

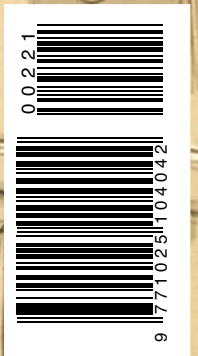
NEWS YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSED TO KNOW

R46⁵⁰
(inc VAT)

noseweek

Spies, lies, secret funding – **Rian Malan** on Trump's Russia scandal

221 MARCH 2018



CLEAN UP
TIME



GRAHAM BECK

MÉTHODE CAP CLASSIQUE



www.grahambeck.com



noseweek

ISSUE 221 • MARCH 2018

Your favourite magazine is now available on your **iPad** and **PC**



**Gobsmacked!
Bathabile's big
discovery**

Page 11

- 4 Letters**
- 8 Editorial**
- 31 Smalls**

COLUMNS

- 26 Books**
- 28 Letter from Umjindi**
- 29 Down and out**
- 30 Last Word**

FEATURES

- 5 Modern Galileo or science crank?**
Tim Noakes and his detractors go head to head
- 13 Corruption net closes in on KZN big boys**
How tens of millions of rands were siphoned off under the guise of bringing a jazz festival to Durban
- 16 In for a Zweli, in for a pound**
Questions keep rolling in over succession of dodgy loans involving former KZN premier and his wife
- 18 Disney TV took the Mickey out of me**
Crime author says makers of Oscar Pistorious movie stole his work
- 21 The evil Russians who robbed Hillary**
Except they didn't. And all you anti-Trump liberals out there need to get over it, says Rian Malan
- 25 No green light for Pondo road-building**
But that's not stopping the contractors from going ahead with construction



**AVAILABLE
ON YOUR
TABLET**

Download your digital edition today

both single issues and subscriptions available

PLUS never miss a copy – with back issues available to download and store

DOWNLOAD YOUR DIGITAL EDITION AT
www.noseweek.co.za
OR ☎ 021 686 0570

Letters

A snitch in time

A FEW YEARS AGO YOU EXPOSED A developer, Craig Rennie (*nose98*). I was working at Scottburgh High School on KwaZulu-Natal's South Coast when he rolled into our sleepy little town with money to burn – or, as it goes, he bought his way through town.

Then he was elected chairman of the school governing body. The headmaster was fighting cancer and this was Rennie's opportunity to take charge.

His big thing was going to be to cancel all contracts, even service-delivery contracts, and take them over and run them himself. At the time I was on a contract.

With all this drama going on at the school I even had to consult a lawyer. But then in the middle of all of this my son phoned and told me to go and get a *Noseweek* – immediately.

I charged off to CNA and sat in the car reading your exposé on this man. I then ran back into CNA and bought every single copy and distributed them to school staff.

Shock was not the word; Rennie was promptly called in and forced to resign. He basically left the school bankrupt and had also squandered a R250,000 investment. He left town and moved further down the coast.

In 2018 I started my 25th year at Scottburgh High School, all thanks to *Noseweek*.

Leonie Stroebel
Scottburgh, KZN

Vodacom's fraudulent billing

I FINALLY MANAGED TO OPEN A FRAUD case against Vodacom on 22 January: (case number: Brakpan 326/1/2018). Sergeant Dubazana is the investigating officer. He will be escalating the case to the serious commercial crimes division of the SAP.

This was after the latest fraudulent amount added to my billing, as "Vodafone Live" online service, to which I never subscribed willingly and knowingly.

I have had several persons contact me who wish to do the same. Also see the numerous Google and Hello Peter reports of similar incidents.

The blatant fraud committed by the cell phone providers must now finally end.

Wilson
Brakpan

■ FOLLOWING CORRESPONDENCE IN YOUR publication about mysterious charges deducted from data balances held by Vodacom on behalf of their clients, I discovered that I had been similarly affected.

All that has been confirmed by the service provider is that a charge was made over a period and recovered from my data balances. A refund in a round amount of R600 was offered and paid to me.

They refuse to tell when these deductions started, by whom they were authorised and how much they were for each month.

Moreover, Vodacom, who render a monthly statement and obviously keep score of usage, again tell me they cannot/will not help, so I will never get to know if I have been done down or not.

Big business has become so arrogant in recent times, they obviously assume they can get away with it.

Since pointing out to Vodacom Customer Care that they are defending the indefensible, they now refuse to reply to my continuing complaints.

Andrew Tainton
Port Elizabeth

Now that they're sorting out the Guptas, maybe it's time we got the Hawks to sort out Vodacom as well? Could easily involve another billion-or-three. – Ed.

Counting on Cyril

SUCH EXCITEMENT AND HOPE HAS BEEN generated by Cyril Ramaphosa's election as president of the ANC and, hopefully, South Africa. Like many, I'm sure, my wish for 2018 is that the scourge of corruption that has throttled all levels of government and the private sector may now be reined in.

My other wish is that the courts enforce the recovery of the ill-gotten gains and that the perpetrators be

sent to jail for many years.

The sooner we can get all of this behind us, the better.

Jeff Lawrence
Wakkerstroom

See page 13. – Ed.

Knysna fire and fury

ONLY *NOSEWEEK* TELLS IT AS IT REALLY IS; it should be compulsory reading for any intelligent person in this country. Knysna's so-called fire chief is one-hundred-percent liable.

Pierre Giraud
Knysna

■ INNOCENT LIVES WERE LOST AND damage costing billions was caused due to a fire that could have been prevented if the DA had focused on governing rather than on staying in court to fight Zuma.

Darryll Sauer
Pacaltsdorp

The DA should be doing both: in municipalities and provinces where they govern, their focus must be on effective government. Where they have not been effective, maybe we as voters must take some of the blame, not having been actively enough involved to ensure that stronger candidates were nominated for election. Where the DA is in opposition on the national level, some of the court cases they and other opposition parties have launched have been extremely effective in curtailing the criminal activities of a lawless ANC government. – Ed.

■ THE KNYSNA MUNICIPALITY IS blatantly refusing to take responsibility for their part in this. A lot could have been avoided if not for their negligence.

Gabrielle Serfontein
Eastern Cape

Noseweek posthaste

I NOTICE THAT MY LAST TWO *NOSEWEEK* issues have had a note on them depicting Monitored Mail. My February edition was in my mailbox on 3 February, so it seems like things are back on track at SAPO! Holding thumbs.

John Binns
Cape Town

Modern Galileo or science crank?

AND WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THAT TIM Noakes is not after all the hype and attention he is getting, particularly since his sermons on running became a little dated? Just saying.

Ivor F Funnell
Durban

■ IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT DR DAVID Klatzow has presented *Noseweek* readers with an unbalanced point of view about the Noakes case (*nose220*). My comments are not related to whether the LCHF diet works, but the fact that those raising voices that oppose Professor Tim Noakes are not appreciated for the valid points they make.

1. Noakes has claimed that the LCHF diet will prevent or reverse diabetes. As a doctor, I know of those who benefited from the diet, and similarly, those who crashed because of the diet. Similarly, for those with high cholesterol, etc. A core argument made by Noakes was that the LCHF diet will prevent or reverse diabetes. Kept very quiet, including by Marika Sboros, [co-author of *The Lore of Nutrition*] is that Noakes admitted at the HPCSA hearing that in spite of the LCHF diet, he developed full blown diabetes.

2. The dietetics establishment did not lay a complaint with the HPCSA, or argue that the LCHF diet was ineffective or inappropriate for adults: their complaint was solely about Noakes's tweet about an infant coming off breastfeeding and being advised to go onto an LCHF diet. Noakes, and adherents, have manufactured the argument that dietitians, supported by Coca-Cola, etc, are against the LCHF diet.

3. The minority judgment of Dr AS Liddle summarises the issue that should have been addressed.

4. Klatzow makes the point that Prof Rossouw's evidence [*against Noakes*] "actually shows the reverse of what it purports to prove", but Rossouw consistently says he is not making an argument against the LCHF diet (it may work), but against the distortion and abuse of the scientific process.

5. A constant thread of all the writing

by Noakes, is how he has been defamed and poorly treated by the medical establishment. I have attended many of his talks, and I am taken aback how poorly he treats and defames opposing voices that do not agree with him. For example, he constantly states that dietitians know nothing about nutrition.

6. Although many have benefited by losing weight on the LCHF diet, many have not. My wife and neighbour gained weight in spite of adhering strictly to the diet. Raising this at a paid-for Noakes event, his response was that she should count calories. When women did not lose weight adequately, yoghurt and dairy were arbitrarily removed from the green list. Goalposts are moved without scientific rationale.

7. Thousands of researchers and health professionals are involved in nutrition research. Are we to believe there are no credible, independently minded experts who, based on their research and deep knowledge of the subject simply do not agree with him?

8. Noakes introduced the LCHF diet years ago. His foundation has evidently raised R40 million. As far as I know, he has not initiated a single clinical study to assess the veracity of his claims – a standard of scientific evidence (versus anecdotal claims).

In summary: I take issue with your one-sided support for Noakes, and the sparse space given to opposing points of view. Nutrition science is complex: both sides of the debate have very valid arguments, and both may be correct, depending on phenotypes. For example, for selected diabetics, the LCHF diet is useful. For others, it is disastrous. I can attest to both.

Contradictory
Cape Town

Klatzow's response:

YOU DO NOT SOLVE A SCIENTIFIC PROBLEM OR controversy by dragging an individual proponent of a low-carb-high-fat diet before a tribunal. Authority-based medicine has little or no value; this has repeatedly been demonstrated throughout history.

As for the controversy surrounding cholesterol and statins: the jury is still out on whether cholesterol on its own is a health issue and, similarly, on whether statins have any value whatsoever.

It has always been open to his critics to invite Prof Noakes to a debate in an academic environment. Tell the world you disagree with him. But to have hauled him before a tribunal of the HSPCA is a disgrace to all concerned. That is the gravamen of my argument.

Dr David Klatzow

Shame on the medical world

DAMN DISGRACEFUL CONDUCT BY THE egotistic powers-that-be, driven by their sponsors' overseas trips, weekends away, speaking engagements and other childish perks.

I have years of experience in the pharma rep world: MOST medical practitioners prescribe drugs that are prescribed to them by attractive medical reps bearing incentives and showing glossy pamphlets of selected research which excludes all negative findings and summarises only the purported benefits.

The medical world should be ashamed of itself.

Pete Ess
Montclair

Noakes and Sboros respond

IT IS SIGNIFICANT THAT LETTER-WRITER "Contradictory" has chosen to remain anonymous. We can only infer that this was both to avoid the possibility of legal action for defamation and having to declare substantial conflicts of interests.

This anonymous "doctor" appears not to have read our book, *Lore of Nutrition*, or to have attended any sittings of the HPCSA trial over nearly four years. Had he done so, it would have precluded him from making any or all of the falsehoods and inaccuracies he repeats here.

He prefaces his comments with the claim they are "not related to whether the LCHF diet works". That is disin-

Letters

genuous as he begins his criticisms with comments directly related to the efficacy and safety of LCHF.

In step with the academics from the universities of Cape Town and Stellenbosch that we name in the book, he does so without providing a single thread of evidence, robust or otherwise, to support these claims.

Instead the sole “evidence” he presents is purely anecdotal – his wife and neighbour did not lose weight on the LCHF diet (point 6), and his claim that the LCHF diet produces “disastrous” results in others with type 2 diabetes mellitus (summary).

Absent in his criticism is the published evidence that with each new month another 15,000 persons are added to the number of South Africans with T2DM. This is the “disastrous” result of their being advised to eat a high-carbohydrate diet based largely on maize products (as 40% of calories ingested in South Africa come from maize – a high-carbohydrate, low-fat, nutrient-poor foodstuff). These 15,000 new diabetics each month are not eating the LCHF diet.

1: It is not true that we have “kept very quiet” or that Prof Noakes “admitted at the HPCSA hearing that in spite of the LCHF diet, he developed full-blown diabetes”. He did not admit that at all. If this anonymous person had attended the HPCSA trial or read *Lore of Nutrition*, he would know that Noakes presented his evidence in the form of a series of slides from his published research, establishing that he exhibited evidence for profound insulin resistance (with fasting insulin concentrations eight-times normal) at age 29. That was when he was lean, running marathons and eating a very high-carbohydrate diet.

But since neither he nor others understood the long-term implications of this finding, it was ignored. It was only after Noakes had converted to the LCHF diet that he tested himself properly and discovered that he had by then (32 years later) indeed developed T2DM. Note that Noakes had eaten the high carbohydrate diet for 33 years, having been assured this would keep him healthy for life. It proved to be the opposite.

Also in evidence at the trial we stated that Noakes has achieved excellent control of his blood glucose concentra-

tions which are now within the normal range whilst following the LCHF diet, using the drug metformin and exercising vigorously. In contrast, had he chosen to follow conventional medical guidelines for treating T2DM (eating a high carbohydrate diet and injecting insulin), he would now likely be 40kg heavier with established evidence for the complication of T2DM, the disease from which his father died a lingering, demeaning death.

The author appears not to know that the only proven method for controlling blood glucose concentrations in persons with insulin resistance (IR) without resorting to insulin therapy is to reduce the carbohydrate intake, because IR/T2DM are conditions of carbohydrate intolerance (and resistance to the action of injected or endogenously produced insulin).

Instead he would do well to heed the words and practise of British NHS GP Dr David Unwin who has been using LCHF to treat T2DM patients for years with outstanding results. In 2016 the NHS recognised Unwin with an award for saving £45,000 a year in (reduced) drug prescriptions for his T2DM patients. Unwin has memorably said: “telling diabetics to eat carbs moderately leaves them moderately poisoned”.

Thus, anyone who claims that Noakes developed T2DM on LCHF is deliberately ignoring the evidence that we provide in the book as well as all the published evidence.

2: It is not true that the dietetics establishment did not lay a complaint with the HPCSA on the basis that the LCHF diet was ineffective or inappropriate for adults. Nor is it true to say that the complaint was solely about Noakes’s February 2014 tweet about “an infant coming off breast-feeding and being advised to go onto an LCHF diet”. We provide extensive, irrefutable evidence to show that the tweet was a pretext for a full-on and world-first prosecution and persecution of a leading scientist for his views on nutrition that conflict with orthodoxy.

For example in a series of subsequent tweets, registered dietitian Claire Julsing Strydom, who lodged the complaint that led to the HPCSA trial, expressed her “horror” at the information he tweeted.

