

Johannesburg Bar

Contributed by Sibongile Mathe



After action satisfaction.

JOHANNESBURG BAR GOLF DAY 19 OCTOBER 2025

by Werner Strobl

There's nothing like the action a bunch of advocates and judges bring to a golf course. High draws, power fades, and the occasional bunny... er... frightener. All there at the Jhb Bar's annual Golf Day (19 October 2025).

Hollywood style, Dainfern Country Club rolled out an actual red carpet to welcome players. Green fees, don't worry about it. Spotter, taken care of. Out on the course, little cocktail thingies under a canopy. Back from the round, drinks and finger foods on the house.

If you're gonna play golf, this is how you do it.

And if you were new to the sport, a little shy to play on a course, what better way to have done it, surrounded not by strangers, but by your peers who love the game as much as you do, cheering you on, making you think, we should be doing more of this.

It all happened – once again – because of a drive and push from Dana du Plessis. Try pin a medal on him, he'd turn you down and say: "No man's an island". And then he'd point at Nadeem Alli, who helped put it all together.

Which makes two islands.

And Nadeem would say: "You can't stop there, you need to thank the major sponsors, Attooh (Discovery brokerage), represented by Shaun Taylor" – three islands. As an aside, if Shaun Taylor's parents were also called Taylor, which surely they were, he is, dinkum, Taylor-made. But let's not digress. Back to where we were.

Shaun wouldn't take credit without including the Discovery guys, Theunis Wessels and Mohammed Dhorat – which makes islands four and five. And they, in turn, wouldn't let go unnoticed Shane Morrow's contribution from PSI – six. William Maodi (Hercules1) on behalf of Barolong Branding Solutions sponsored a hole – seven – and Ndzabandzaba Attorneys sponsored another – eight.

That's many islands to make a day happen.

So, from all the players, thank you the Maldives and all the islands in it.

Turning to the prizes, we at the Bar are not into this we-are-all-winners nonsense. We praise the best of the best, which are:

- Are You There Yet (Closest to the pin Hole 4): Judge Strydom



Dana du Plessis announcing awards while his food gets cold.

- No, a Little Further to the Left (Closest to the pin Hole 11): Werner Strobl
- Hits like Hercules (Longest drive): William Maodi
- I Ain't Scared No Water (Longest day): Henk Louw
- Best Woman (and stylish): Mpho Mahanyele
- Best Man (not as in accompany the groom to the wedding, as in plays a golf course like a superhero): Tshifhiwa Mabuda
- Best Over an Undisclosed Age (Best senior): Judge Moshwana
- Should Be on the Professional Tour (Best net score): Anthony Michael

The names on the trophies go years back. Maybe a hundred years from now future advocates and judges will look at our names on the plaques and think to themselves, isn't it grand we've kept the tradition.

If you missed it this time, don't let it happen again – join us in the last quarter of 2026 for another unforgettable day!

Notes

- 1 See longest drive award.



Longest Day Henk Louw



Best Net Score Anthony Michael



Best Woman Mpho Mahanyele



Best Man William Maodi on behalf of Tshifhiwa Mabuda



Best Senior Judge Moshwana



Longest Drive William Maodi

JOHANNESBURG SOCIETY OF ADVOCATES 2026 PUPILS' COCKTAIL

by Basambilu Mashamba, pupil

On 5 February 2026, the Johannesburg Society of

Advocates (JSA) hosted its pupils' cocktail function to welcome them into the 2026 pupillage intake. We were honoured to hear from Acting Deputy Judge President Mudau who was the keynote speaker. We also heard from Don Mahon SC, who is the chair of the Bar Council and also from Myron Dewrance SC, who is the vice-chair of the Bar Council and national chair of Advocates for Transformation.

The speakers highlighted the importance of mentorship and shared information on the programmes and resources available to make



the pupillage journey more bearable. The evening was full of words of encouragement and insights on what pupillage is all about.

Pupillage is all about learning, discipline and professional growth. We were told of the values that the Bar stands by and upholds, which are integrity, collegiality, preparation and independence. Pupils were also reminded that respect for the court and one's reputation were of the utmost

importance and that the fact that we are here, means we deserve to be here.

We got an opportunity to network with the judges who were in attendance, members of the Bar and fellow pupils while we

were treated to some scrumptious food and drinks.

Not only did I feel encouraged and motivated, but I felt at ease to know that I am not on this journey alone. I have people who care about me and they want to see me succeed; People who are giving up their time to see to it that I am well equipped for this pupillage year and for practice.

What a beautiful and informative evening we had!



TRIBUTE TO ANDREW KEMACK SC

by Sechaba Mohapi, Group One

Last year as most of us were winding down our practices, looking forward to the festive season, Group One learned of the tragic passing of one of its members, Andrew Kemack SC. Andrew, his wife and mother-in-law passed away on 18 December 2025 in a fatal head-on motor collision. He was a beloved and respected member of Group One. His passing came as a devastating shock to members of the Johannesburg Bar.

