members on the 17th Floor, Schreiner Chambers and the 4th Floor, Innes Chambers. We cannot report that any records were broken, nor that everyone resisted the temptation to walk parts of the way, nor that we thrashed our colleagues from Pretoria, but both teams did finish in less than six hours (total distance about 40 kms).



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Resilience of members

Despite the fact that some members now have permanent chambers in Sandton, most members still gravitate to the less fashionable city centre, holding chambers in Schreiner Chambers and Innes Chambers. Contrary to popular belief, there are no muggings on the way to the common room for coffee and snacks each morning at 10:30, but one member is rumoured to have exhibited a knife when accosted by a gang of two seeking money. It is rumoured that the shock of a combination of middle-class suit and old-fashioned self-defence resulted in a quick retreat. The matter settled, the member continued on his way to Woolworths.

The resilience of members of the Johannesburg Bar is self-evident.

Vrystaat

bygedra deur Jimmy Claasen
Bloemfontein

Waarnemende aanstellings

Sedert die laaste publikasie van die Vrystaatse Balienuus het die volgende lede van die Vrystaatse Balie asook ander persone as regters van die Vrystaatse Hooggeregshof waargeneem:
J Lubbe SC (4 tot 13 Oktober 1997 en 22 November tot 15 Desember 1997); W H Olivier SC (14 Oktober tot 14 November 1997 en 1 April tot 8 Mei 1998); H A L Schreuder (4 Oktober tot 15 November 1997); A J R van Rhyn (16 November tot 15 Desember 1997); Mnr J Pretorius (4 Oktober tot 15 Desember 1997); T V Matsepe (6 Oktober tot 15 Desember 1997); M H Wessels SC (27 Januarie tot 28 Februarie 1998); Mnr J C Pretorius (1 Maart tot 12 April 1998); L C J Maree SC (1 Mei tot 5 Junie 1998); A F Jordaan SC (1 Junie tot 28 Junie 1998); N J Theron (1 April tot 31 Mei 1998) en W A du Plessis (1 Junie tot 28 Junie 1998).

Soos uit die voormelde blyk, is daar ook lede van die Balie as waarnemende regters aangestel wat nog nie senior status verwerf het nie. Dit is die eerste keer in die geskiedenis van hierdie vereniging dat sodanige aanstellings gemaak is.

New members and pupils

At the beginning of 1998 the membership of the Bloemfontein Bar consisted of 50 members with one associate member, Mr Ben Pretorius. During the year Louise Coetzee left the Bar and the membership of E Lehana was terminated.