Also in the letter that Strydom

submitted to the HPCSA giving details supporting her complaint against Noakes, she urges the HPCSA to take action against Noakes because he is a South African “celebrity”. She also says the public does not have the knowledge to understand that the “information he is advocating is not evidence based – it is especially dangerous to give this advice for infants and can potentially be life-threatening”. But in her testimony at the trial, Strydom freely admitted that, at the time of her complaint, there was no published scientific evidence to support her claim that the LCHF diet is dangerous for infants (or adults).

More evidence we provide in the book comes from an email chain that the defence team uncovered only after the comprehensive not-guilty verdict for Noakes had been delivered by the HPCSA’s own independent panel in April 2017. That was after Noakes’s legal team had made a PAIA request to the Association for Dietetics in SA (ADSA), of which Strydom had been president when she lodged her complaint against Noakes. ADSA initially tried to block the request but later agreed when it was made clear that they were legally obliged to accede to this legal request.

That email chain shows that Strydom and another dietitian, Maryke Gallagher, her successor as ADSA president, appealed to the HPCSA for assistance against Noakes – for what they called the “Tim Noakes problem” – BEFORE his February 2014 tweet. Strydom and Gallagher were in direct email contact with a member of the HPCSA’s dietetics board, Prof Edelweiss Wentzel-Viljoen. In one email, Wentzel-Viljoen comforts the dietitians by saying (in Afrikaans) that the HPCSA has “a plan” to deal with Noakes, but that she was not allowed to tell them exactly what that “plan” was at that stage.

That “plan” became clear in another email chain uncovered quite by chance by the defence team during the hearing. Emailed correspondence showed instances of “highly irregular conduct” by members of the HPCSA’s Preliminary Committee of Inquiry tasked with evaluating Strydom’s complaint and deciding whether Noakes should be charged. The chair of that committee was head of medical

bioethics at the University of the Witwatersrand, Prof Amaboo “Ames” Dhai. Her committee members included UCT professors John Terblanche and Denise White (now deceased). All go far beyond their remit, apparently driven by the need to ensure that Noakes would be charged by the HPCSA.

The author also appears blissfully unaware that Strydom and all the HPCSA’s three “expert” witnesses, two nutrition/dietetics professors and a paediatrician, admitted under cross-examination by the defence, that LCHF aligns perfectly with South African and international paediatric guidelines. That’s because anyone who knows anything about LCHF for infants knows that it means meat, fish, chicken, eggs, dairy and vegetables – exactly what the paediatric guidelines advise for infant weaning.

4: Former UCT Professor Jacques Rossouw, recently retired from the NIH in the US, is a long-time critic and vociferous opponent of both Noakes and LCHF. When the HPCSA realised its case against Noakes was unlikely to succeed, they invited Rossouw to give expert witness testimony against him. Despite agreeing, Rossouw failed to appear in court.

In our book we document Rossouw’s conflicts of interest as a witness. He was responsible for directing the \$700 million Women’s Health Initiative Study, the single most expensive diet study in history. The goal was to prove that the low-fat diet prevents cancer, heart disease, T2DM and weight gain in post-menopausal women. Inconveniently the study found that the low-fat diet worsened T2DM and heart disease in those who began the trial with the conditions; it had no effect on cancer risks and it caused increased weight gain compared to a low carbohydrate diet.

Rossouw’s everlasting scientific legacy is his contemptuous refusal to accept that his \$700m never-to-be-repeated trial is the absolute proof that the low-fat diet is an abysmal failure and is indeed the direct cause of the twin modern epidemics of obesity and T2DM (amongst many other conditions).

It is interesting that by way of proof for Rossouw’s views, the anonymous author refers to blogs by Rossouw’s son, UCT commerce faculty junior lecturer, Jacques Rousseau [*different spelling*

In one email, Wentzel-Viljoen comforts the dieticians by saying that the HPCSA has ‘a plan’ to deal with Noakes

intentional]. In *Lore of Nutrition*, we give details of more than 30 blogs Rousseau jnr has written, attacking Noakes in defamatory language, accusing him of practising pseudoscience and being a quack, all without any solid evidence to back up his personal opinions. Rousseau jnr began to declare upfront that he is son of Rossouw snr only after people had begun to point out this relationship on social media.

5: It is correct that a thread in Noakes’s writing and a major exposé in *Lore of Nutrition* is how top doctors, dietitians and academics have defamed and ganged up against him in public and how poorly the medical establishment has treated him. We name them all, and give details and all the evidence for this in our book. In the closing chapter, we say that it is tempting to think (as this anonymous author appears to) that there can’t possibly be so many top doctors, dietitians and academics out of step except Noakes. We say that it is not just possible – as anything is – but that we have provided compelling evidence, available on the record, that it is highly probable.

Noakes has never defamed any colleagues or dietitians. In his talks he simply presents the evidence for the benefits of the LCHF diet. He has acknowledged the strengths of the medical and dietetic professions. He has also criticised both professions for clinging to the unproven diet-heart hypothesis that saturated fat causes heart disease, and who believe, despite all the evidence to the contrary, that dietary fat causes fatty liver disease. (Evidence is now overwhelming that excess carbohydrates cause non-alcoholic fatty liver disease which then leads to atherogenic dyslipidaemia and arterial disease.)

6. The anonymous author claims

that although “many have benefited by losing weight on the LCHF diet, many have not”. Again, he fails to provide any evidence to support this statement. He claims that “Goal posts are moved without scientific rationale”. Again he provides no evidence for any of his contentions.

The true value of the LCHF diet is not that it causes weight loss in the majority. Its benefit is that, in all, it reverses the condition of persistent hyperinsulinaemia which, as we show in great detail in *Lore of Nutrition*, is the fundamental driver of the vast majority of chronic diseases that now afflict us. The evidence for this is the work of Gerald Reaven MD, emeritus professor of medicine at Stanford University, which is worthy of the Nobel Prize in Medicine.

8. How would your anonymous correspondent know what the financial status of the Noakes Foundation is? We just wish the Foundation had raised R40m in grant money because if it had, it would likely already have measured the value of the LCHF diet especially in the poorer SA communities – our Eat Better South Africa campaign. Instead we have raised and are in the process of spending R8m in a series of research studies.

In 2016, the *SAMJ* published a Canadian-led study: a successful lifestyle intervention model replicated in diverse clinical settings, of which Noakes is a co-author. In it, the LCHF diet reversed the metabolic syndrome in a large number of patients – a fundamentally important study with international repercussions.

All this person does is to provide more evidence that many doctors and dietitians have for decades been giving patients the wrong advice about the best treatment for the “chronic diseases of lifestyle”, that they lack the courage to admit that they have been wrong; that they fear losing careers, reputations and funding if they stand up to orthodoxy; and that they cannot distinguish between the messenger and a message they fear to hear.

We have been well-behaved beyond the call of duty and vigorous in responding to and defending ourselves from defamatory attacks on our character and professionalism.

Marika Sboros and Timothy Noakes

Editor

Martin Welz
editor@noseweek.co.za

Assistant Editor

Jonathan Erasmus

Special Correspondent

Jack Lundin

Designer

Tony Pinchuck

Sub-editor

Fiona Harrison

Contributors

Michiel Heyns, Bheki Mashile,
Sue Segar, Harold Strachan, Anne Susskind

Cartoonists

Stacey Stent, Dr Jack

Accounts

Nicci van Doesburgh
accounts@noseweek.co.za

Subscriptions

Maud August
subs@noseweek.co.za

Advertising

021 686 0570
ads@noseweek.co.za

All material in this issue is copyright, and belongs to Chaucer Publications (Pty) Ltd, unless otherwise indicated. No part of the material may be quoted, photocopied, reproduced or be stored by any electronic system without prior written permission.
Disclaimer: While every reasonable effort is taken to ensure the accuracy and soundness of the contents of this publication, neither the authors nor the publisher will bear any responsibility for the consequences of any actions based on information contained. Printed and Published by Chaucer Publications (Pty) Ltd.

**SUBSCRIPTION RATES****Print**

SA only	R410
Neighbouring states (airmail)	R600
Europe, Americas and Australasia	R740

Internet edition

1 year	R298
--------	------

Combined

Print+Internet (SA only)	R510
--------------------------	------

To subscribe

By phone (021) 686 0570

Online (pay by credit card):
www.noseweek.co.za

Email subs@noseweek.co.za

(Note: cheques no longer accepted)

Further information

Call (021) 686 0570; fax 021 686 0573 or
email info@noseweek.co.za

Editorial

Time for reckoning

AS THIS ISSUE OF *NOSEWEEK* WENT TO press, the final steps were being taken to oust Jacob Zuma from the presidency. Cyril Ramaphosa was poised to be installed as our new president, determined, so he has declared, to crack down on the corrupt in government whose thefts and frauds have demoralised the nation and left the state bankrupt.

Other developments in Parliament suggest he might not be long enough in power to do anything.

There's no denying it: South Africa is drowning in a sea of corruption. It's never been as bad as this.

Corruption is driven less by poverty, more by greed, a sense, or culture, of entitlement, and opportunity. The trend is set by those on top of the social and economic pile.

The powerful in politics and business – not only inspire corruption by example; they actively condone it – if only because they themselves are so compromised.

Zuma is, on an overwhelming balance of probabilities, guilty of having solicited bribes paid in relation to the Arms Deal in 1999. The entire ANC leadership structure is compromised by the Arms Deal. The whitewash commission's report, produced by Judge Willie Seriti simply added insult to injury. Zuma's criminal prosecution on the long-ready Arms Deal charges should proceed as a matter of priority – for sanity's sake.

Since then, the Nkandla scandal and many more involving his sons and other relatives have blighted his time in office. The Gupta brothers seized effective control of a large portion of the state's finances under his protection. Perhaps more serious is what he has condoned: the myriad of bribes taken and frauds committed by his party colleagues.

In this issue we report on a case involving a member of the KZN party elite that could just herald the new anti-corruption drive.

But what of the corrupt in big (mainly white) business? What about the Vodacom directors and executives who sit back and enjoy the massive profits they quietly gather by partnering with criminal "content providers", so-called WASPs, in unlawfully pocketing airtime fees? (Vodacom takes an up to 50% cut.) The loot over recent years could total billions, putting them in a

league with the Guptas.

And what about the JSE's favourite clients, the Resilient Group?

Recent events call to mind an extraordinary judgment by acting Judge NACassim in the South Gauteng High Court in February 2015 in an application by various bankers and brokers involved with the Resilient property group against Magistrate Theresa Swart and officers of the East Rand Organised Crime Unit. (*nose191*.)

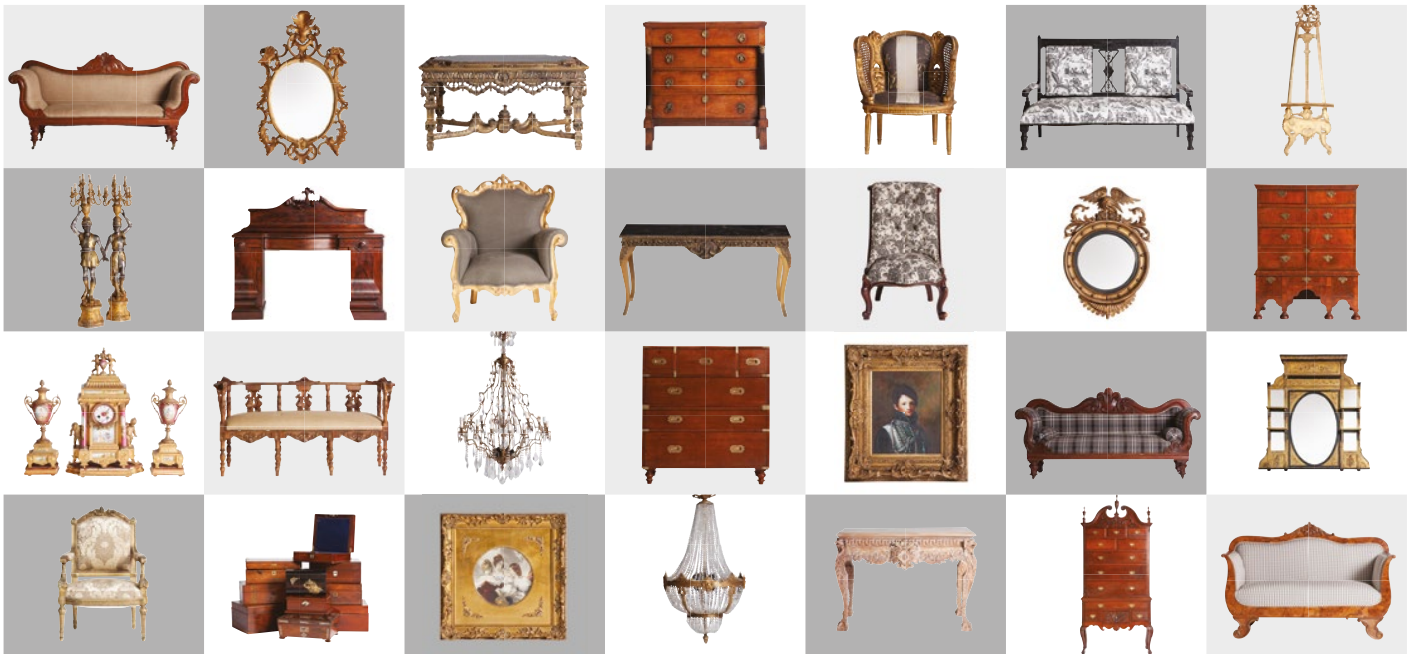
Three years earlier the police began an investigation not unrelated to various *Noseweek* reports about insider trading and serial frauds allegedly committed by some of the directors of the Resilient companies (See *noses136,137*) in a scheme to ramp and churn their shares. On the application of the police, magistrate Swart issued subpoenas requiring various banks and brokers to make their records available for inspection, to track the dealings of the suspects. But over the following three years the suspects and their bankers launched several applications to suspend or set aside the subpoenas, stalling the investigation for all that time.

The Resilient directors, bankers and brokers wanted the subpoenas set aside on the grounds that the police officer who had applied for them was known for using such warrants for corrupt purposes. Their own attorneys, Werksmans, and private investigators SSG, employed by that illustrious law firm, had previously used him for such corrupt purposes, they brazenly stated in a supporting affidavit.

