

Port Elizabeth

Contributed by Peter Kroon


After joining us from Johannesburg on 1 August 2006, John Kayser departed in July 2007 for Grahamstown where his family is based. He intends to take up chambers with the Grahamstown Bar.

Mechèle Beneke and Tommy Booii attended the Young Leaders Symposium at the Tala Game Reserve outside Pietermaritzburg in July 2007 as representatives of our Bar.

Elaine Botha gave birth to a baby girl, Cate Jenna, weighing 3.92 kg on 11 July 2007.

Bruce Dyke was regrettably knocked over by a drunk driver whilst out training on his bicycle. Although seriously injured, he has made a full recovery and is already back to his sprightly self.

We have one new pupil - Dean Niekerk.

Dup de Bruyn SC celebrated his 60th birthday by way of a party held at his house on 18 August 2007. Watching him on the dance floor, well-wishers observed how all attempts made by him to look his age were foiled by his irrepressible boyish charm. 



The scene at Dup de Bruyn SC's birthday party.

World Conference of Advocates and Barristers

Dublin and Belfast 27 June – 30 June 2008

Details of the conference have been distributed to all constituent Bars by the GCB secretariat and are now available on the website of the World Bar Council at www.worldbaronline.com where members can register online.


Grahamstown

Contributed by Izak Smuts SC

The Grahamstown Bar's intrepid aviator, Richard Quinn SC, took a closer look at African wildlife during early September. While on a fundraising trip through Africa on behalf of the Reach for a Dream Foundation, he succumbed to the pull of gravity and effected an unscheduled landing in his veteran aircraft in the bush of the Serengeti. After an exciting night experiencing the sounds of the African bush at close quarters, he and his co-pilot were rescued, and returned to South Africa via Nairobi. It is understood that various remaining parts of the aircraft are now fulfilling useful functions throughout the area.

Gerald Bloem has served as an acting judge in the Free State during the third term.

Jock McConnachie continues the tradition established previously by Neil Schoeman, as president of the Albany Club, the gentlemen's club which has been the refuge of the legal professions for over a century. It is believed that no counsel is properly equipped for practice unless he (and in consequence of a constitutional amendment effected just before the centenary celebrations of the club, she) has absorbed the universal wisdom of lower Albany, as manifested daily in the club.

Ntsiki Sandi attended the advocacy training programme of the South Eastern Circuit of the Bar of England and Wales at Keble College, Oxford, at the end of August. He is of the view that the wisdom encountered there rivals that on display at the Albany Club. 

Johannesburg Bar

Group 21 hosts event to encourage transformation initiative



Pupils of Group 21: Neeraj Beharie, Helen Hlatshwako, Sinomtha Linda and Andrew Campbell at its recent cocktail party.

Advocate Group 21 recently hosted another successful transformation initiative cocktail party at its chambers in Sandton, where advocates and attorneys alike gathered together.

The objective of the function was to introduce all attorneys and judges who may not have been aware of Group 21's efforts in promoting and supporting their junior members from historically disadvantaged communities, with one of their initiatives, the Group Clerk System.