

We Celebrate a Special Occasion



Staff and friends recently celebrated the sixty-fifth birthday of our senior partner Les Masterson.

Money Talks - Understanding Collections

The Barnard Gallery in Newlands was the perfect venue for our recent talk on the Collections Process delivered by Aggie Rudy, a partner at Pincus Matz & Marquard. It certainly was an event not to be missed, as can be seen by these social photos! Well done!

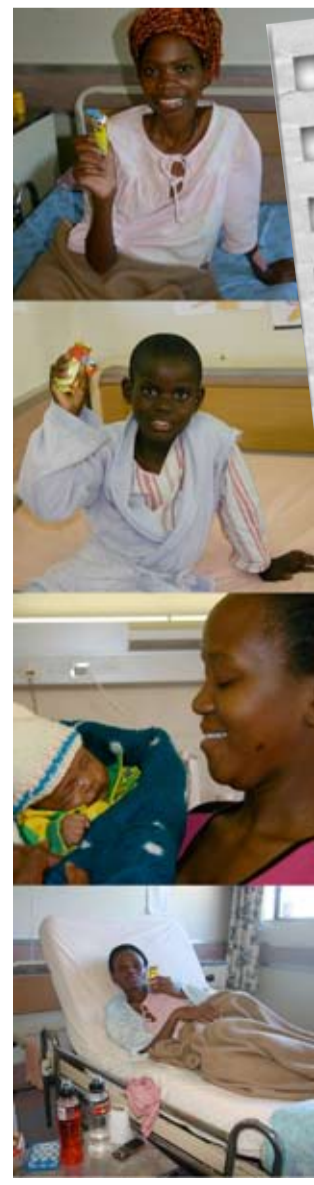


We have the Tools to Help you to the Top



Pincus Matz & Marquard took part in the 2011 Business Women's Showcase. Seen manning our stand which promoted our business services, is Matina Angeliniadis. Our theme depicted that we have the expertise to help you up the ladder of success, from financial planning to contracts and debt collections. The ladies had a great time and left with delightfully filled goodie bags.

Special Thanks



Dear Melanie

Please pass on our enormous thanks to everyone who contributed to the Easter Egg Drive for Zithulele. Some of our volunteers and Emma enjoyed playing Easter Bunny on Easter Sunday. We gave an Easter egg or two to every patient in the hospital and all the staff members on duty and lovely woollen hats to all the children in the paediatric ward and the new babies in maternity.

Easter is a big family holiday here, so it was really good to see smiles on the faces of patients and staff who had to be away from theirs over the Easter weekend.

Thank you for a wonderful idea and for making the effort to do something fun for people so far away who often battle to put enough food on their tables let alone afford luxuries like chocolate! Thanks also for all the beautiful clothes. We will be distributing them to the neediest families in the area through the local church and nutrition programme.

We are so grateful for your generosity.

Regards
Sally le Roux



Happy Birthday!



This month saw Kerith Chetty, Les Masterson and Laverne Nolan celebrating their birthdays with us at a special Autumn-themed party.

MATINA ANGELINIADIS INTERVIEWS



LES MASTERSON

Senior Partner at Pincus Matz & Marquard

Les Masterson started at the old Pincus Matz and Feinberg in 1975 and became a partner in 1978 with Gerald Osrin, Billy Horwitz, Jack Ginsberg, Adrian Watermeyer and Mike Ellet. At the time they were considered to be 'country' attorneys who closed on Wednesday afternoons and worked on Saturday mornings. The firm had a slight 'country' feel in that they were relaxed, did not have to deal with traffic and parking and worked in a laid-back environment but was big enough to take on meaningful work which made them feel like 'city attorneys'. The firm always had competent lawyers who were honest, hard-working and very importantly were held in high esteem by the Law Society and legal fraternity.

There were two branches when Les joined and he saw it grow to four with more than ten partners and then saw it shrink to one office with two partners. The ethos at the firm however always remained — striving for excellence and loyalty.

Interestingly, the firm was always male orientated but today it is predominantly female.

Pincus Matz & Marquard, according to Les, is bigger than the people. Credit must be given to the founding members who set the tone that has lasted more than 80 years.

Les studied law on the recommendation of a popular career guidance advisor, Clifford Askew and followed in the footsteps of his friend John Watson. If he had not pursued a career in law Les would have chosen teaching; probably History and coaching sport at a boys' school.

He served his articles at Epstein and Epstein and considers Eric Liefeld of the old Silberbauers to have been a huge influence on, and role model to him. He regarded him to be an honourable and competent attorney who was in fact his examiner for the admissions exam. He is most grateful to him for conducting the oral examination in the banking hall of the then UBS instead of on the tenth floor (some of you might know that Les suffers from acrophobia). Les was humbled by the fact that a leading lawyer at the time was prepared to meet him downstairs.

Three of Les's most memorable cases involve High court litigation. The most recent was a particularly difficult and complicated divorce that was settled in his client's favour after battling it out for three years. Another was a case he was involved in approximately ten years ago where our client sued for a large amount of money for architects' models of a free trade zone in Korea. Fortunately the client was successful and recovered all his fees. Another case was fought in the Pietermaritzburg High Court and involved a disputed will deposited by a blind testator who did not sign the second page of his will. Again the action was successful and the court ordered the Master of the High Court to accept the will in its imperfect form.

Les's advice to aspiring young lawyers is to always be meticulous in checking any work that leaves your desk. What you do or do not say in your communications has a meaning and consequences. Pay attention to detail and realise that you can never stop learning.

On a personal level, Les is married to the lovely Jenifer and they have two talented, successful daughters and three delightful grandchildren Emma, Johan and newly born David Leslie. His family is his most valued possession.

For relaxation Les enjoys going to the gym and sitting in the sauna, gardening and braaing on his patio and walking and swimming in the sea at Betty's Bay.

When asked to describe his best characteristics, Les said he is "patient and thorough to a fault".

Les recently celebrated his sixty-fifth birthday. He is the senior partner at Pincus Matz & Marquard, and the newer partners and staff value his patience and sincerity. We have all learned much from this outstanding gentleman, and consider ourselves richer for being able to work with him.