Acting Judge Cassim prefaced his ruling with an assessment of the current state of law enforcement in South Africa: "It is necessary ...to put an element of realism in what is sought in this application ...in the context of the state of law and order in our country. ...the administration of criminal law is in tatters... The leadership within the current NDPP is in turmoil and this does not inspire prosecutors to dedicate themselves to the arduous task of properly prosecuting crime in a crime-ridden country... nor is there a civil service with the ethos [*necessary*] to do civic duty. It is no secret that the government of the day considers it necessary to staff public positions with its supporters under the guise of transformation when what the country needs is good and able people to manage the organs of state to realise the

Antiques

cost much the same as or less than new
upmarket furniture and increase in value



Over 5000 gorgeous items to choose from...

Mirrors | Tables | Chairs | Settees | Sofas | Chandeliers | Lanterns | Armoires | Chests | Cabinets | Bookcases | Linen Presses | Gilded Furniture
Candlesticks | Candelabras | Crystal | Silver | Hundreds of Accessories



The Crown Collection

011 463 6060 | info@thecrowncollection.co.za | [the crown collection store](https://www.facebook.com/thecrowncollectionstore)
Buy online at www.thecrowncollection.co.za or visit our store at 20 Ballyclare Drive,
Bryanston, Sandton, Johannesburg

greatest good for the greatest number of people.

“Recently, the Supreme Court of Appeal observed that there may be merit in the perception of ordinary people that we have two systems of law, one for the wealthy and the other for the poor. In particular that wealthy people... are better placed in dealing with criminal charges and avoiding conviction and... incarceration.

“It is a regrettable but true feature of criminal practice that criminal lawyers ... utilise private investigators who in turn have a network of policemen to do their bidding. So rampant is the practice that Werksmans, a major Johannesburg law firm, do not query or find it distasteful to hire private investigators SSG, who they know have an untoward relationship with senior policemen...

“It is no secret ...that ...to obtain a successful prosecution it is useful, if not necessary, to obtain the services of private criminal investigators to, literally, prepare the docket on behalf of the police... A country that has as its func-

tional officers... people who cannot do the job, does not serve the interests of its people... The starting point... not only the state, but the legal profession itself, have to be imbued with a value system in terms of which wrongful conduct is frowned upon...”

The judge suspected that the application to set the subpoenas aside had less to do with preserving respect for the law and was more likely intended to delay the investigation to the point where it would simply be abandoned. He ordered the NDPP be given immediate access to the subpoenaed documents, in order to proceed with the criminal investigation without delay; a senior prosecutor was to be appointed to supervise the police investigation.

Judge Cassim added that Werksmans, their investigators SSG and their clients, have as much to explain as the policemen they corrupted.

Three years on, *nose196* published a recap of the story, adding only one new sentence: “There is still no sign that the police investigation has resumed.”

The criminal activity at the Resilient

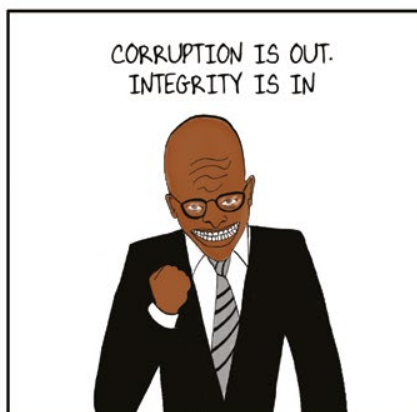
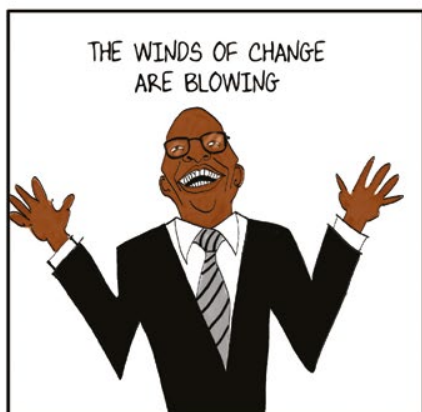
group has proceeded apace, now involving multiple billions. The four listed entities made up as much as 40% of the South African listed property sector’s value and were widely held by pension fund managers such as the PIC, StanLib and Old Mutual.

Recently the share market has started contemplating a collapse of the ponzi-like pyramid constructed by the Resilient masterminds. Forensic analysts are having a closer look at what *Noseweek* revealed years ago. Resilient has lost 40% of its value.

Some rats are quietly leaving the sinking ship: the Guptas and friends to Dubai, the Bank of Baroda back to India in a hurry before they can collect a judgment for damages. Des de Beer, Resilient’s main man, moved his shareholding, worth billions, to Namibia in December. Why? A guess: it is the now recommended softly-softly route to Mauritius, out of reach of SARS, the Reserve Bank and the police. Family members have been sent on short holiday trips to the Caribbean.

The Editor

Stent



© Stent Feb 2016

'I first knew there was a problem in my department when I read about it in *Noseweek*' – minister

AN INQUIRY MANDATED BY THE Constitutional Court into whether Social Development minister Bathabile Dlamini should be held personally liable for legal fees in the grants crisis, turned up at least one unassailable truth: only after reading *Noseweek* did Dlamini realise that there was a serious problem with her department's planning programme.

This admission by Dlamini, (who elected to speak in Zulu through a translator) was made to the inquiry panel headed by retired Judge Bernard Ngoepe at the Office of the Chief Justice in Midrand, Johannesburg.

In July 2016 *Noseweek* forecast that the SA Social Security Agency (SASSA) intended to miss the key 1 April 2017 deadline to migrate grant payments away from Cash Paymaster Services (CPS), a subsidiary of the US-based Net1 Group. The plan at the time was that payments would be moved in-house to the agency.

The CPS contract had already been ruled invalid in a 2014 Constitutional Court judgment, but was due to end only on 31 March 2017. The April 2017 deadline set by the ConCourt was to allow SASSA time to call for new tenders from private contractors or find an alternative solution. The court knew it had to avoid jeopardising the monthly payment of 17 million grants for child support, pensions and disability, totalling R11 billion a month.

Key questions that have persistently stewed in this scandal were:

! Why did the minister, in addition to SASSA's own planning staff, set up parallel, unregulated so-called workstreams at huge cost – R40m – to handle the migration?

! Why was the process – which flouted National Treasury's own procurement rules – so secretive?

! And why was Parliament repeatedly misled?

It has long been *Noseweek's* contention that Dlamini never planned to get rid of CPS and was deliberately



Could've knocked me over: Social Development minister Bathabile Dlamini is astonished to read about difficulties in her ministry

delaying and sowing confusion to make sure that CPS could not be excluded from future tenders.

It was on day two of the inquiry when Judge Ngoepe asked Dlamini whether the inference was correct that, as late as October 2016, she and her department were still under the impression they would meet the deadline, that she replied: "At the time, the main concern was that everybody had to do what they were responsible for.

"It's a pity I did not consider that it would become critical now, and I remember there is a magazine that I read that was talking about just how far behind we were.

"It was after that article that I went to raise the concern with former Social Development Director General Zane Dangor. I remember [*the magazine*] was *Noseweek*."

On day three, advocate Richard Solomon SC, representing former acting SASSA CEO Thokozani Magwaza, decided to press Dlamini

further on the subject:

Solomon: I think you said yesterday... you first got to learn about the possibility of the deadline not being achievable from an article in *Noseweek*. Is that correct?

Dlamini: It was one of the sources of information; a periodical that I read indicated that we will not be able to meet the deadline. And I also mentioned that the workstreams had already started mentioning that we were very unlikely to meet the deadline.

Solomon: And that is why you called a meeting on 5 October 2016 with the workstreams. Is that correct?

Dlamini: [Long pause] Yes.

Solomon: Of course I see that there are some numerous photos of you in the [*Noseweek*] article, and I see it is dated 1 July 2016.

Dlamini: This periodical is not a legal document or departmental document or government document.

Solomon: Some targets of this journal will say it is an illegal publication [*Laughter – even the habitually grim Bathabile cracks a small, most unusual smile*]. But that's not my question – you're quite right, it's not official, it's the alternate press, but you have referenced it. It was one of the sources of information to you that things were not as they should be and that the process was not on track?

Dlamini: Yes, that was the reason I had to go to SASSA [*in October 2016*] to find out what was happening there, as a result of the article.

The inquiry will hear closing arguments in March.

● *Asked to explain his derogatory description of this worthy and upstanding publication as "illegal" and "alternative" (could it be said that truth-speaking in South Africa today is "alternative" rather than mainstream?), Solomon said he thought he was promoting Noseweek. Bathabile did a better job of that by suggesting we were a reliable source of hard-to-come-by information. – Ed. ■*

A woman with long dark hair and glasses is looking directly at the camera. In the background, a man in a suit is looking down at a laptop. The background is a whiteboard with some handwritten notes and diagrams.

sage

Governance

Risk Management

Compliance

TAX YEAR-END SOLVED WITH SAGE

Ensure good governance and risk management for your business,
with a fully tax compliant solution from Sage.

Contact us today
tax.sage.co.za

Corruption net closes in on KZN big boys

How tens of millions of rands were siphoned off under the guise of bringing the North Sea Jazz Festival to Durban. By Jonathan Erasmus

THE HOT WINDS THAT SIGNAL political climate change may, it seems, finally be blowing through the foothills of Kwa-Zulu-Natal.

But before we tell you the exciting news, a recap from *nose154* of August 2012: “As, increasingly over time, shady businessmen and other criminal elements in pursuit of government contracts, favours and protection have corrupted South Africa’s politicians and infiltrated its political structures, so the politicians in power and friends in crime have made common cause in undermining the country’s law-enforcement agencies.

“The word is out: to survive in the police or prosecution services you must be either very brave – or bent.

“But there is another element to the story: as faction feuds and power struggles occur in the political establishment or major areas of the economy dominated by criminals (such as Eskom), the same feuds and power struggles now invariably ripple through the law-enforcement services, where each faction has its friends.”

Noseweek related several examples in that issue – all worth re-reading today – but one is particularly relevant here: “Also in July 2012, KwaZulu-Natal’s acting prosecutions head, Simphiwe Mlotshwa, was removed from his post – supposedly in line with government policy which does not allow for someone to hold a senior post in an “acting” position for more than 12 months. (He had already been there for 18 months, without comment or complaint from anyone.)



Feeling the heat: KZN Economic Development MEC Mike Mabuyakhulu receives the Freedom Flame during the province’s celebration of 20 years of democracy in 2014

“It is widely accepted, however, that Mlotshwa was removed from the post because of his determination to prosecute KZN Premier Zweli Mkhize

for his role in the “Three Amigos” fraud case – the Three Amigos being Economic Development MEC Mike Mabuyakhulu, former Health MEC Peggy Nkonyeni (who subsequently became Speaker in the KZN legislature) and South American businessman Gaston Savoi.

“Savoi is accused of bribing the duo – as well as other civil servants – to sell over-priced water filters and other high-end pieces of medical equipment to the province. (The three KZN politicians were accused of soliciting a R1-million bribe from Savoi.) The expectation now is that the case will not proceed.”

It didn’t.

The *Mail & Guardian* put a new spin on the story when it reported claims of “interference” by advocate Lawrence Mrwebi, the head of the Specialised Commercial Crimes Unit, in this and other politically sensitive cases.

Mrwebi was the NPA official who controversially ordered the withdrawal of fraud charges against former crime intelligence boss Richard Mdluli.

The *M&G* reported seeing internal memos that showed that Mrwebi had also intervened in the “Three Amigos” case and in the “Madhoe” case which was linked to the investigation of politically connected businessman Thoshan Panday by then-provincial Hawks commander Major General Johan Booysen.

They were proved right. Charges were withdrawn against the “Three Amigos” and against Panday; Booysen

was (unlawfully) arrested and fired.

Already at that time there were allegations of political partiality relating to provincial factions around Premier Zweli Mkhize and his perceived rivals, Mabuyakhulu and Nkonyeni. Which was thought to explain why Mkhize, who was also involved in the suspect procurement, was not charged, while Mabuyakhulu and Nkonyeni, who were both regarded as closer to President Jacob Zuma than Mkhize, were initially charged. It required an intervention at national level to get them off the hook.

So much for background.

Lo and behold, in February 2018 – five-and-a-half years later – ex-KZN MEC Mike Mabuyakhulu (one of those thought to be “closer” to Zuma) is back in the dock facing corruption charges.

Throughout the period in which he was MEC for Economic Development and Tourism (2009 to 2016) Mabuyakhulu and the entities he oversaw were clouded in scandal. During that time, major fraud was discovered at Dube Trade Port (notes190,214) for which no one has been prosecuted.

He was welcomed into the provincial cabinets of both Zweli Mkhize and Senzo Mchunu. His recent February arrest is for the looting of nearly R27m from the department he once ran. At Mabuyakhulu’s most recent appearance, the Durban Commercial Crimes Court released him and several co-accused on R50,000 bail. Their next court appearance is in April.

In total, there are 16 accused, seven being companies. They face 77 charges:

27 for corruption, two for fraud, one for theft and 46 for money-laundering. There is also one count of contravening the Public Finance Management Act.

In the indictment, Mabuyakhulu is described as “an adult male person whose place of residence is unknown to the State” (a situation that normally precludes the granting of bail) and in a schedule titled “Main role-players” he is listed as a “[former] Member of the Executive Council (MEC) for the province of KwaZulu-Natal and MEC in the

Department of Economic Development and Tourism”.

The other main role players are Desmond Golding – Mabuyakhulu’s former head of department – and local business owners Ceaser [sic] Walter Mkhize, Nothando Zungu and ANC benefactor Mabheleni Ntuli.

Of the 77 charges Mabuyakhulu faces, five are counts of corruption and one is for money laundering. He is co-charged on six of these offences with Walter Mkhize, Mkhize’s wife Zandile Mbongwe and Durban businessman Ntokozo Ndlovu. Mkhize and Mbongwe face 61 and 27 counts of fraud and money laundering.

Particularly noticeable is the speed at which the money was released from the inception of the alleged plot to the signing of an agreement.

To summarise: In January 2012 a genuine pitch was made by a South African-based company called MPM Productions and International Projects (Pty) Ltd to bring the acclaimed North Sea Jazz Festival to Durban. It is the biggest indoor festival in the world, hosted annually in Rotterdam, Netherlands.

