



## Sip in September

by Catherine Valentine

On Thursday, 19 September 2024, the Cape Bar hosted the “Sip in September” social, providing an opportunity for advocates to connect in a casual and friendly environment. The event aimed to bring together pupils and junior members of the Bar in a relaxed setting where they could network and catch up outside of their busy professional lives.

Held in the common room in Huguenot Chambers, the event was

well-attended, with conversations ranging from work-related matters to more light-hearted topics. It was refreshing to see advocates engaging with one another on a personal level, sharing experiences, and offering advice, especially for the newer members of the Bar.

The diversity of attendees, from recent pupils to senior members, added to the event’s success, reflecting the Bar’s supportive and inclusive

community. As the evening unfolded, it became clear that this gathering was not just about networking but also about fostering relationships that help strengthen our profession.

“Sip in September” was a great way to close off the third term, leaving attendees feeling more connected and energised for the final months of the year.



# New Cape Silks



## SAUL MILLER

Saul was born and grew up in what was then known as Port Elizabeth. He obtained a BBusSci (Hons) (1994) and an LLB (1996) from UCT. Thereafter, he lectured in commercial law at the University of Edinburgh and obtained his PhD in contract law from that university in 2006.

Saul commenced practice at the Cape Bar in 2006 and has a predominately commercial practice that spans all areas of commercial law. Saul has also been called to the Bar in England and Wales and practised as a barrister in London at 2 Temple Gardens between 2015 and 2017. He remains a door tenant there.

Outside of law, Saul enjoys listening to classical and jazz music, playing piano and chess, drinking wine and playing tennis/padel. Saul is married to Esther and they have two children in their late teens.



## PHILIP MYBURGH

Philip Myburgh was born on the family farm, Joostenberg, which is situated between Stellenbosch

and Paarl. After attending Eikestad Primary School in Stellenbosch he went to Rondebosch Boys' High where he matriculated in 1984. Philip did his BA LLB at Stellenbosch and a Higher Diploma in Taxation at Wits. Tax law now makes up most of his practice. Outside of law, his interests are trail running and writing poetry, which he has dabbled in since school days. Of late his poetry has morphed into song writing which he enjoys a great deal. He writes poetry and lyrics in Afrikaans, isiXhosa and English, with each language contributing something different. He is blessed with a lovely family. Phil has been married to Nicky for 34 years and they have four children: Alexandra, Tessa, Rachel and Philip. One of his children, Alexandra, followed Phil into the legal world and now practises at Dunsters Attorneys, a stone's throw from his chambers.

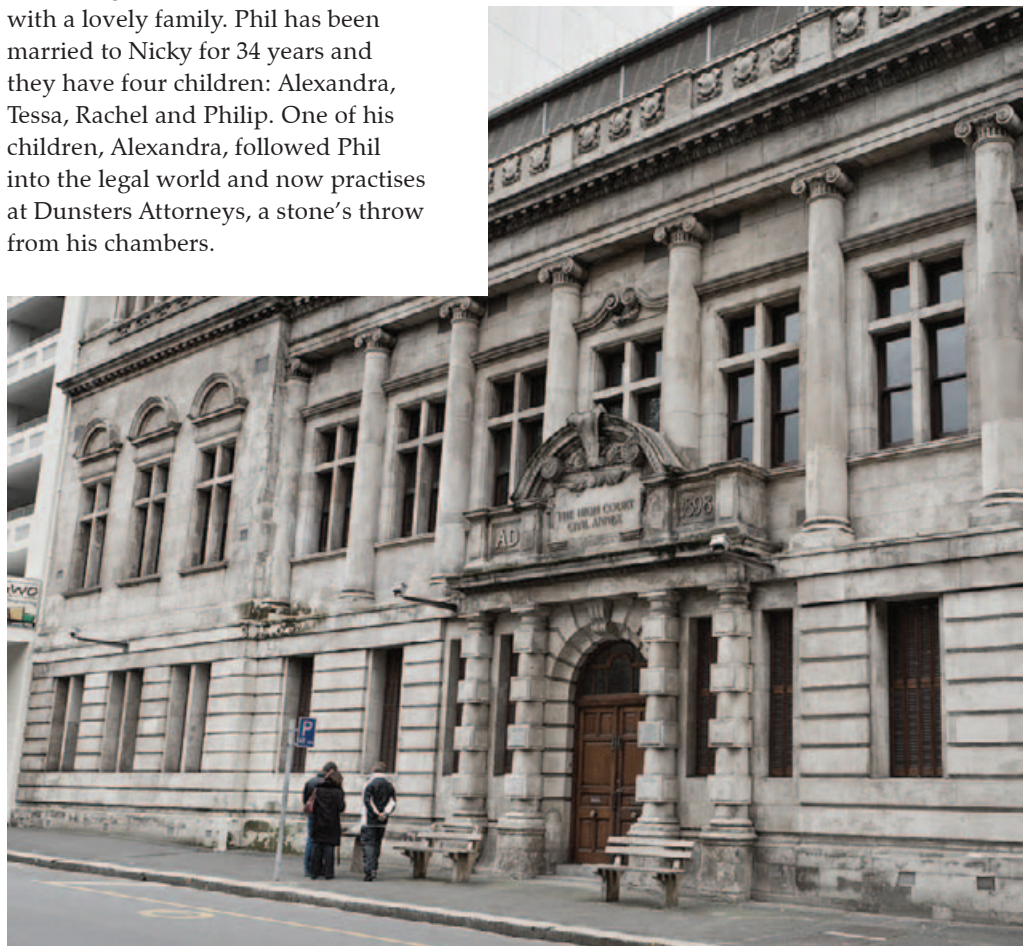


## MARIUS STEENKAMP

Marius Steenkamp was born and raised on the West Coast, where he matriculated. He obtained BCom (Law) and LLB

