

Vrystaat

Bygedra deur Germa Wright, Bloemfontein

Regbank

Gedurende die laaste termyn van 2001 het Barnard Knoetze, Jimmy Claassen, Peter Fisher en Corné van Zyl waargeneem as regters. Majake Mabasale, vroeër verbonde aan die Universiteit van die Noorde en tans in privaat praktyk, het ook gedurende die tydperk waargeneem.

Die Vrystaatse regbank is weer voltallig. Regter Albert Kruger is in November 2001 as sulks aangestel. Hy was vroeër lid van die Johannesburg Balie. Hy word hartlik verwelkom. (Sien ook bl 22)

Lede

Die Balie in Bloemfontein bars al weer uit sy nate. Tom Langenhoven, vroeër lid van die Pretoria Balie, het in Februarie by ons aangesluit. Vir die laaste paar jaar het hy in die omgewing van Hobhouse geboer. Dit bring die getal advokaat-boere op tien te staan – ongeveer 'n kwart van die Balie.

Corrie Ploos van Amstel SC is na 'n afwesigheid van 'n paar jaar weer terug by ons. Skielik is daar weer humoristiese boodskappe op die kennisgewingbord en word daar al weer met groot opgewondenheid gepraat oor die volgende meultreinrit. Baliefunksies sal nooit weer dieselfde wees nie.

Een persoon het met pupilskap begin. Beide hy en sy mentor, Craig Human, word sterkte toegewens vir die steil pad na die Balie-eksamen later vanjaar.

North-West

Contributed by John Stander, Mafikeng

The leader of our Bar, Lukie Maree SC was involved in a horrendous motor vehicle accident late last year. Fortunately he survived the crash and he is now nearly restored to full health.

Johann Pistor, our senior junior, is at present acting on the Bench of the Bophuthatswana Provincial Division for the first term of 2002.

Two of our members of staff, Elize Erasmus and Hendrien van der Merwe, will this month have served eighteen years and thirteen years respectively with our association. In view of the trying circumstances under which they often work, we can only wish them well and say thank you for all their efforts.

We have only one pupil for this term, Jackson Kgakane. We trust that he will do well in his pupillage which he is serving under Cecile Zwiegeelaar. He has been admonished not to rely on the *Motion Court Manual!*

Johannesburg

The following are extracts from the address of the then chairman of the Johannesburg Bar, WHG van der Linde SC, at the memorial service for the late W H R Schreiner SC on 8 June 2001:

“William Hilson Reitz Schreiner was born on 21 March 1922 to Edna and Oliver Schreiner. He was educated at St Catherine’s Preparatory School, Parktown West, and St John’s

Preparatory School, Houghton. He matriculated at St John’s College in 1938.

In 1939 he entered Wits University with the intention of following a BA degree with an LLB. War, however, intervened, and in 1942 Bill entered the army as a signaller. He was sent to Madagascar and after a year or so he returned to South Africa and joined the 6th SA Division. After a short while he became attached to the 10th /65th Battery in the 4th /42nd. He then followed the path of the 6th Division from South Africa to Egypt for a year and went to Italy until the war in Europe ended.

Along with other South Africans proceeding to further studies, Bill and his brother Denys were formally discharged from the army in Brighton in the United Kingdom and went on to Cambridge University, where Bill began his Law Tripos. In 1949 Bill left Cambridge for London to read in chambers in the Inner Temple and thereafter returned to Johannesburg in 1950.

Upon his return, Bill joined the Johannesburg Bar on 2 February 1950. In 1954 he met and married Patricia Maude Schreiner (née Walsh). They had one son, William Geoffrey.

As an intellectual, Bill had a depth of analysis possessed by few. In argument before the courts, and in professional interaction with colleagues, he contributed unfailingly his trademark intellectual soundness and sophistication. It was, of course, especially in the field of intellectual property law that Bill left his mark. Many aspire to expertise in this very complex field of the law; few attain it, and even fewer retain it. Bill belonged to this latter band. As a young

silk, he became one of the two or three leading intellectual property lawyers, and he retained that position throughout his career.



The late W H R Schreiner SC

Over the next 40 years Advocate W H R Schreiner is reported in the law reports no less than 136 times. The first patent case in which he was reported was in 1952. In the first ten years of his practice, he was led by names such as Issie Maisels, Walter Pollak, Bram Fischer, Oscar Rat-house and Bill Trollip. Although initially his practice was varied, it gravitated inevitably to tax and intellectual property. He took silk in 1968.

There is little doubt that Bill Schreiner was one of the great advocates of the South African Bar in the second half of the previous century. Against this background, Bill’s decision not to go to the Bench in this country, understandable as it was given the treatment of his father, was a sad loss for that institution, but a rich gain for the Bar. He did however serve on the Appeal Courts of Lesotho, Botswana and Swaziland.

But it was at the Bar that he gave selflessly of his compassion and his commitment. He served on the Bar Council; and led the Johan-