By April 2012, Mabuyakhulu agreed that the province would pay for it and by June 2012 agreements were signed between MPM and local firm Soft Skills Communication 100 CC, owned by Walter Mkhize. This agreement has been deemed illegal. MPM was given no other option by Mabuyakhulu’s then Head of Department Desmond Golding but to use Mkhize – or else the deal would fall flat.

On 21 June 2012 Soft Skills which,

**With the
provincial
bean-counter
out of town,
a further
R969,000 was
hurriedly paid to
Mkhize’s closed
corporation**



KEN FORRESTER VINEYARDS
GRANTED 1689

Cellar Door open
Monday - Friday 09:00 - 17:00
Saturday 09:30 - 15:30

After Hours
tasting at
96 Winery
Road

Cnr of R44 & Winery road, between Somerset West & Stellenbosch | GPS: 34° 1' 39.06 " S 18° 49' 12.83" E
Tel +27 (0)21 855 2374 | info@kenforresterwines.com | www.kenforresterwines.com

it had been agreed, would handle the money, received its first tranche: R969,000.

On 4 July 2012, then KZN Treasury MEC Ina Cronje was flown to the Netherlands to experience the festival and make a final decision. With the provincial bean-counter out of town, a further R969,000 was hurriedly paid to Mkhize's closed corporation – just one day after Cronje flew off.

Then, on 2 October 2012, Rotterdam-based Mojo Concert BV, who owned the North Sea Jazz Festival brand, pulled the plug on MPM's rights to host the event. Golding was informed. This made the agreement that had been signed in June null and void.

But according to the indictment, Golding didn't care. He instructed his legal department to draft a sham agreement between Mojo and Soft Skills, which the former never signed, and on 26 November 2012 he ordered his general manager, Babalwa Mapisa, to pay R26,886,900 to Soft Skills Communication. Four days later the transfer went through.

What followed was a feeding frenzy. From the day the loot arrived in Mkhize's control, the money was laundered through various companies and used to buy cars, including a Mercedes Benz and Range Rover, paid to front businesses for services obviously not needed, and to pay off deal-makers who in turn would pay off other people connected to the theft.

For example, on 30 November 2012, Soft Skills transferred R2,650,999 to Mzandile and Nonhlanhla Ninela and then R2,204,000 to Super Size Investments 20 CC owned by a financial backer of Jacob Zuma, Mabheloni Ntuli. Then R5m was paid to another company that Mkhize owned – also on the same day. Soft Skills transferred R300,000 to the personal bank account of Mabuyakhulu using the reference "Ndiyema", the clan name of Mabuyakhulu.

The indictment, unless it is entirely made up, appears fairly convincing that a serious crime of corruption, fraud, racketeering and money-laundering took place.

This case will be a test for the Cyril Ramaphosa camp, to which Mabuyakhulu belongs. Will the new ANC president allow the prosecution of one of his lobbyists, or will he

protect Mabuyakhulu, a trademark Jacob Zuma move?

In 2011, Mabuyakhulu was arrested alongside then Health MEC Peggy Nkonyeni for their roles in accepting a R1m "donation" by Uruguayan businessman Gaston Savoï in 2008/09. It was widely speculated that the donation was a bribe, when Savoï was awarded a water-purification contract by the health department. At the time of the payment, which Savoï admits to paying, Nkonyeni was the MEC for Health, and Mabuyakhulu was MEC for Local Government, Traditional Affairs and Housing.

In August 2012, the newly appointed KZN director of public prosecutions Moipone Noko – now a key decision-maker on whether Arms Deal-era charges will be reinstated against Jacob Zuma – announced the withdrawal of charges against Nkonyeni, Mabuyakhulu and others.

The KZN DA took the matter on review but after long delays and mounting legal bills they eventually withdrew their objection. However in light of the recent arrest, there are hints that they may revisit the case.

Already there are murmurings in ANC circles that Mabuyakhulu's arrest is politically motivated as he holds a senior role in the KZN ANC transitional structure. Mabuyakhulu is the convener of the team that is supposed to prepare the province to host another elective conference after the 2015 conference was annulled by the Pietermaritzburg High Court late last year.

He is said to be considering contesting the election.

Mabuyakhulu was accused of taking the R1m bribe from Savoï when he was KZN ANC Treasurer. However even his support base in his home region of Empangeni, on the KZN North Coast, is deemed shaky. The last time he tried to run for chairman in the North Coast's Musa Dladla Region in 2012, the now-deceased Thulani Mashaba, a close ally of Sihle Zikalala, beat him convincingly. Zikalala is likely to be Mabuyakhulu's opponent if he runs for KZN ANC chairman this year.

As *Noseweek* has said, the progress of this case will be closely watched to establish whether the warm winds of change are finally blowing in the foothills of KwaZulu-Natal. ■

DO YOU FEEL NERVOUS

TRAVELLING FROM OR TAMBO
INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT?

DO YOU HAVE HIGH RISK PEOPLE?

WE WILL PROFESSIONALLY ESCORT YOU
FROM OR TAMBO INTERNATIONAL
TO YOUR DESTINATION SAFELY.

Give us a call
011 615 3005 / 2234 or 082 901 0824



EXECUTIVE ESCORTING
FOR PROFESSIONAL ESCORTING OF
PERSONNEL & ASSETS



THE
BIG GREEN
MACHINE
Recycling E-waste



Hi 5 Diski

OLD BROKEN APPLIANCES GATHERING DUST & TAKING UP SPACE?

011 6153005 / 2234 or 082 901 0824
info@thegreenmachine.co.za facebook.com/hi-5-diski

Donate your unwanted E-waste to our
Hi 5 soccer initiative. We will collect in
and around the Johannesburg area.

WE GUARANTEE THAT NO INFORMATION
WILL BE ACCESSED OR TAKEN FROM
YOUR PC & HARD DRIVE.

YOUR INFO
IS SAFE

IF YOU RENT PROPERTY KEEP THIS NUMBER

I CAN HELP YOU WITH
PROBLEM TENANTS

I CAN ASSIST YOU WITH THE
RENTAL HOUSING TRIBUNAL

IF YOU DON'T NEED ME NOW,
YOU WILL LATER

JOHN: 082 901 0824

In for a Zweli, in for a pound

Questions keep rolling in over a succession of dodgy loans involving former KZN premier and his wife. By Jonathan Erasmus

KZN PREMIER DR ZWELI Mkhize signed a lucrative lease agreement with a KZN businessman who had given Mkhize's wife Dr May Mashego two R1-million interest-free loans.

Evidence leaked to *Noseweek* shows how businessman and property developer Protus Sokhela secured a three-year R10.9m property lease with the provincial Treasury (when Zweli Mkhize was KZN MEC for finance) after having made two payments of exactly R1m each to a company of which his wife May is the sole director. Mkhize became KZN ANC chairperson in mid-2008, around the time the deal was being concluded, and became the province's premier in 2009.

A medical doctor by profession, Mkhize has held on to some of the most senior positions in the ANC both provincially and nationally. As recently as December 2017 he was in the race for the ANC presidency.

The lease, signed in 2008 is a matter of public record. KZN Department of Public Works spokesman Mbulelo Baloyi said it had covered a period of three years, with effect from 1 August 2009. "The total rental paid was R10,966,124.94. The commencement rental was R75/m² and R350 per day." Although Baloyi said that the lease was signed on 23 December 2008, further evidence shows this date was merely administrative; the deal was concluded months earlier.

A clear case of conflict-of-interest arises from the fact that less than two years earlier, on 12 March 2007,



President Jacob Zuma presents gifts to Former Premier Dr Zweli Mkhize and his wife Dr May Mashego in 2013 during the gala dinner held at the Coastlands Hotel, Umhlanga in KwaZulu-Natal

Essential Equity CC, owned by May Mkhize, entered into a loan agreement with Sirela Trading CC, owned by Protus Sokhela, for a soft loan of R1,000,000. A very soft loan. The loan terms, signed by both May and Sokhela, were as follows:

"The loan will be repayable after a period of 24 months from the date that the whole loan amount has been paid to the debtor. The loan will be paid

as follows: sale of shares/members' interest in the closed corporation (the debtor) and monthly repayments of R50,000 after profit has been realised each month. It is recorded that interest will be payable only if the debtor defaults in payment."

Three months later, on 14 June 2007, Sirela purchased a multi-storey block known as the Nomalanga Building, 212 Langalibalele Street, Pietermaritzburg

for R10m, from the now-deceased John Basil Mitropoulos. Exactly seven months later on 15 January 2008 a second “loan”, also of R1m, and was made to Essential Equity CC, with the same terms as the first. Technically this would mean May was in for repayments of R100,000-a-month for the next 14 months, providing she made profits, of course.

Both loan agreements were drawn up by the law firm Ngcobo Poyo & Diedricks Inc. Mkhize’s lawyer at the time was Thoba Poyo-Dlwati, one of the partners in the law firm. She is now a sitting judge in the KwaZulu-Natal High Court. Only Ngcobo remains at the firm.

Judge Poyo-Dlwati told *Noseweek*: “I can’t recall offhand, it is quite a long time ago. At the time I was dealing with quite a lot of Mkhize’s legal issues. Ask Mr Ngcobo to check for you. I’d be speculating if I said anything more about it.”

Ngcobo denied any knowledge of the loan, merely stating “I am not aware [of the loan]” but in a later email he said he’d been unable to locate anything, therefore “cannot assist with your inquiries”.

On 3 July 2008, Sirela registered the property with the Deeds Office and just two months later on 5 September 2008 a government tender bulletin was released. It confirmed that the KZN Public Works department had acquired the services of “Sirela Trading” for providing “accommodation” in Pietermaritzburg for the “Department of Treasury”. The provincial treasury has remained in the building ever since and has invested several million rand in refurbishments and “reconfiguration” of the interior at various times since 2009 – as publicly available budget votes have shown.

Sirela Trading still owns the building and between 2015 and 2016 the company bonded the property to Standard Bank for a R30m loan and a further R10m loan.

Essential Equity is the vehicle used by the Mkhizes to run their farm just outside Pietermaritzburg – used among others for buying Nguni cattle. Sirela Trading is used for any number of projects, from property ownership to agriculture and waste management.

At the ANC’s December conference Mkhize withdrew his nomination

The Brothers Sokhela

PROTUS SOKHELA SHOULD NOT BE confused with Patrick Sokhela, his brother, and an equally successful businessman. Patrick is the current owner of low-ranked football team AmaZulu FC.

Protus Sokhela’s business interests stretch from printing to waste management, engineering, hygiene services, farming, property and, more recently, within the military-complex fold.

He is an active director in 79 different companies. Recently he co-developed the Life Hilton Private Hospital just outside Pietermaritzburg. In

2014 Sokhela, as chairman of Elisa Holdings, became the South African partner for CAE – a Canadian-owned company that provides training in “civil aviation, defence and security, and healthcare markets”.

The two companies signed a deal with South African arms manufacturer Denel to establish a National Training and Simulation Centre (SANTSC) that will offer aviation pilot technical training as well as emergency and disaster management training for the SANDF, commercial airlines and security companies. ■

for deputy president; to become no.1 on the party’s National Executive Committee. In February he became embroiled in the parliamentary inquiry into governance failures at Eskom, essentially a “state capture” probe by Parliament.

Former Passenger Rail Agency of South Africa (Prasa) chief executive Lucky Montana told the committee that Mkhize, using his former position of ANC Treasurer General, tried to muscle a 10% commission for the ANC from a contract worth nearly half-a-billion rand.

Mkhize has since stated he wants to challenge the Montana bribe claim. In the interim, the EFF has laid a criminal charge of corruption at the Hillbrow SAPS against Zweli Mkhize

based on Montana’s testimony.

Previous loan scandals that the Mkhizes have weathered include a R13m loan made to May by the KZN government-owned Ithala Bank while Mkhize was the provincial Treasury MEC and a de facto head of the bank. However he says he did declare the loans to the legislature.

Ithala was often called a piggy bank for the elite, who were offered soft loans with little need for security. It had a habit of making loans to its own senior management and leading political figures and their families which were later written off.

In 2010, the *Sunday Times* reported that R86m in loans made to senior management was in arrears. Ironically, it was Mkhize’s cabinet, some of whom, along with their families, had been awarded soft loans from the same bank that banned loans to politicians and their relations.

Questions were sent to Sokhela and the Mkhizes. Numerous telephone calls were made and SMSes sent. Repeated attempts were made to contact them personally and through a spokesman for Zweli Mkhize, Tahera Mather. Mather initially said she could not assist, as the questions sent to her related to Mkhize’s wife and not Zweli. The questions were repurposed for Zweli, however no response was forthcoming at the time of going to print. Among the questions was whether they believe a conflict-of-interest existed and whether the KZN legislature was informed of the loans. ■

Ithala Bank was often called a piggy bank for the elite, who were offered soft loans with little need for security

Disney TV took the Mickey out of me

Crime author says makers of Oscar Pistorius movie stole his work. **By Sue Segar**

BEST-SELLING SOUTH AFRICAN TRUE crime writer Nick van der Leek has accused the US makers of a television film, *Oscar Pistorius: Blade Runner Killer*, of “stealing” most of their script from material he has written about the murderer and his victim.

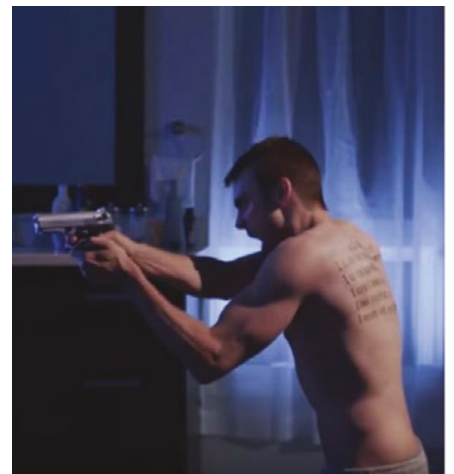
Van der Leek has penned a number of articles and books on the disgraced Paralympian and his relationship with model Reeva Steenkamp, whom Pistorius shot dead on Valentine’s Day in 2013.

Van der Leek is taking on the Disney-owned A&E Networks, along with another Disney subsidiary, Lifetime TV, which aired the movie for the first time in November last year. The credits list Amber Benson as scriptwriter of the film, which was produced by Eric Tomosunas and Swirl Films.

“The movie quite evidently used my books, particularly *Resurrection* and *Revelations* as their script” says Van der Leek. “I have found at least 305 copyright infringements by the moviemakers, averaging one every 15 seconds, yet the books are not credited at all in the film.