Andrew was admitted to the Johannesburg Bar in 1987, after reading for BA and LLB degrees at the University of the Witwatersrand and completing two years of articles. He took silk in 2009. He had considerable

experience in construction law. He sat as a member of construction law tribunals and regularly advised and represented parties in construction disputes. He had a wide commercial practice with an emphasis on contractual and company law disputes and his practice included the public law aspects of administrative and education law. He has appeared in Lesotho, Namibia and Botswana, and before the ICC in Europe.

Andrew was active in Bar affairs and he served on various committees of the Johannesburg Bar Council, including on the Professional and Fees Committee. He contributed to this section of the journal in the September



Andrew during advocacy training in 2025.



'Legal precinct in Johannesburg' in the September 1999 issue of Consultus.

1999 issue of *Consultus* a piece on the inauguration in January 1999 of the 'Legal precinct in Johannesburg' at 11-12. Andrew was also an advocacy teacher.

In an outpouring of tributes on behalf of the judges of the Gauteng Division on learning of Andrew's passing, Deputy Judge President Sutherland described Andrew as "a sound lawyer and advocate" and that "to have him appear before us was always a pleasure".

In another tribute by retired Judge Neil Tuchten, Andrew was said to have lived by the unwritten code to which they aspired in a century past of "professional ruthlessness but never gratuitous cruelty, unfailing courtesy to all with whom he came into contact, judges, witnesses, opponents, even clients and attorneys, exhaustive (in his case sometimes exhausting) preparation, a scrupulous adherence to the truth and a belief that some stratagems, while arguably legal, did not advance the interests of justice, were beneath him and should not be employed".

Andrew was a gentleman who always wore a bowtie to chambers. He was a man of letters, always sharing witty jokes and himself a gifted prose writer. We will miss his fantastic sense of humour and the character he was at chambers.

Jean Meiring

JOHANNESBURG BAR AT THE MIDMAR MILE 2026

For the uninitiated, the Midmar Mile is the largest open water swimming event in the world, held annually in the first week of February at the Midmar Dam near Howick in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands. It is a 1 600 m swim across a corner of the Midmar Dam, held over two days. There are team events on the Saturday, and individual events on the Sunday. The Johannesburg Bar entered six teams this year (its 22nd year of team participation) in the company team event held on the Saturday.

Three years ago we had a three generational team, consisting of my eldest granddaughter Emma, then 10, my son-in-law Bennie Pretorius, my daughter Marguerite, and me. This year we once again had a three generational team, this time consisting

of my second granddaughter Lilly (10), my daughter Marguerite and me. Lilly showed great guts and determination and finished in a commendable 50 minutes, alongside her very proud mother and grandfather.

Our serious team, appropriately named Barnone, finished fourth out of 227 teams, an excellent result. The best three times of the team count. Well done to Emiel, Victor and Dominique! Congratulations also to Laura for completing her second successive 8 Mile Challenge, before swimming her ninth mile for our Barwon team.

The weekend is a good time to socialise and bond with colleagues and their families, and this was no exception, with dinners together at Granny Mouse Country House on the Friday and Saturday nights. **A**



Left to right Nicole Lewis, Andrew Russel, Peter Langa, Victor Gautschi, Brahm du Plessis, Amira du Plessis, Dominique d'Oliveira, Adrian d'Oliveira, André Gautschi, Lilly Pretorius, Marguerite Pretorius, Mmeli Danisa, Emiel van Vuuren, Henry van Niekerk, Melissa Danisa, Rupert Jansen van Vuuren, Laura Goodman, Reinhard Jansen van Vuuren and Lily de Melo.



Our second three generational team: André Gautschi, Lilly Pretorius, Marguerite Pretorius.

THE RESULTS WERE:

BARNONE

Emiel van Vuuren	24:30
Victor Gautschi (André's son)	26:51
Dominique d'Oliveira (Adrian's daughter)	28:17
Adrian d'Oliveira	28:50

BARWON

Laura Goodman (friend)	32:39
Kerensa Millard	34:35
Peter Langa (friend)	37:05
Nicole Lewis	37:19
Andrew Russell	37:43

BARTOO

Henry van Niekerk (friend)	38:26
Mmeli Danisa	41:30
Melissa Danisa (Mmeli's sister)	52:52

BARTER

Amira du Plessis (Brahm's daughter)	35:13
Brahm du Plessis	47:55

BARQUAT

Lilly Pretorius (10) (André's granddaughter)	50:46
Marguerite Pretorius (André's daughter)	50:46
André Gautschi	50:46

BARQUIN

Rupert Jansen van Vuuren (Emiel's son)	33:52
Reinhard Jansen van Vuuren (Emiel's son)	44:46
Lily de Melo (friend)	44:47

