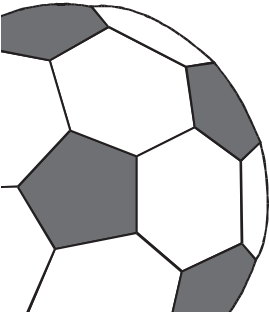




LAW  
LETTER  
*Supplement*  
June 2010



FAIRBRIDGES  
ATTORNEYS  
EST 1812



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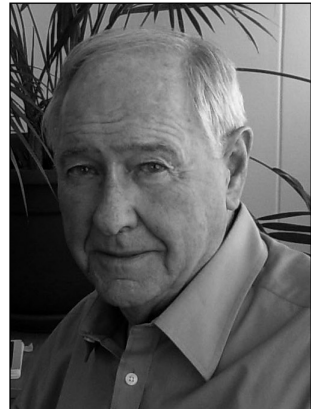
## **Practice Manager**

Rob Kirkby



## ■ *Half a Century at Fairbridges*

CONGRATULATIONS to Tony Hardy who this year celebrates the remarkable milestone of 50 continuous years at Fairbridges. Tony joined us in 1960 and is still going strong as a Senior Consultant in our commercial and tax department. Fairbridges owes an enormous debt of gratitude to Tony for his exceptional contribution to the profession.



After obtaining the degrees of BA LLB at the University of Cape Town, and serving his articles at Fairbridges, he was admitted as an attorney in 1962 and later as a notary public. His ability, intelligence and energy were soon recognised and in 1965 he became a partner of the firm. In 1989 he was appointed Senior Partner, a position he successfully embraced with his natural leadership skills for 16 years until he voluntarily stepped down in 2005 to become a Senior Consultant. In his mid-50s, Tony went back to his books and demonstrated his intellectual and academic powers, graduating with a LLM in Tax from the University of Cape Town in 1994.

In 1984, having served on various committees and as an alternate councillor of the Cape Law Society and an examiner for the attorneys' practical entrance exam, he was elected to the Council where he served with distinction until 1996. He became Vice-President of the Cape Law Society in 1988 and served as President from October 1989 until October 1991. In doing so, he followed in the footsteps of Charles Fairbridge, who was the first President of the Law Society of the Cape of Good Hope.

Tony then served a full term as President of the Association of Law Societies of South Africa, representing the profession with dignity, professionalism and personal charm both in South Africa and abroad. His sure touch and stature as one of South Africa's foremost lawyers was acclaimed many times during a difficult period in the development of this country. He has chaired various seminars on legal education for the profession, delivered numbers of lectures on legal subject matters and attended international bar association meetings abroad.

As a commercial lawyer, Tony's legal skills, breadth of knowledge, vast experience, meticulous attention to detail and drafting skills, are legendary. He has dealt with virtually every aspect of commercial law including mergers and acquisitions, tax and estate planning, company law, corporate restructures, foreign trade law, competition law and intellectual property. Throughout his long career he has been an exemplary member of the legal profession, acting in a modest, courteous and respectful way with a fine sense of humour and great enjoyment in the challenge of the practice of law. He has always kept himself physically fit, playing an excellent round of golf, great game of tennis, hiking, and participating in the annual Argus Pick 'n Pay Cycle Tour, picking up almost 20 finisher's medals. He is a devoted family man and he and his charming wife, Lynne, have two sons and two daughters, and are also proud grandparents.

We who have worked closely with Tony for so long consider it a privilege to have had the opportunity of seeing at first hand his remarkably fresh, innovative and constructive approach. We wish him well on achieving his half-century!



## ■ *Setting up the System*

"IF YOU were to ask a corporate lawyer, when does the litigation process start, the corporate lawyer would say, when the lawsuit is filed. The trial lawyer would say, not at all. It starts when judges are appointed, and when laws are made."

– *Steven B. Hantler, Chairman of the American Justice Partnership*  
(New York Times, June 2008).



## ■ *One plus One is Two*

"I WOULD have liked to have been an advocate. I like logical argument."

– *Premier of the Western Cape, and leader of the Democratic Alliance,*  
*Helen Zille (2010).*



## ■ *Advocates Speak Out*

“THE Bar as the professional association of forensic lawyers has a vital role to uphold professional standards and ethics, to protect its members from improper restrictions and infringements, to provide legal services to all in need of them, and to co-operate with government and other institutions in furthering the ends of justice. The government has no right to substitute the Bar with some government-run body.”

– *Patric M. Mtshaulana SC,*  
*Chair of the General Council of the Bar of South Africa (December 2009).*



## ■ *Serving a Purpose*

“ANY LAW that is broken too often is bad; it is the legislator’s job to abolish it or change it, so that the disrespect into which it has fallen will not spread to other more just laws.”

– *Marguerite Yourcenar.*



## ■ *All is not well*

“RACISM, sexism and homophobia as well as class prejudice within the legal profession are indisputable and must be addressed without fear but with dignity. For young black and women lawyers, especially those from working class universities, emphasis must be placed on access to quality teaching, legal texts and a commitment from the commercial private sector to provide support to all law students.”

– *Zackie Achmat and Mandla Majola*  
*of the Treatment Action Campaign (July 2009).*



## ■ *What the People Expect*

“FOR ITS efficacy, the judiciary depends not only on a thorough knowledge of the law, but also on its integrity, dignity and honesty.”

– *President of Azapo, Mosibudi Mangena (September 2009).*



## ■ *Flame of Freedom*

“LIBERTY lies in the hearts of men and women; when it dies there, no constitution, no law, no court can save it.”

– *US jurist Learned Hand (1872 – 1961).*

Law Letter is a complimentary service to our clients. Should you wish to receive Law Letter regularly, or if you have changed your address, or if you no longer wish to receive Law Letter, please let us know. Any suggestions or comment on Law Letter will be welcomed!

Please contact Bronwen Reid at telephone 021 405 7300 or fax 021 419 5135.

- Winner of the *Professional Management Review (PMR) Diamond Arrow Awards* for 2009 and 2010 as the best law firm in its category in South Africa.



- 16th Floor Main Tower Standard Bank Centre  
Heerengracht Cape Town 8001  
P O Box 536 Cape Town 8000 South Africa  
Tel: +27 21 405 7300 | Telefax: +27 21 419 5135

- 1st Floor Thrupps Illovo Centre  
204 Oxford Road Illovo 2196 Gauteng  
P O Box 55277 Northlands 2116 South Africa  
Tel: +27 11 268 0250 | Telefax: +27 11 268 0254

attorneys@fairbridges.co.za | www.fairbridges.co.za

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