“I have studied the film, second-by-second. For me, the biggest infringement is that they’ve used our belief in and focus on the premeditated murder angle. Nobody else has argued this and creatively assembled and arranged the necessary evidence as a convincing human drama, as I did in my book *Revelations*,” Van der Leek told *Noseweek*.

“What it amounts to is that they’ve used very detailed research – which is available but not in one place – and



True crime author Nick van der Leek (left); and a scene from TV movie *Oscar Pistorius: Blade Runner Killer*

creatively assembled it as a dramatic narrative. You would have to do what we did to get hold of it all.”

Van der Leek has long collaborated closely with well-known Los Angeles true crime author Lisa Wilson (aka trial blogger Juror13) who made her research material available exclusively to him for his *Resurrection* and *Revelations* books, published in July and August of 2014 respectively. These followed *Reeva in her own Words*, as well as *Recidivist Acts*, both published in June 2014.

Van der Leek has had over 70 narratives published on Amazon between 2014 and 2017. Four became Amazon best sellers. His blog, www.nickvanderleek.com has, in the past, been rated one of the top 20 News and Politics blogs in South Africa.

The filmmakers acknowledge they made use of the books to script their movie, but deny infringing copyright. They say they will only acknowledge the authors in the film’s credits on condition they now license their script to the moviemaker – free of charge.

Van der Leek first lodged a copyright claim in November last year, soon after the film’s release. A&E Network replied in December saying they were willing to credit him and Wilson in the film credits and online, but then sent them a licensing contract to sign – and offered no payment.

“We believe we have a right to the customary 1.4% of the \$3 million production budget, which should give us about R300,000,” he said.

Currently, there is an impasse in the

negotiations between him and A&E Networks. “They’re still selling their product on pay-per-view sites without crediting our work,” said Van der Leek.

In January, the company wrote to Van der Leek claiming that “most” of the information used in the movie was already in the public domain.

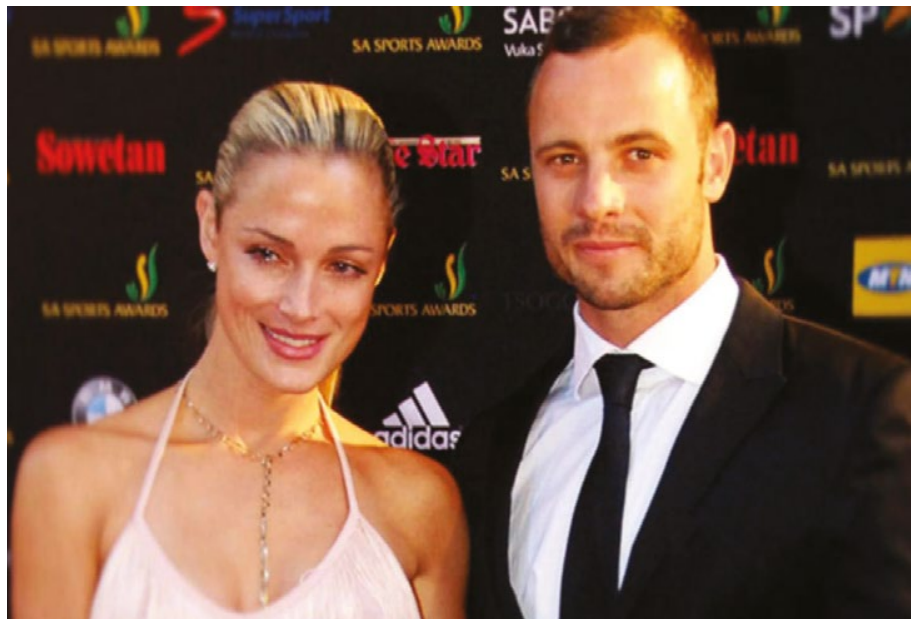
Says Van der Leek: “We argue that ours is the only published narrative like this. Having been friends with Reeva Steenkamp on Facebook, I kept waiting for her story to come out. I felt that her story was being left out by the media, the court and her family, and that remained the case throughout. I decided I would let her voice be heard.”

Van der Leek started off writing a 12,000-word article entitled “Reeva in her own Words”, based on all he could glean about her modelling career and her previous relationships. This was published as an Amazon book in June 2014. He then wrote three more books on the Pistorius/Steenkamp saga: *Recidivist Acts*, *Resurrection* and *Revelations*. “In *Revelations*, I put the motive and the method, the psychology and the forensics together... it was an entirely new narrative.”

Van der Leek had been working with Lisa Wilson for five years. “She knew how to get hold of court records and all sorts of other information. We worked together, with me as narrator and Lisa as the researcher. We did a lot of work on Reeva’s perspective, including her insecurities and financial difficulties and how she saw Oscar. We put all this information together and interpreted it. We are the only people who have done that. It isn’t out there except in our work. That is what the movie is based on.”

After watching the movie in early November, he and Wilson discussed their concerns. “We agreed that it definitely came from our work,” said Van der Leek. That same day he sent a copyright infringement notice listing all the similarities in their work, to Christian Palmieri, A&E’s agent for the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA). For starters, he asked for Lisa Wilson to be credited for her research.

Van der Leek claims the movie’s website also infringes Wilson’s copyright when it says: “*Oscar Pistorius: Blade Runner Killer* provides an inside look at the events leading up to Reeva’s killing, the cracks that formed in the



Reeva Steenkamp and Oscar Pistorius

relationship between Oscar and Reeva, as well as the courtroom drama that followed, revealing what happened on that tragic night.”

“This is also the precise premise of *Resurrection* and *Revelations*,” Van der Leek wrote. “In addition, various details about the crime scene dramatised in *Blade Runner Killer* are only found in Lisa’s blog and in the above-named narratives.

Some of those he listed:

!an argument on the night of the

**The company wrote
to Van der Leek
claiming that ‘most’
of the information
used in the movie
was already in the
public domain**

murder [not part of the trial narrative]

!the air gun assault on the bedroom door and how it played out [not part of the trial narrative]

!the contracts found on Pistorius’s dining room table when he arrived home on February 13 [not part of the trial narrative]

!Oscar’s cell phone playing a key part in what triggered the crime at 01:55 [not part of the trial narrative]

!the relationship dynamic between Oscar and Reeva, in terms of the psychology and motives of both, as well as how ‘cracks’ formed and came to a head on the night of the murder. (Our narratives are the only ones which linked the WhatsApp communications directly to a motive, as well as how these played into the events of February 13 and 14.)

!the insights into Reeva Steenkamp’s relationship and commitment to her management agency, Capacity Relations, who were of the view that Oscar’s “brand” was not a good fit with Reeva’s brand [not part of the trial narrative, nor any other narrative]

!the nuances of Oscar Pistorius’s narcissism and double standards within his relationship with Reeva Steenkamp

!Reeva’s Facebook posts are still only visible to her friends while she was alive, and our research was the first to

definitively convert her social media into a narrative, and tie it into motive and the relationship dynamic that flowed from those.

On 21 December last year, Van der Leek got a response from Beth Goldman, Content and Production Counsel, Legal and Business Affairs at A&E Networks, attaching a research licence agreement for them to sign, but offering no payment. It would grant the producers the right to use the material from the writers' research, books and blogs and to edit, rearrange and/or change the material, along with a commitment to credit Lisa Wilson for her research.

Van der Leek's objections were met with another email from Goldman on 19 January in which she dismissed his claims to be credited as being "without merit".

"Once again, although we are under no legal obligation to do so, we are willing to accommodate Lisa's, and now your, request for a credit on the website and in the film. In exchange we ask that you provide the signed document to us or provide comments, if there are portions that you feel you would like to revise. If you do not want the credit, that is of course fine, just let us know. If you prefer, you can refer your legal counsel to us to discuss further."

In his most recent letter to Goldman, Van der Leek insisted: "There are portions of your licence agreement in breach of our rights as authors, and are in need of revision. As agreed, both authors should be credited immediately as per industry standards.

"On the advice of legal counsel we have already compiled a detailed affidavit which shows and proves precisely the degree and nature of these infringements. In the first 90 seconds of dialogue, 16 separate infringements from our three copyrighted narratives and Lisa's research have been identified, numerated and highlighted, averaging one infringement every five seconds. These infringements have been colour coded, to make the degree of these breaches appreciable at a glance.

"The trial narrative [*matters of public record*] of the film, cited in your email, comprises less than 5% of the total running time. The premise of your film, and thus the bulk of your film, like our narrative, is based on subjective interpretations and insights that fall outside of the public record... your request for

Inspired by true crime

WRITING TRUE CRIME IS REALLY ABOUT understanding human psychology better, especially the hidden dimension, says Nick van der Leek. "What drives people to do what they do? What motivates us? It's about understanding ourselves better, and motives we might otherwise not see, or not initially understand.

"I guess I'm very detail-oriented. I get frustrated with the lack of clarity, and the lack of proper analysis in the media. Dedicated true crime writing allows one to really get one's teeth into a project, spend time with it, and break down the Everest of case files with today's digital tools. It's a fun way of adding to the narratives already out there, obviously with a

little artistic licence thrown in."

To find out what he thinks happened to Madeleine McCann, and to JonBenét Ramsay, you'll have to read his online books.

Some of his observations on the Van Breda case: "Sibling rivalry with his high-achieving brother. Because of his key identifying trait – his epilepsy – he was essentially bogged down, locked out of the game (by his medication) for his own good at a critical time – which made him angry and resentful of his high-achieving family. At the time of the murders he didn't even have a car. How many 20 year olds with multi-millionaire parents do you know that don't have a car?" ■

'licensing' in the context of your having dismissed our claims to copyright as being 'without merit', and 'source material not copyrighted' makes no sense.

"In order for our work to be licensed and sub-licensed, the licence should be purchased properly, the way any script is purchased and licensed on the open market. We submit that fair value for licensing be set at the industry standard, at 1.4% of the allocated budget, payable immediately.

"In terms of damages suffered for failures of attribution between 8 November to the present date, a fixed sum of \$45,000 [for November, December and January], payable immediately and/or an option on other works, should be arranged in lieu of (a) not having profited from the proper attribution in one's own works, or from (b) the sales-driving PR surrounding the initiative.

Van der Leek, who in his biography describes himself as a "true crime maestro", has written books on a number of high-profile international crimes including the 1996 murder of six-year-old Boulder, Colorado child-beauty-queen JonBenét Ramsay; four-year-old Madeleine McCann who vanished from her bed in a holiday apartment in the Algarve, Portugal; Amanda Knox, who was acquitted of murdering her housemate, Meredith Kercher in Italy in 2007; and the case

of OJ Simpson among others. In South Africa, he has also written about the Van Breda family murders in their De Zalze, Stellenbosch home.

"What's different in my work, as compared with the dry reporting of lawyers or journalists, is that I base it on a complete archive. I also focus on the psychology involved. I work with an enormous archive of data, get all the information in one place – from the court records, the media record, the social media and a whole range of other sources – and find information that's less well known. I even look at archived weather patterns, Google Maps and other things that one might not think are important but which build a mosaic.

"You start seeing inconsistencies and lies. You find patterns in the cloud and that's how you figure it out. I come in with the benefit of hindsight.

"There's often a public relations narrative about a case. For instance, Oscar's PR narrative is that he's always been anxious and afraid, and is a broken man. You have to counter that."

A US law firm concurs that Van der Leek's copyright claims relating to *Oscar Pistorius: Blade Runner Killer*, have merit and has offered to litigate against the Disney company on his behalf.

● Van der Leek's Twitter handle is @HiRezLife. ■

The evil Russians who robbed Hillary

Except they didn't. And all you liberals out there need to get over it, says Rian Malan

ON AUGUST 16, ACCORDING TO *THE Washington Post*, a car with tinted windows arrived at the White House carrying an envelope containing something so sensitive that only President Barack Obama and three aides were allowed to see it. It was a letter from the CIA revealing Russian President Vladimir Putin's "direct involvement" in a plot "to defeat or at least damage the Democratic nominee, Hillary Clinton, and help elect her opponent, Donald Trump."

Drawn "from sources deep inside the Kremlin," this "intelligence bombshell" exposed the existence in Moscow of armies of hackers and cyber-warriors, all working to disrupt American institutions and bend American minds in unhealthy directions. According to the *Post*, Obama's response was "grave". He ordered further investigation, and soon convoys of black SUVs were screaming across the American capital, carrying intelligence mandarins to meetings in cyber-sealed ops rooms impenetrable to fiendishly ingenious Russian eavesdropping techniques.

Sadly, this secret task force was unable to catch the cunning Russians actually at it, which left America's intelligence chiefs in a quandary; some believed the CIA story, others didn't. According to *The Post*, there was a similar split among senior politicians who'd been briefed on the subject; Democrats wanted the "intelligence bombshell" dropped immediately, while Republicans suspected a ploy to damage Trump's campaign. In the end, all that emerged in public was a brief statement declaring that "the US intelligence community is confident" that the Russian government was behind a recent cyber attack on Democratic

Party headquarters.

On an ordinary day, this might have made headlines, but the statement was almost immediately eclipsed by the emergence of a video in which The Donald boasted of grabbing female strangers by their pudenda.

After that, the Russian stuff barely mattered. I mean, Trump was already deplorable, and now he was totally beyond the pale. He lived in a vulgar gold-plated apartment, owned a beauty pageant, told self-aggrandising lies about his business prowess and often skated on thin ice tax-wise. His ghost writer disclosed that he had the attention-span of an eight-year-old and no interest in anything but himself. And atop all that came the damning pussy-grabbing video. Clearly, such a man would never become president of the USA.

Only he did.

On election eve, I offered someone 20-1 odds in Hillary's favour, an error that cost me R2,000 and forced me to admit that I was just another snobbish elitist, blind to the grievances of the white American working class. Most American liberals and their newspapers seized on a different explanation: it was evil Russians who'd robbed Hillary of certain victory by engaging in acts of the sort alleged in the CIA's top-secret letter. Before Trump even entered the White House, FBI agents and investigative journalists were swarming all over him and his known associates, hunting proof of his collaboration with Russia while Trump shouted bullshit, this is all a hoax, I am the victim of a partisan witch-hunt.