degrees at Stellenbosch University in 1989 and 1991. He obtained chambers at the Cape Bar in July 1992. His principal areas of practice are commercial and public law, with special interest in contract, sea fisheries & maritime and construction law, and arbitrations. He serves as a Commissioner of the Wynberg Small Claims Court (since 2007) and takes ad hoc judicial acting appointments. Outside of law, he enjoys gym and padel; theology and serving at his local church; and cooking for his two sons.

Silks Filteres





### **MICHAEL OSBORNE**

Michael Osborne was born in Durban and attended Durban High School. He graduated from Wits (BA, LLB) and Notre Dame (LLM) before joining Davis Polk & Wardwell in New York City. He has lectured law at the University of Chicago, the New School for Social Research, Wits and UCT. He keeps chambers in Cape Town and at Maisels 3 in Sandton, where he practises constitutional and administrative law, amongst other things. He is a member of the New York Bar and is admitted to practise in New York State and the Federal Court in the Southern District of New York. He has been an acting judge at the High Court in Johannesburg. His interests outside of law are walking Table Mountain and cat-grooming.



### **ROSELINE NYMAN**

Roseline Nyman was born in Claremont, Cape Town and through forced removals under the Group Areas Act, was compelled to move to the Cape Flats where she matriculated at Alexander Sinton High School, Athlone. Roseline completed her tertiary studies at the University of Western Cape and the University of Cape Town, where she completed a BA (Law), LLB, and LLM (Labour Law). She specialises in labour law, public interest law and commercial law. Alongside her advocate's practice, she teaches yoga, practises Buddhist meditation, Vipassana and conscious dance. As an animal lover and someone who feels empathy for the suffering of others, she is the board chairperson of Revolutionary Yoga - Free Food Kitchen NPC. The NPC serves food to humans, dogs and cats in seven working class communities in Cape Town. In contribution to spiritual upliftment, the NPC also teaches yoga and provides trauma counselling. Roseline lives peacefully on her own with her two dogs, Willow and Coco.



# PUPILS TO BABY JUNIORS

## Class of 2023 Complete

by Le Roux Snyman

This time last year, pupillage for the class of 2023 was at an end. Fourteen of the 16 pupils admitted into pupillage had completed the relevant exams, and four pupils were admitted as members. Their names were published in a previous edition.

The remaining members of the class of 2023 have now become members of the Cape Bar: Aydan Jansen, Catherine Valentine, Kholosa Payi, Mariana Slabbert, Melissa Smit, Paul Smit, Scott Pitcher and Sunette Luther.

The entire class now stands on the other side of the fence, so to speak, as junior advocates, having left behind the comforts and safety of being under the watchful eye of mentors and various committees.



Melissa Smit



Paul Smit



Aydan Jansen



Catherine Valentine



Kholosa Payi



Mariana Slabbert



Sunette Luther



Scott Pitcher

# WHAT JUDGES WANT

## Practice and Etiquette

by **Niña Hammond** (Pupil Member)

On Wednesday 28 August 2024, retired judge Bozalek gave a lunchtime talk to the Cape Bar members and pupils, discussing what judges want from legal practitioners. This topic of discussion engaged with the fundamental aspects of counsels' duty to the bench, and the principles that are paramount to the relationship between legal practitioners and judges in the process of adjudication.

Judge Bozalek classified six sub-categories of conduct that impacts both positively and negatively on the persuasive nature of a legal argument and on the reputation of the legal practitioner presenting their client's case. On etiquette, Judge Bozalek advised to be polite and respectful always; considering that respect is what counsel owes to the office of

the judiciary, and politeness applying more directly to the individual presiding on the bench. He also advised that punctuality is imperative to the practice of advocacy, as is good court behaviour – both on and off one's feet. On practice, the retired judge championed the importance of counsel knowing all the facts of their case in order to do it full justice, and to assist the court to their best ability.

Judge Bozalek also detailed aspects to be considered by counsel when practising in motion court, handling applications and appeals, as well as when running trials; the common thread being studying a brief from beginning to end, dealing with a judge's questions patiently and non-evasively, and dealing with the issues present in one's case head on.

For those who aspire to serve the judiciary, Judge Bozalek believes that



it takes intellect, experience, good judgment and preparation in order to fit the role of a judge.

The lunchtime talk was engaging and the audience left inspired to improve their individual performance, while being reminded to tackle whatever situation they face with the utmost professionalism and esteem.

