



Schedule of Lectures February to November 2019

Venue: RJM Hall, Randjes Estate,

6 Randjeslaagte Road, Highlands North. 26.14S 28.09E

Tea and coffee are served at 09:30. The lecture starts at 10:00

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Date	Speaker	Title	Blurb
12 February	Professor Gladwyn Leiman Formerly Director of the Cytopathology Department at the University of Vermont in Burlington, USA. Now retired, she pursues her passion for Holocaust studies.	Holocaust Journeys	Gladwyn Leiman is a retired Professor of Pathology, with a long term additional interest in Holocaust history. For the last twenty years, she has travelled extensively to Holocaust memorial sites in Israel, Eastern Europe, China and the USA. Her lecture covers the main course of the Holocaust, and searches for meaning in its memorials and its art.
12 March	Owen Hendry Author and Educationalist	The Plight of the Rhino: Lies, Myths and the Truth	The global rhino population is in imminent danger of extinction. This talk focuses on: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. South Africa's rhino populations 2. South Africa's special responsibility to save the species 3. The lies that have been told, and the mythology that has been created, to obscure the real facts about rhino-horn poaching in South Africa 4. The corrupt role of the South African government and other public agencies in the international rhino-horn trade 5. Conservation strategies being applied The presentation will consist of a talk with limited PowerPoint support. Illustrations will be used, but there will be no horror-photographs of slaughtered animals.

<p>9 April</p>	<p>Prof Adam Habib Vice Chancellor of the University of the Witwatersrand.</p>	<p>State of the Nation and the 2019 elections</p>	<p>As we approach the 2019 elections it is an important time to reflect on the state of our nation. Over the past 18 months we have seen the collapse of the Zupta empire and the 'new dawn' of Cyril Ramaphosa but the State Capture Inquiry is demonstrating just how deep the rot is within government structures. Every election there is a belief that there will be some seismic shift in support but are our opposition parties building enough support and are they the right solution for South Africa? Will we see coalitions form in the provinces? What will this mean for the ANC? These are important questions to reflect upon as we head towards the elections.</p>
<p>14 May</p>	<p>Rajeshree Mahabeer National Health Laboratory Services Manager of the Genographic Project.</p>	<p>An ancient phenomenon: Human Migration: A perspective using DNA</p>	<p>This is a journey of how our ancestors migrated out of Africa and populated the world as illustrated by our DNA. The story of ancient human migration is complex. Mitochondrial and Y chromosome DNA can provide evidence for population origin in Africa and migration into the world. It can also provide individuals with an insight into their maternal and paternal ancestral lineages. Humans have thrived and populated the entire planet. When our distant ancestors explored and settled into Europe and Asia, at least two other species of hominid relatives, Neanderthals and Denisovans, are believed to have inhabited the Eurasian continents. Our ancestors encountered the Neanderthals and interbred, resulting in a small amount of Neanderthal DNA being introduced into the modern human gene pool. Why then did the Neanderthals disappear? Similarly, what happened to the Denisovan cousins? Did we have a role in their extinction?</p>
<p>11 June</p>	<p>Richard Steyn In retirement, writer and book reviewer. Previously: Attorney, Natal Supreme Court; Editor, Natal Witness; Editor in Chief, The Star Newspapers.</p>	<p>Louis Botha: 100 Years On</p>	<p>A century after Louis Botha's death, the author of 'A Man Apart' explains why our first prime minister inspired such admiration around the world but aroused such animosity among those who once revered him.</p>

13 August	Prof Saul Tobias Prof of Liberal Studies Department of Liberal Studies California State University Fullerton, USA	Cambodia in the World	Saul will talk about Social Justice as at the heart of the Study Abroad of the Californian State University, Fullerton students. He will also provide some background on Cambodia's history and Cambodia's long interaction, some of it tragic, with the rest of the world.
10 September	Susie Goodman Executive Director Strauss and Co, General Manager of the Johannesburg Branch.	Adventures of an Auctioneer	Stores with a gavel. The experiences of working in London and South Africa as an auctioneer. A behind the scenes glimpse of the stories that make up the intrigue of the art world.
8 October	David Bilchitz Prof of Fundamental Rights and Constitutional Law, University of Johannesburg; Secretary-General of the International Association of Constitutional Law; Director, South African Institute for Advanced Constitutional, Public, Human Rights and International Law (SAIFAC) and Secretary-General, International Association of Constitutional Law. He is one of the academics internationally who has been working on and advocating a treaty on business and human rights and will be going to Geneva the week after this presentation to engage in negotiations concerning such a treaty.	Do Businesses Have Human Rights Obligations?	The focus of human rights has generally been on the obligations of states. Yet, around the world today, businesses of all forms have the capacity to impact on the fundamental interests of individuals. Every day we process much of our personal information through mobile phones and the internet and hand over data to big corporations. It is also well-known that large corporations have often been responsible for major environmental disasters such as in Ogoniland, Nigeria and Bhopal, India. The pressing question that arises is how to place significant responsibilities on businesses for their impact on human rights. Currently, a new treaty is being negotiated in Geneva to try and hold businesses to account for situations in which they violate rights. This presentation will engage with whether businesses should be recognised to have human rights obligations, as well as how to determine those obligations.
12 November	Robin Binckes Author and tour guide. Winner of the Inaugural Tour Guide of the Year Award for his contribution to tourism in Gauteng.	The Mendi	The story of SA in World War 1. Delville Wood and the sinking of the Mendi.