This furor climaxed the other day with the release of The Memo, a summary of previously classified

info gathered over the past year by the Republican-dominated House Intelligence Committee. Democrats on the same committee strongly objected to The Memo's contents and threatened to release a memo of their own, but I doubt they'll be able to overturn the only truly important claim made in the Republican version, of which more later. At this point, let's just say that The Memo contained something that caused me to turn to an old friend and say, "Well, that's it. Trump is going to win this one".

She stiffened and said, "Oh, so you're a Trump supporter now." As we know, this is the kiss of death in polite society, but so what? We must call it as we see it, and I believe there is no evidence anywhere to support the claim that The Donald actively colluded with Russians in a master-plan to take control of America. And now I will tell you why.

Founded by ex-journalists, Fusion GPS is an "opposition research" firm based in Washington DC, where it acts as a hired gun for corporations or politicians seeking an edge on their rivals. In 2015, Fusion was hired by a conservative newspaper to dig up dirt on Trump and knock him out of the Republican primaries. Fusion concentrated on Trump's business dealings, which often smelled odd but were not, on closer examination, smoking-gun illegal. Trump survived and went on to become the GOP's presidential candidate.

This was of course good news for Hillary Clinton, darling of the American liberal establishment, blessed with an \$800-million campaign war chest and now, a buffoonish Republican opponent who shot his own foot off every second

day. With Trump as its candidate, the Republican Party was doomed. There was no question that Hillary would crush Donald in the November election – provided she was first able to clear one embarrassing little hurdle.

Behind the scenes, Hillary and her friends at the Democratic National Committee, which runs Democratic Party machine, had been conspiring to sabotage a challenge from Senator Bernie Sanders, a very lonely Yankee socialist. Bernie's angry speeches were turning the youth against Hillary, and that would not do, so Hillary's friends at DNC ridiculed him in private emails to donors, and for a while, denied him access to party funding.

One dark night in April 2016, nearly 30,000 potentially embarrassing emails were somehow siphoned out of DNC's computers. Some believe the data was loaded onto a thumb drive and carried out the door by a Bernie supporter, but the DNC's IT specialists maintained it had been hacked, possibly by Russians. And now those emails were lurking out there, waiting to fall on Hillary's head.

Under the circumstances, it was clearly in Team Hillary's interests to shore up the Russian hacking narrative. Perhaps with this in mind, Team Hillary turned for assistance to Fusion GPS, the aforementioned "opposition research" firm. At the time, Fusion was working with Russian oligarchs to lift US sanctions on Putin and his closest allies. Now Team Hillary was asking it to work against the interests of that same clique. But there are no virgins in American politics, so Fusion accepted the DNC commission and set to work.

Its chosen instrument was Christopher Steele, a dashing British ex-spy, now peddling his skills on the open

**Perverse cavortings
in a Moscow hotel
room were all very
well, but they needed
something stronger,
something that
smacked of treason.
And lo, Steele was able
to deliver it**

market. A former head of MI6's Russia desk, Steele had friends who claimed to have access to people in Putin's inner circle. In May, 2016, he started pulsing those friends for dirt on Donald Trump. They took Steele's bait (and money) and in June 2016, he delivered his first report to his employers. It revealed that Putin had been "cultivating and assisting Trump for at least five years," and that Russian spies were holding material that could be used to blackmail The Donald if he ever became president. This took the form, inter alia, of spy videos of hookers urinating on Trump in a Moscow hotel room.

Meanwhile, elsewhere in Washington, romance was brewing between Peter Strzok, head of the FBI's counter-espionage division, and Lisa Page, a senior FBI lawyer. Around this time, the two lovebirds began to share their innermost thoughts via text messages, somehow forgetting these would all

be stored in government archives and become public a year later. One sms exchange took place just after Strzok and Page left a Trump-related meeting in the office of FBI deputy director Andy McCabe. Lisa had taken the position that The Donald was unelectable, and that her colleagues should stop worrying. Peter said, "I want to believe you, but I'm afraid there's no way we can take that risk". In Strzok's view, America needed some sort of "insurance policy" to make sure Trump never became president.

Why did these mandarins care? Clearly, they did not like Trump, but it was also smart for ambitious civil servants to make themselves useful to the likely winner of a presidential election, as some of their bosses had already done. A few weeks earlier, those bosses had applied to the ultra-classified Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court for a warrant to spy on four members of the Trump campaign. We don't know what evidence they presented, but it must have been flimsy, because the judge decided that such surveillance was unjustified.

Clearly, the anti-Trump forces needed to develop their Russia collusion case before returning to the surveillance court to try again. Perverse cavortings in a Moscow hotel room were all very well, but they needed something stronger, something that smacked of treason. And lo, Steele was able to deliver it.

His second report to Fusion was dated July 19, and it was a real doozy. This time, the dashing spy was able to reveal that Putin was personally driving the plot to defeat Hillary and that Trump was an enthusiastic partner in his scheme. Steele's sources also put an end to speculation about who stole those embarrassing Bernie



Russian cyber-meddling

A KREMLIN-BACKED GROUP KNOWN AS THE INTERNET RESEARCH AGENCY IS THE root cause of all the stories you've read about sinister Russians using Facebook to brainwash America.

IRA spent \$46,000 on Facebook ads during the Clinton/Trump campaign, a drop in the ocean alongside the \$81 million the two candidates spent on digital media. But the US government says it helped Trump anyway, so this must be true. Here are some of the memes IRA posted – you be the judge.

Being Patriotic shared their event. Sponsored · 🌐

Hillary Clinton is the co-author of Obama's anti-police and anti-Constitutional propaganda



JUL 23 **Down With Hillary!**
Sat 1 PM EDT · 1 Pierrepont Plz, New York City, ...
180 people interested · 45 people going

763 Reactions 76 Comments

Like Comment

Blacktivist

Black Panthers were dismantled by US government because they were black men and women standing up for justice and equality.

never forget that the Black Panthers, group formed to protect black people from the KKK, was dismantled by us gov't but the KKK exists today



6.2K 205 Comments 29K Shares

BM shared their event. Sponsored · 🌐

People are genuinely scared for their futures! Racism won, Ignorance won, Sexual assault won

STOP TRUMP! STOP RACISM! JOIN THE PROTEST at Union Sq. Saturday 12 PM
Bring signs, snacks, water!



NOV 12 **Trump is NOT my President. March aga...**
Sat 12 PM EST · Union Square · 14th & Broadwa...
33,140 people interested · 16,760 people going

Like Comment

Army of Jesus sponsored · 🌐

Today Americans are able to elect a president with godly moral principles. Hillary is a Satan, and her crimes and lies had proved just how evil she is. And even though Donald Trump isn't a saint by any means, he's at least an honest man and he cares deeply for this country. My vote goes for him!



97 Reactions 15 Comments 29 Shares

Like Comment Share

dynamite! Precisely the stuff to blow Trump completely out of the water.

Steele's "evidence" seems to have been put into play quite extensively in the next several weeks. The FBI began to prepare a second spy-court application, this time resting on Steele's revelations. Judging from *The Washington Post's* description, Steele's reports also made their way into the top-secret CIA letter that landed on Obama's desk at the start of this story.

Obama, as we've seen, commissioned an investigation, and Steele did his bit, sharing his research with the FBI and coming to America for cloak-and-dagger meetings with sympathetic reporters. He and Fusion were hoping the *New York Times* would pick up their story, but that illustrious rag (and several others) smelled a rat, so they had to settle for *Mother Jones*, and Yahoo News, whose reports failed to attract much attention. Why? Because everyone knew that Hillary couldn't lose anyway.

Only she did, eight days later.

After that, all hell broke loose. President Obama expelled 35 Russian diplomats on the grounds that they were somehow to blame for his party's humiliation. (This

action was justified by the release of the intelligence report discussed in the adjacent box.)

A week or two later, Steele's Trump dossier was leaked to the media, thereby exposing the president-elect's alleged misdeeds for all to see. Trump said, "fake news," as he always does, but the reaction of his alleged co-conspirators was not entirely as expected. Carter Page, the supposed go-between between Trump and the Kremlin, presented a picture of injured innocence, sitting down with any journalist who was willing to listen while he refuted Steele's charges as rubbish. He said he went to Moscow to deliver a speech at some university, and had no connection at all with the sinister Russians he supposedly met there. He even begged Congress to interrogate him in public so he could clear his name.

This proves nothing in particular, but by then, Page had already been subjected to intense FBI scrutiny and

emails, confirming that it was indeed the Russians and claiming they'd done so with the "full support and knowledge" of Trump and his team.

A key figure in this "well-developed

conspiracy of cooperation" was Carter Page, a Trump campaign volunteer who'd supposedly held secret meetings with powerful Kremlin insiders during a recent visit to Moscow. This was

come up clean. There was a similar outcome in the case of Trump's lawyer Michael Cohen, alleged by Steele to have attended secret meetings with Putin operatives in Prague. Cohen was able to prove he had never been there or done that. A third alleged conspirator, a Russian alleged to have participated in intelligence hacks, sued Steele for libel. Forced to respond, Steele explained that his dossier consisted of bits of "raw" and "unverified" gossip never intended for public consumption. Seems odd that Steele didn't mention this while he was briefing news organisations in the run-up to the election, hoping they'd use his material on their front pages.

Which brings us back to the aforementioned House Intelligence Committee memo and its single significant revelation. Republicans on that committee believed from the start that there was something fishy about the FISA warrant (finally granted in October 2016) that allowed the FBI to spy on Trump's operation. American judges don't lightly obliterate a fellow citizen's constitutional right to privacy, especially if that citizen is involved in a presidential election campaign. Did they use Steele's dossier?

This was an extremely awkward question for the Democratic Party, which tried desperately to keep its relationship with Steele secret. But the Republicans kept chipping away, and finally got an answer last December: Steele and his employers at Fusion GPS were ultimately paid by Team Hillary, which degraded his dossier into just another cheap electioneering trick.

That being the case, how did the FBI manage to get a FISA surveillance warrant? As it turns out, by deceit. If those mandarins had told the secret court that their evidence of treasonous activity in Team Trump was based mostly on information provided by Team Clinton, they would have been laughed at. So they didn't.

Or as The Memo phrased it, "Neither the FBI's initial application in October 2016, nor any of the (three subsequent) renewals, disclose the role of the DNC and the Clinton campaign in funding Steele's efforts, even though the political origins of the Steele dossier were then known to senior Department of Justice and FBI officials."

Those are the words that caused me to say, "Well, that's it. Trump is going

to win this one". In the ensuing week, Democrats flooded the media with a counter-narrative claiming that the FBI had indeed disclosed all the relevant facts. Really? Yes, the FBI's spy court applications did mention – in a footnote – that Steele was paid by an unnamed law firm, using an unnamed "US person" as a cut-out. But that's just not the same as saying, "Steele was funded by the Democratic Party and the Clinton campaign".

So the basic facts are now more or less clear: senior mandarins in America's intelligence community bent the rules in their eagerness to sabotage Trump's candidacy.

That hope is fading, I fear. It is common cause in the American media that Special Prosecutor Robert Mueller has failed to unearth any proof of collusion, and is now trying to nail Trump for obstructing FBI attempts to investigate glancing encounters with Russians that fell short of breaking the law.

As I write, for instance, liberal newspapers are raising a hue and cry about Trump's attempts to conceal the truth about his son's meeting with a Russian lawyer named Natalia Veselnitskaya. Their stories are generally accurate, but in their eagerness to demonise Trump, they are as usual ignoring or underplaying the juicy bits.

Here's what we know: on June 9, 2016, Veselnitskaya visited Trump Tower to deliver what the *New York Times* calls "damaging information" on Hillary Clinton. The Trump organisation says nothing came of this meeting, but when word of it leaked out, Trump Sr tried to invent a cover story that made it sound completely innocent, which it wasn't. Intercepted emails proved that Trump Jr was told Veselnitskaya was coming to dish dirt on Hillary, to which he responded, yes please.

But if you pull the camera back, some fascinating new elements emerge. On her way to Trump Tower, Veselnitskaya was spotted at a federal courthouse in the company of Glenn Simpson, founder of Fusion GPS, who was at that moment deeply engaged in his company's campaign to nail Trump on behalf of Team Hillary. Accompanying them was a flamboyant Russian-American named Rinat Akhmetshin, widely suspected of being a Russian spy. The Russians and Simpson were engaged in a joint

campaign to free Putin and his cronies of sanctions that restrict their ability to travel or bank in the United States.

After the courthouse meeting, Akhmetshin escorted Veselnitskaya to Trump Tower for her fateful meeting with Donald Jr. And when it was done, they all went out to dinner with Fusion's Glenn Simpson. (Again! It was their second dinner in three days.)

Simpson says he had no idea what his Russian chums were up to. I say, aw, c'mon. Team Hillary was secretly paying Simpson to prove that Trump was colluding with Putin. And there he was, slamming back the vodka with a real Putin insider and a suspected Russian spy who'd just done exactly that – or at least attempted it – under his very nose.

If I were Robert Mueller, I'd be asking the obvious question: was the Russians' visit to Trump Tower encouraged or arranged by Simpson? If so, the Trump/Russia scandal is heading towards an unexpected conclusion: if anyone collaborated with Russians to alter the outcome of the 2016 election, the most likely culprits were Steele and Simpson, paid agents of the Hillary Clinton campaign.

In closing, a word of advice for Donald Trump's fanatical enemies. Eighteen months of sturm und drang about Russia's alleged rigging of the Clinton/Trump race has come to almost nothing. The candidates jointly spent more than \$1.5 billion on their campaigns. A now-famous Putin-related "troll farm" in St Petersburg [see box on previous page] spent .003% of that on Facebook ads, and if these succeeded in swaying a single voter, that person has yet to raise her hand. Ominous predictions of large-scale tampering with voter databases and counting machines failed to materialise.

The US government insists that Russians hacked the embarrassing Bernie emails, so that could be true, for all I know. But epic investigations have failed to sustain the central charge that Trump and Putin were in it together.

Let it go now, okay? Hillary lost because some people didn't like or trust her. Trump won because some Americans are angry and tired of PC blandishments. If it consoles you, you're free to say that Trump won because he represents the real, ugly face of America. Just stop blaming the Russians. ■

Pondo road-building starts without green light

LAST YEAR NOSEWEEK SPECULATED (*nose205*) that the SA National Road Agency Limited (Sanral) planned to forge ahead with the construction of two mega bridges so that the fiercely contested multi-billion-rand N2 Wild Coast toll road becomes a fait accompli before the matter gets to court.

