**Eastern Cape**

**Contributed by I J Smuts SC, Grahamstown**

**Function**

At the end of March the Grahamstown Bar held a cocktail party to bid farewell to Andrew Lang SC, who has retired. A most enjoyable function was attended at the Albany Club by Bar members and their wives, and a number of judges, including Lex Mpati JA, whose elevation to the Bench of the Supreme Court of Appeal at the end of last year brought the number of former members of the Grahamstown Bar serving on that Bench to three.

**Pupillage**

Charles Stamper who successfully completed pupillage last year commenced practice in the first term this year, and Gerald Bloem opened chambers in Grahamstown in May.

**Jurisdiction**

The Eastern Cape high court faces the interesting prospect of encountering (albeit probably very seldom) the court of another division sitting in its jurisdiction. In terms of a Bill tabled recently, the Ciskei high court faces the interesting prospect of judges, including Lex Mpati JA, whose elevation to the Bench of the Supreme Court of Appeal at the end of last year brought the number of former members of the Grahamstown Bar serving on that Bench to three.

**Johannesburg**

**Contributed by Pieter Pauw SC, Johannesburg**

**Accommodation**

By the end of June more than two-thirds of the members of the Johannesburg Bar will be in Sandton. The common room in the CBD closed for lunches on 18 May. At present only snacks, tea and coffee are served. As regards the library, it was resolved at a general meeting on 3 May that there would be two libraries, one in Sandton and the other in the CBD. Both will be equipped in a manner which fairly addresses the requirements of the members who will practise in the two centres. The library committee will be responsible for the allocation of resources towards funding for acquisitions and maintenance. This is subject, again, to the approval by the Bar Council. This was the last time (after 40 years) that a general meeting would be held in the common room.

**Pupils**

Forty pupils underwent pupillage during the first semester. At the time of going to press the results of examinations have not been obtained. Pupils, however, are not satisfied with the short period of pupillage: they started on 1 February and the examinations commenced on 10 May. This effectively meant that, before sitting for the exams, they had three months of pupillage. A large number of the pupils are computer-literate, and did their own typing. A question which arose, and will have to be addressed by the GCB Examination Board, is whether pupils should in future be allowed to “write” their examinations electronically.

**Acting appointments**

A number of our colleagues held acting appointments during the second term.

**Reshma Athmaram has rejoined the Durban Bar after a short absence, and Gideon Scheltema and Peter Rowan have relocated to the Durban Bar from Pietermaritzburg.**

**Pietermaritzburg**

Having completed their pupillage at the end of 2000, Louis Barnard and Zina Anastasiou have joined the Pietermaritzburg Bar. During the first intake of 2001 two pupils namely Sashkapoor Maharaj and Ruan van Rooymen have completed their pupillage and passed their examinations without the need to attend the oral examination. After leaving the Bar, Anton Grové has sadly passed away. Anton van Zyl SC, Faizel Moola SC and Rishie Seegobin have held acting appointments.

**Bygedra deur Japie Schreuder, Kimberley**

**Waarnemende regters**

Daar was geen waarnemende aanstellings gedurende die eerste termyn van 2001 nie.

**Regshulp**

Mnr Bert Viljoen is onlangs aangestel as die direkteur van die Kimberley Regsentrum. Alle aanduidings is daar dat hy sal toesien dat regshulpwerk, sover moontlik, op ’n beter en meer georganiseerde wyse in die Noord-Kaap hanteer word. Die Balie het reeds sy steun toegese aan mnr Viljoen se pogings. Dit mag dalk tot gevolg hê dat rekenings weer betaal word.

**Sosiaal**

Daar was, soos elke jaar, weer groot entoesiasme vir ons jaarlike Baliejaag wat gedurende die naweek van 12
I had occasion to mention that we had no pupils at the time. I am able to report that presently, not only are enquiries being made for pupillage to be served with our association, but also applications are coming in.

**High court jurisdiction**

Recently a Bill, which will enable the Minister of Justice to alter the jurisdictions of the various high courts by notice in the *Gazette* was circulated. Our comments were also invited. Although there are rumours that the provisions of the Bill are only aimed at resolving the jurisdictional problems experienced in the Eastern Cape area, we believe that the Minister of Justice should grasp the nettle and solve the problem pertaining to the curtailed jurisdiction of the local high court.

**Pretoria**

Bygedra deur Henk Havenga, Pretoria

Sadert die vorige uitgawe is nog 'n lid van hierdie Baie tot die regbank verkies, naamlik C P Rabie SC. Veels geluk Carl Pierre. Hy word 'n lang en suksesvolle loopbaan toegewens.

**Waarneemende regters**


**World Women Lawyers Conference**

Six members of the Pretoria Bar, partly sponsored by the Bar, attended the World Women Lawyers Conference in London on 1 and 2 March 2001. They were Mabel Jansen SC, Nellie Cassim SC, Lyzette Meyer, Cynthia Pretorius, Helen Fourie and Leseo Moloisane. The conference was attended by 900 women from 80 countries, discussing pertinent issues, such as "Women’s Rights as Human Rights", the title of the opening address by Dianna Kempe QC, the current IBA President. One of the panelists was Cheryl Carolus, the SA High Commissioner. Her participation was greeted with great enthusiasm and a highlight for our kamp, MA Badenhorst, HR Fourie, T Strydom, PM Leopeng, SS Maakane, J Motepe, TA Makubele. Lyzette Meyer is die ere-sekretaris en Cynthia Pretorius is aangewys as die sekretaris.

**Junior Bar**

The junior members (nil to five years) elected the following members to represent their interests on the Junior Bar Council: A J Lewis, R A Foden, B Wessels and L C Haupt.

**Bedankings**


**North-West**

Contributed by John Stander, North-West Bar

**Membership**

Kenneth Chwaro has resigned from our association and has gone to serve as a law advisor in the public sector in Pretoria. Chwaro was our vice chairman until his resignation. We wish him well with this venture.

**Bar Council**

As a result of Chwaro’s departure, the vacancy in the North-West Bar Council has been filled by Zwegelzara who practised until recently at the Johannesburg Bar.

**The Judiciary**

Judge Nkabinde has returned from her secondment to the Labour Court.

**Pupillage**

In the last edition of Advocate tot 13 Mei 2001 gehou is. Dit was ook 'n reuse sukses. Drie boksopies, naamlik springbok, rooibok en bok, was oorgenoeg om oor te lag, te spot en te adviseer. Uiteindelik is daar uitbundig na die vorige uitgawe is nog 'n lid van hierdie Baie tot die regbank verkies, naamlik C P Rabie SC. Veels geluk Carl Pierre. Hy word 'n lang en suksesvolle loopbaan toegewens.

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