

# Eastern Cape

## GRAHAMSTOWN

Thomas Miller

### ANNUAL DINNER

The annual dinner of the Eastern Cape Society of Advocates was held at the Wyvern in Grahamstown on the evening of 29 January 2016. Shaughan Cole, who emceed the event, brought much levity to the proceedings with his many and varied 'true stories'. The evening was well attended by members of the Bar and the Bench, due in no small measure to the stature and reputation of the guest speaker, the Public Protector, Advocate Thuli Madonsela. Adv Madonsela spoke on the topical need for the Constitution to be utilised as a bridge to our future.

### ACTING APPOINTMENT

Richard Brooks SC has been appointed as an acting judge of the Eastern Cape during the first court term.

### BAR COUNCIL

At the AGM Schoeman SC, De la Harpe, Watt and Sandi were elected as members

to the Bar Council. Schoeman SC is congratulated on being elected as the Chairman of the Society.

### NEW MEMBERS

We welcome four new members who successfully completed pupillage in 2015 and wish them all the best for their careers at the Bar.

#### Jannie Colin Coltman

Jannie practised as an attorney and was employed as a senior State Advocate at the office of the National director of Public Prosecutions before joining the Bar.

#### Willem Olivier

Willem completed his LLB at the University of the Free State before commencing pupillage.

#### Sarah Sephton

Sarah practised as an attorney at the Legal Resources Centre and as its Regional Di-

rector, Grahamstown, Eastern Cape Province prior to commencing pupillage. After successfully completing pupillage Sarah joined the Society as an associate member and continues to hold her position as the Regional Director of the Legal Resources Centre.

#### Thandwefika Watkinson Mgidlana

Thandwefika practised as an attorney before joining the public sector as a legal advisor to a municipality. In the year prior to commencing his pupillage he acted as a Magistrate. [A](#)

# North West

## MAHIKENG

John Stander

### BAR DINNER

The annual Bar dinner was well attended by our members, as well as our Judge President, and other members of the bench. Former Constitutional Court Justice Yvonne Mokgoro, who hails from this part of the world, was our guest speaker. Isaac Monnahela delivered the juniors' speech and Morongwa Moagi kept proceedings flowing smoothly.

### NEW MEMBERS

Isaac Monnahela, Hennie Du Plessis and Joy Mongala have joined our Bar. We wish them success in their practices.

### OLD MEMBERS

We welcome back Sejako Senatle SC who has recently recuperated from a serious and extended illness. Lawrence Lever SC continues to act in the Northern Cape Division. It is rumoured that he actually likes Upington.

### PUPILS

Five candidates, three women and two men, have been accepted for pupillage this year. As their first task, they were asked to complete the first question of the November 2015 Legal Writing Examination paper – which consisted of drafting

an opinion. This was a useful exercise but may not be practicable at the larger Bars. This exercise immediately dispels in the mind of the pupil any notion that practising advocacy is easy. It also shows the legal writing tutor and the pupil concerned where the individual pupil's language proficiency and case analysis strengths and weaknesses lie. We hope that our pupils make steady progress from here on.

### OTHER NEWS

This is Mahikeng. If there is any other news I will include it in the next edition of the *Advocate*. [A](#)