Well, it looks like that's exactly the case. Sanral contractors have already started building approach roads to the site of the Mtentu mega-bridge on the toll road – in breach of the environmental authorisation for the project.

And residents in the Njanda and Ngwenyeni villages, that will be directly affected by construction of the bridge, have refused to sign grave-relocation affidavits, despite having been threatened with arrest by Sanral's consultants for not signing.

The Njanda and Ngwenyeni villagers (as opposed to the Amadiba villagers nearby) were initially in favour of the bridge development, having been promised jobs and compensation for their homes and grazing rights. But none of these promises have materialised, and the disillusioned communities are now fighting the development.

Well-known human rights lawyer Richard Spoor has agreed to act for the community.

In terms of the earlier agreement, the mapping of all graves in the community, their new locations, and agreements with households must be done before work can start. This has not been done, says the Amadiba Crisis Committee in a press release.

The residents of the neighbouring village, in Amadiba area 24, are currently trying to raise funds to apply to court for an interdict to stop Sanral constructing the approach roads that cross their territory. A decision is expected in the coming month.

The Crisis Committee has called on Sanral to "stop avoiding negotiations" in relation to their demands.

"Sanral has been aware of the list of demands since October, but has

pleaded ignorance. With Sanral's consultants refusing to engage them on their demands, the residents have been forced to seek legal representation."

A Sanral contractor recently tried to drive villagers to a police station to sign affidavits.


"He managed to collect three affidavits. A woman present at a community meeting on Sunday said she had been fooled and will retract her signature. A granddaughter of a blind woman who had been taken to the police station told the meeting that her grandmother did not know what she had signed.

"The consultant said that Sanral had told him to go from house to house and to avoid community meetings. The contractor said to Ms Phumla Cabela that if she has signed relocation papers and now refuses to sign the grave-relocation affidavit, she will be arrested."

The crisis committee claims that the unlawful relocation contract signed earlier by many residents, deprives the households of all rights.

Their attorney, Cormac Cullinan told *Noseweek*: "Sanral has not even shown the communities exactly where the road will go, nor have they discussed relocation plans with the people. They just came in and secretly put steel pegs on people's land, some were even put into graves," he said. Cullinan's firm brought a court application in 2012 to review and set aside the environmental authorisation for the road "but Sanral has just adopted delaying tactics ... it's now clear their strategy is to go ahead and build the two bridges before the court rules on whether the environmental authorisation was lawful.

"It's a case about the rights of rural people to have a say in the decisions that affect them. The toll road will also severely affect the Pondoland Centre of Plant Endemism, a global biodiversity hotspot, one of only 36 in the world, and which has an estimated 1,900 plant species that are found nowhere else on the planet. – Sue Segar. ■



**Grafik
THOUGHT
DESIGN CO.**

**YOUR THOUGHTS,
MADE VISUAL**

Grafik Thought is a Multidisciplinary Design Agency Specialising in Graphic Design, Web Design, Branding and Illustration

✉ mich@grafikthought.com ☎ 072 141 8854



BOGAJSKA
BUSINESS ADVISORY & BROKERAGE

Helping shareholders and business owners establish value when selling their interests.

glenn.masters@bogajaska.com

WWW.BOGAJSKA.COM



TINUS DE JONGH
His life and works

NOW AVAILABLE AT:
www.tinusdejongh.co.za | dejongh@yebo.co.za
R265 incl postage within South Africa



Life, love and death. Imagination run amuck

GEORGE SAUNDERS IS A CELEBRATED short story writer, so this, his first novel, was eagerly anticipated. It has not disappointed expectations; barring a few mixed reviews, it has been rapturously received, and won the 2017 Man Booker Prize.

I suspect most potential readers will find the title of this novel puzzling: after all, how many people know what the Bardo is? To clear up that mystery, then: the Bardo is, in *The Tibetan Book of the Dead*, a transitional period between death and either Nirvana or a gradual return to rebirth into a new body.

Of course, that triggers the next question: what is Lincoln doing in the Bardo? The answer to this entails the one historical fact that this extremely fanciful book is based on: Abraham Lincoln's 11-year-old son, Willie, died of typhoid in February 1862, in the early stages of the Civil War. Lincoln was devastated with grief, and reportedly twice visited the crypt in the Oak Hill Cemetery where the embalmed body of his son was laid.

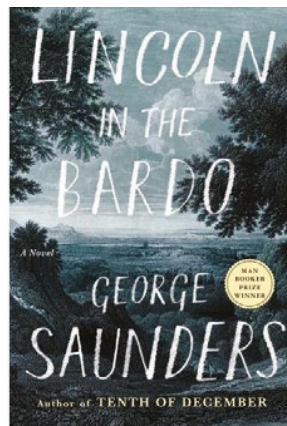
Upon this fact Saunders has constructed an initially bewildering account, narrated almost exclusively by dead people trapped in the Bardo by their reluctance to leave "that previous world", that is, the world of the living. They refuse to accept that they are dead, believing instead that their coffins are "sick-boxes", and that they are awaiting their recovery in "this hospital yard".

They are a motley crew, but the main spokesmen are Hans Vollman, a printer, 46 years old at his death, struck by a beam; the elderly Reverend Everly Thomas; and Roger Bevins III, a young gay man who killed himself when rejected by his lover, who had resolved to henceforth "live correctly".

The strange fact is that these three speaking corpses are very likeable human beings. The three of them take a particular interest in "our silent young friend", Willie Lincoln, and the novel recounts their attempt to rescue Willie from the gruesome fate that awaits young children who linger in the Bardo. As Roger Bevins says "These young ones are not meant to tarry"; but Willie believes that "I am to wait".

When Lincoln comes to visit the body of his dead son, the three conceive the idea of somehow, by "entering" Lincoln, persuading

LINCOLN IN THE BARDO
by George Saunders
(Bloomsbury)



him to allow Willie to let go, and escape from the Bardo. The main concept of the novel, in short, is highly fanciful, indeed not always very intelligible; Saunders's achievement is to make it, at some level, believable and deeply moving. This may be because his ghosts are for the most part kindly and compassionate, though some of the lesser spirits (and there is a horde of them) are distinctly unkind.

The multi-voiced narrative of the dead is interspersed with extracts from contemporaneous accounts of the incident, constructing a panoramic vision of America at the time of the Civil War. But complementing the historical panorama is a more universal exploration of life, love and death, in terms of the regrets, illusions and hopes of these lost (or temporarily mislaid) souls.

A common fear is that they have been forgotten by those remaining behind; thus the Reverend Thomas wistfully reflects on the survival of the dead in the memory of the living: "What I mean to say is, we had been considerable. Had been loved. [...] Our departures caused pain."

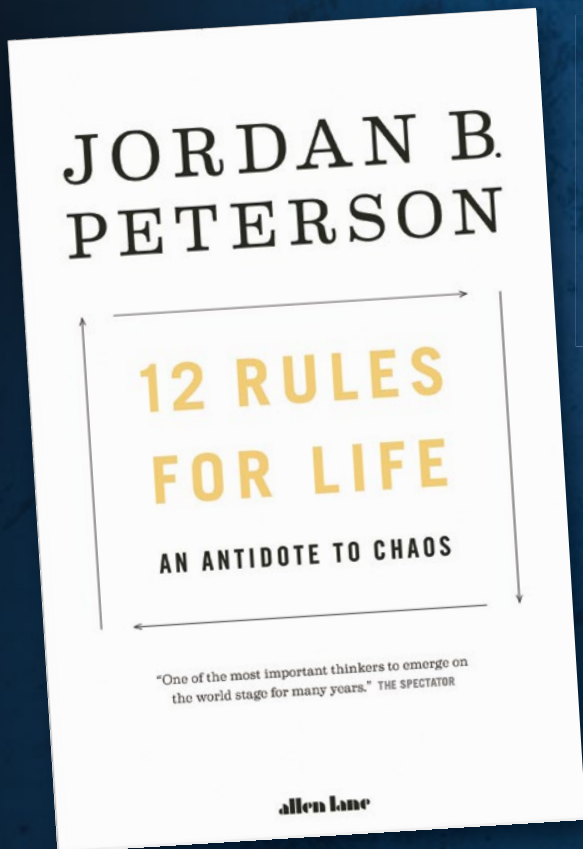
Through the figure of Abraham Lincoln, the novel deals with that pain caused by "departures"; and it is one of the novel's more optimistic implications that through experiencing the loss of his son, Lincoln arrived at the insight that "the world was full of sorrow, that everyone laboured under some burden of sorrow; that [...] therefore one must do what one could to lighten the load of those with whom one came into contact."

It's an old-fashioned, perhaps even trite, moral; but Saunders manages to lend it substance through the sheer vitality of his imagination, conjuring up a world filled with sorrow, yes, but also abundant with great joy and beauty. As Roger Bevins recalls the world he so unwisely departed prematurely: "this vast sensual paradise, this grand marketplace lovingly stocked with every sublime thing". Paradoxically, in this necropolis, the sense of life is strong.

Like all virtuosos, Saunders can be exhausting, his flights of fantasy, as of an imagination run amuck, frequently leaving the reader limping behind. But this is a quibble, in the face of an immensely imaginative and impressive novel. ■

NEW ON THE SHELVES

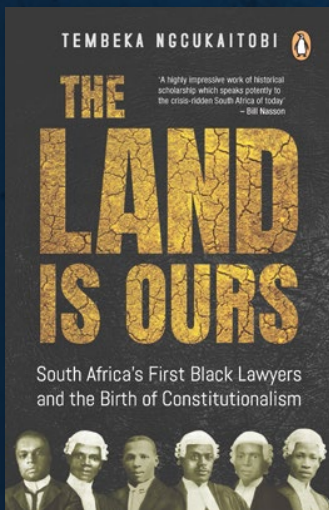
The latest non-fiction must-reads



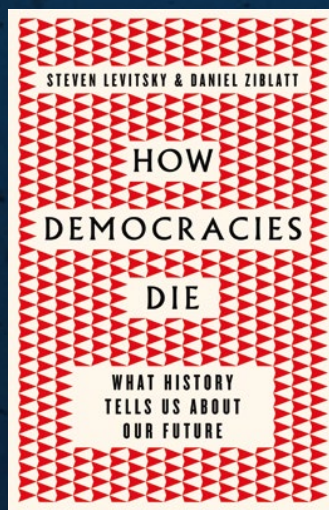
What does everyone in the modern world need to know?

A renowned psychologist answers hard questions with a unique combination of ancient wisdom and clinical experience

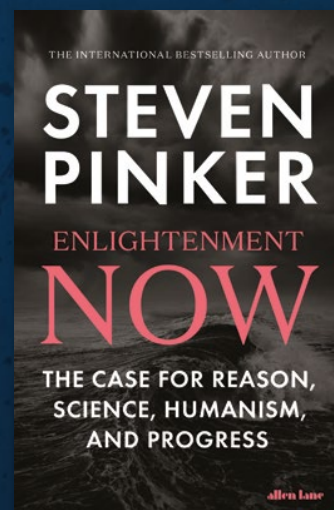
'One of the most important thinkers to emerge on the world stage for many years... Profound, charismatic and serious' *Spectator*



The story of South Africa's first black lawyers who operated in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.



Two Harvard professors explain the stages in which governments collapse - and how we can prevent this.



In this landmark new book, Steven Pinker argues that we do not truly inhabit a dystopia of deprivation and violence: in fact, every global measure of human flourishing is on the rise.



Penguin
Random House
South Africa

AVAILABLE IN BOOKSTORES AND ONLINE. ALSO AVAILABLE AS EBOOKS.

www.penguinrandomhouse.co.za

Letter from Umjindi

BHEKI MASHILE



Radio Nose. Daysed and confused

PLEASE, PLEASE NO MORE DAYS. NO, I am not calling for the end of time – I'll explain my plea shortly – but first, let us see what's happening in the musical charts.

Radio Nose has it on good authority that Mzansi's Umshini Wami crooner, who goes by the hip-hop name Gupta's Homie, is set to release a collaboration with 1970s British rock band, The Clash. They are said to be in the studio working diligently on a remake of the band's hit "Should I Stay or Should I Go".

Gupta's Homie is reported to have chosen the song not only because it expresses his current emotional state but includes the line "If I stay there will be trouble, if I go it will be double".

Adding musical excitement to this release is that it will go head-to-head with another remake already released, by a band called, Umzansi People. Not to be confused with the Village People.

Umzansi People are enjoying incredible support for their rendition of Ray Charles's classic hit "Hit the Road Jack".

And hold on there, nosey ones, don't touch that dial; just when we think we have heard it all, another hit has hit the airwaves. A band called Malema and the Fighters has just released a remake of Martha Vendelas's, "Dancing in the Streets". The group says it's a celebration of their recent album release titled "Stop the SONA".

Yes the hits keep coming and who knows what releases we can expect by the end of this Month of Cupid. You heard it here on Radio Nose.

Now, let's get serious and talk about days. As it dawned on me that we were heading towards Valentine's Day 2018, I was reminded of an exchange I had as we headed towards Valentine's Day 2017. In short, I went into our local Vodacom shop and in there ran into the girlfriend of a friend. She said "Bheki,



where is my Valentine?" I said "Woh! Valentine is for lovers or someone you would like Cupid to shoot with his arrow on your behalf.

"So, if what you are suggesting is the latter, I am not about to ask Cupid to draw his bow and shoot you on my behalf. Now, could I have airtime please?"

You may well ask, what this little Cupid exchange has to do with days. Well, it reminded me of just how sick I am of all these Days we are having. Everything and every cause now has a Day. Yes, I can understand and appreciate that these Days are meant to raise people's awareness – fair enough – but there are still too many Days. It's absurd.

And in the words of Michael Jackson – "You are not alone". I am definitely not alone in feeling bugged by this Day thing. In his piece, The Awesome Column, *Time* magazine's Joel Stein wrote in the 9 November edition: "The popularity of ridiculous holidays is growing. ...In 1996 the House of Representatives passed a rule to stop members from spending all their time creating national days, so now they just propose them, skip the vote and declare them anyway."

Thank God our lawmakers have not got to proposing bills like the Americans or else we would have everything from ANC Day to Shebeen Day, Buccaneers Day, Amakhosi Day, ZCC Day.

So concerned am I about this day matter, that I have been having recur-

ring nightmares in which the editor calls me, asking if I could come to Cape Town. I ask him "What for?" and tell him I'm really up to my gumboots on the farm and can't afford to get away. He says to me, but you must, we are celebrating *Noseweek* Day.

I drop the phone and send an email informing him of the ceasing of my column contribution. Forget my editor nightmare, this Day thing is having a real impact on our psyche.

Not long ago I had one of those great sleeps. You know, the kind that sees you passing out so comfortably your body even forgets about your morning's natural alarm. Yes, most of us have become accustomed to waking up naturally at a certain time in the morning. Our bodies, over time, just condition themselves to do that.

But this sleep I had was so deep I woke up at around noon. This was on a Wednesday. Grabbed my cell phone and called a friend to double check what day it was. Normally I allow myself a good sleep late into Sunday since I am not a church person. My friend said "I'm not sure, let me check the calendar or Google it."

I say, "No, you idiot, what day of the week is it, not what stupid holiday or whatever day we are supposed to be honouring". I think that incident alone makes my point.

OK, they say, instead of whining about problems, rather offer a solution. So here is mine: since we are being bombarded with Days, I insist we include St Patrick's Day. We have very little to do with the Irish but at least this day would give us the excuse to get sloshed, hammered, drunk as skunks. If anything, this would help us temporarily forget about the other Days, not to mention other irritating happenings in our midst, such as Gupta's Homie's "Should I stay or should I go?" ■



Food, travel and design. Cape Town to Sydney

AFTER THE SUMMER HOLS IN Cape Town, it's back to the land of the "loungeroom". Other than a diabolical new government plan for Australia to become a top global arms exporter (almost AU\$4 billion in support to local weapons manufacturers is being mooted), Adani coal mine resistance continues, private school fees have rocketed as happens perennially (they have hit the \$37,000 mark), Australia Day (Invasion Day to Aboriginal people) protests were duly held, and the iconic koalas and leadbeater possums have less and less habitat because of tree clearing.

A dementia patient who had always longed to go to New York had her dream come (partly) true when staff organised a visit from a uniformed detective from the NYPD. A radio conversation on where to get the best hot chocolate in the world (Perth, apparently) segued into a somewhat less asinine but predictable discussion on exploitative chocolate production.

Food, travel and design and the money they require still seem top of mind – it's the order that's debatable. Speaking of design, the architecture firm of ex-Capetonian and UCT alumnus Neil Durbach recently won for the third time the country's highest accolade for residential architecture, the Robin Boyd Award, for the remarkable Tamarama House, perched on the coastal walk between Tama and Bondi beaches. Durbach talks about it "framing" the views, pointing out that it is not always best to overdo the glass when you have a great view.

"Throughout the house there are openings where you can see the view momentarily, and then it disappears,



Ex-Capetonian Neil Durbach's award-winning Tamarama House

rather than being a sort of cinematic view on all the time."

So, back to Cape Town. Aside from a protracted debacle over the unabridged birth certificate for my teenager (although we were waved through at OR Tambo, I was told we might not make it back out and ought not to compound one illegal act with another) and aside from having my car vandalised, and aside from short showers and smelly toilets, it was as madly beautiful and generally hospitable as ever.

No, that's not quite right: a friend warned me of the growing hostility between races and that I would feel it, and he was right and it was disconcerting. I did, at times, viscerally, feel an outsider in the city of my birth. For the sake of the travel industry, I hope tourists, with foreign accents (and who perhaps have a different demeanour), don't get the same treatment.

Houses in suburbs I grew up in are metamorphosing into boutique hotels called Clarendon, Hillside Manor and Acorn House and variations on the villa theme. Coffee in Muizenberg is as expensive as in Sydney, groceries are getting there. At Dalebrook Pool,

in the early morning, it's just like Sydney, when the locals talk real estate before retiring to avoid the crowds.

On the return plane, I meet a lovely woman, a doctor of infectious diseases, from Cape Town, but like me, living in Sydney. She says all her friends in Cape Town seem to be doing such meaningful work and I am reminded of something I once heard that Dorothy Driver, partner of JM Coetzee, who both

now live in Adelaide, was said to have said about teaching there as opposed to South Africa: in South Africa it was a vocation while in Australia, it was a job.

My co-traveller says she does not know how it will be to grow old in Sydney, so far away from her family. I think also of my friend Neville, who says the friends he grew up with were like swallows, one after another hearing the call to leave. And I think of the departed, all over the world with our skills and education and I remember when Nelson Mandela, soon after his release, stood on the steps of the Sea Point synagogue and told the congregation, "Tell your children to come home", and wonder if it would have been any better for anyone if we had done so. Maybe not.

Looking up Dorothy Driver, I discover that JMC is patron of the JM Coetzee Centre for Creative Practice in Adelaide, and learn a new word: preclarity. It is defined as "the lived experience of insecurity in an era of increasing environmental and economic challenges, marginalisation, mobility and social and psychological fragmentation." ■



Eden. Pawpaws the size of rugby balls

HAD A LOVELY BIG GARDEN BACK THEN, narrow but long, street to street, and in there I had flora burgeoning so you'd imagine this was the 100% Fruit Juice rack in a supermarket: Tropical Temptation, Fruits of Paradise, Berry Blaze. The mulberry tree was not one of those miserable struggling things where some bird had aimed at somebody's nice white bedsheets on the clothes line but missed, this cultivar I got from a nursery, and its fruit was the size of your thumb and sweet man sweet, what tarts it made with whipped cream! This was the original Garden of Eden, hey. Macadamia nuts, litchis, everything, it was all here.

And curiously, with the dreadful drought of the 80s I even had figs and Cape grapes, Hanepoot, would you believe it? Fruit you can no way grow in Durbs. It wasn't so much the winter rain they needed but the dry summer. In winter I'd drain household water on to them. The bananas and pawpaws were the happiest; we were allowed one bathful of water per day for the whole family, you see, ten centimetres deep at the plug, so it was really perfumed soapy and sudsy by sunset, and this I'd mix up with Dobermann dung and old teabags and potato peels and stuff and bucket it into little dams around the base of each tree. Bananas and pawpaws you can't really help growing in Durbs, they're almost what you'd call weeds, only these were real freaks, I tell you, the pawpaws were the size of rugby balls.

Well, when I'd got enough money together for a fine big prefab double-garage art studio, I took great care not to disarrange this Eden. Elegant white Aylesbury ducks and fat hens roamed the shadows. Dogs lolled about in the sun. Weaver birds hung their baskets

from the silver wattle tips, jade vines and orchids clambered all about, the scent was like a Cairo cat-house. I built right up close to a boundary wall. And there one morning I was dabbing away at a big oil painting when what do I see through the windows but a pair of tekkies with ankles cautiously creeping along the top of this boundary wall. I silently go to the big tip-up garage door and peep in the direction of these tekkies and what do I see but the owner of same appear round the end of the roof and lean over and start fondling the biggest pawpaw on my best tree like it's the



bosom of Dolly Parton. He's so filled with lust he doesn't even see me. Good morning, say I. I'd like to say he fell off the wall or something, from shock, but he didn't. Quick as a flash he says How much your pawpaws?

My pawpaws are not for sale, say I. A silence follows. I give them to my friends, say I. Aah, says Tekkies. A further silence follows. You can have one if you like, say I. He leans over to the new end of the cluster and

tentatively fingers the small fruit and looks at me. I gesture downwards, he fingers downwards. I gesture further until he's at the D.Parton one. I nod. Somebody's got to say something to ease the embarrassment, and it's not going to be me. He stares desperately around, and his eye falls

upon a weaver bird fussing about its nest. Your bird there? says he. No, say I.

Why he don't fly way?

says Tekkies. I don't

know, say I, he likes

it here I suppose. He

LIKE it? says Tekkies.

Ja, say I. Why he don't

fly way? says he. I shrug.

You made that nest? says

he. No, he made it himself,

say I. HIMself? says

Tekkies. HIMself, say I.

Another silence

follows. Why he don't

fly way? says Tekkies.

Chrissakes, say I, I

don't know why the

bloody bird doesn't fly

away. Don't you have

birds at your place? Do

they always fly away?

Uuugh, says he, very evil

kind mynah bird we got

that side, says he. Peck

out my father's eye. Peck

away same time, one shot.

He clicks his fingers to

show one shot. JEE ZUZ! I

cry. Did a mynah really peck

out your father's eye? I mean I have

heard say that mynahs have nasty

habits and eat the young of other

birds and steal the nesting materials

of Redwing Starlings and a lot of evil

stuff like that, but did this one actually

attack your father and peck out

his eye? Nooo, says Tekkies, he LIKE

to peck it.

Tekkies, say I, please take your

bloody pawpaw and piss off or I'll tell

my dog to bite you. And shut the gate

behind you. ■

Smalls ads must be booked and paid for online. Book at:

www.noseweek.co.za



FOREIGN HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

Paris apartment Centrally located Montorgueil (2nd) Reasonable rates, internet, TV, etc; ljundav@gmail.com; +33 62 034 6710.

Bordeaux Self-cater in historic, river-side village in wine lands. From €73/night. Go to www.bordeauxwinelands.com or call +27 (0) 81 869 2325.

LOCAL HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

Klein Bosheuvel Bishops court, Klaassens Road, 200m from Kirstenbosch Gardens Rycroft gate. Tranquil B & B in an acre of gardens. Call 021 762 2323; www.kleinbosheuvel.co.za

Arniston Stunning seafront home perched on cliff top overlooking beach. Breathtaking position and panoramic sea views, 5 bedrooms, 3 en-suite, serviced; 082 706 5902.

Strand Pavilion 4 and 6 sleeper for week 7 to 14 in 2018. 40% discount. Call Mr Donde (evenings only) 011 885 1741.

Turning Tides, Leisure isle, Knysna Waterfront bed and breakfast; email: Huskisson@mweb.co.za

LOCAL PROPERTY FOR SALE

Nosing around for property in Langebaan or the West Coast? Call Melanie Mouton-Creugnet 079 378 0000 or email melanie@sothebysrealty.co.za

Want to rent-buy-or-sell your home in Somerset West (Cape) Contact Diane at Seeff Properties by email di.fullard@gmail.com or call 082 331 8227.

Looking for semi-active retirement in Western Cape wine area? Consider buying my lucrative rental properties; email: nmwatney@gmail.com

La Côte d'Azur near Margate KZN Time-share for sale: 2 flexiweeks, 3 bedrooms. Call 072 432 1500.

FOR SALE

Tinus & Gabriel de Jongh paintings bought, sold and valued for estates and insurance; 021 686 4141; dejongh@yebo.co.za; www.tinusdejongh.co.za

Plastic pallets bought & sold. (New international legislation for exporting on wooden pallets! ISPM15); www.premierpallets.co.za or 083 756 6897.

Tent Pro cc sells new army tents (5x5m and 10x5m) and dome tents. Go to www.tentpro.co.za or call Philip 082 537 2894.

At 81 giving up my satellite hobby. Large amount of equipment. Contact ak@hermanus.co.za

Midge & mosquito traps Environmentally friendly, R830.00 incl. Email: hubers@mweb.co.za or call 033 330 5341/3.

Two coloured Victorian engravings that cost £31 selling for R300. Call Peter 011 485 1967.

WANTED

Your unwanted firearms, left from deceased estates or simply a bother to keep? david.klatzow@mweb.co.za is looking for a variety of weapons to add to a forensic collection used for research.

LEGAL, INSURANCE & FINANCIAL

Jurgens Bekker Attorneys, Bedfordview Commercial and litigation. Call 011 622 5472 or email jurgens@jurgensbekker.co.za

Alleged forgery? Questioned signatures? Document fraud? FDE / handwriting expert Cape Town; www.fdex.co.za

Lawyer.co.za is a new website for members of the public with extensive information about lawyers and the law in SA. Research the law, or find a law firm. Also available in Afrikaans at www.Prokureur.co.za

Richard Wands Specialist divorce attorney in all aspects of family law. Email: Richard@rmbwands.co.za or call 074 148 5602 or 011 463 4551.

Broekmanns Attorneys Our commitment is your advantage. Call 021 465 7474. One Call Insurance Brokers For free quotation call us on 086 124 7247.

SERVICES

French lessons (Jhb) or translations (countrywide). Sorbonne-degreed native French speaker from Paris. For more information call 071 356 8279; or email christine.vaissiere@icloud.com

John Kramer Bloodstock Consultant with 50 year's experience. Email: equine@vodamail.co.za or call 082 552 6523.

PERSONAL

Desperately poor school 'learners' need your monetary support. Every Rand counts; www.asf.org.za

Please donate to organisations, such as www.outa.co.za, that fight against abuse of taxpayers' money.

Rural Youth Developing Project needs help with The Seven Passes Initiative. Call 044 350 1207.

SMALLS ADS

The deadline is the 24th of the month, two months prior to publication.

Ads are prepaid at R200 plus VAT for up to 15 words, thereafter R15 per word plus VAT.

Please note that multiple (long-term bookings) are now available online.

BOXED ADS

Boxed ads are 6cm (1 column) wide, and are charged at R900 for the first 3cm and R250 per additional cm (length) plus VAT.

Payment is due within 30 days of invoicing.

Please contact ads@noseweek.co.za to book or phone 021 686 0570.

DISCLAIMER

Although Noseweek does reject obviously questionable ads, it can't run checks on every ad that appears in the magazine. The magazine doesn't endorse the products or services advertised and readers are urged to exercise normal caution when doing business with advertisers.

IT'S EASY TO SUBSCRIBE

Never miss an issue...Free delivery...Enjoy big savings

ONLINE Subscribe at www.noseweek.co.za or email subs@noseweek.co.za

PHONE Call 021 686 0570 with your credit card or fax 021 686 0573 or 0866 773 650

PLEASE NOTE: Cheques are no longer accepted in payment.

Apart from having SA's top investigative magazine delivered to your door, you could also win one of five Ken Forrester wine packs. Subscribe now and stand in line to score.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MARCH WINNERS:

Dr FG Beltrame, East London; Mr CR Househam, Midstream; Mr Ray Rogers, Beacon Bay; Mr Rhys van Wyk, Stellenbosch; Mrs Rina Mears, Menlo Park

QUALITY PUBLICATIONS CHOOSE A QUALITY PRINTER

COLOURTONE ARIES PRINTERS OF CHOICE

For all your printing, packaging and display requirements
contact colourtone aries on 021 929 6700 or

www.colourtonearies.co.za

info@colourtonearies.co.za



@colourtonearies



Colourtone Aries



COLOURTONE ARIES

print | packaging | display

