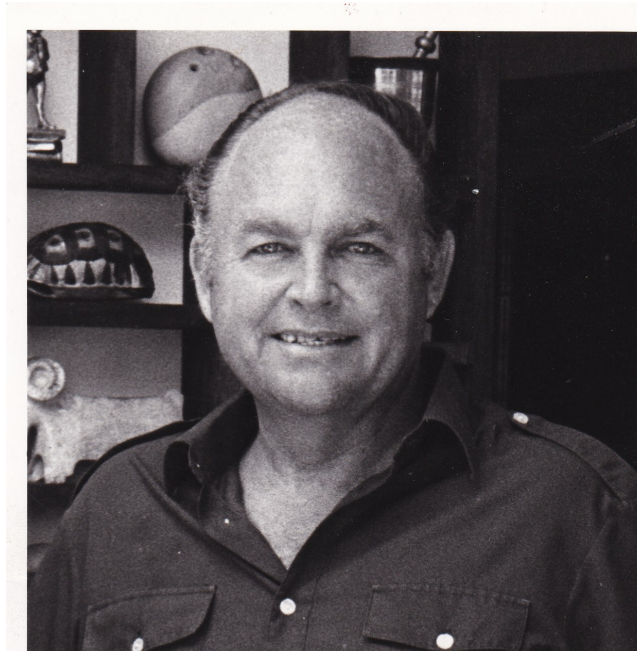


**Invitation to celebrate and remember
Brian Francis Bishop,
(23 April 1935 – 28 December 1985).
He was awarded the
Order of Luthuli – Silver on 28 April 2016
with these words:**

“For his excellent contribution to the liberation struggle and fighting the tyranny of the oppressive State. He gave his life for the liberation of the people of South Africa”.



When Brian was killed in a car accident in December 1985 he was fifty years of age. For 25 of those years he served the struggle for a free and equal South Africa.

On 28 April this year (2016), the Head of State, President Zuma, awarded the honour to Brian and other worthy South Africans.

Because Brian has been honoured at the highest national level it is right that we honour him too, - here in Cape Town, where he lived and worked.

Brian compiled this text for the End Conscription Campaign in the 1980's: “We salute all young people who reject violence and work for justice, because it is only through justice that peace can be achieved”.

If Brian were still alive he would say that the struggle for justice and equality continues!

**Please tell others and join us in celebration of Brian's
life on 28 July at 5.30 for 6pm at the:
Asset offices,
Brian Bishop Room, George Ellis House,
5 Long Street, Mowbray, Cape Town.**

Asset is a NGO in the school and educational sector. Their premises used to be occupied by the South African Institute of Race Relations. Asset retained the room named after Brian Bishop. Asset's Director Robbie Gow-Kleinschmidt will be our host. There will be short addresses by several people who knew Brian. Refreshments will be served.

The Order of Luthuli recognises South African citizens who have contributed to the struggle for democracy, nation building, building democracy and human rights, justice and peace as well as for the resolution of conflict.

At his funeral in St Mary's Cathedral in 1985 tributes were delivered by the (then banned) Trevor Manuel, Dorothy Boesak on behalf of her husband Alan Boesak, Community Leader, Christmas Tinto and Sir Richard Luyt , Vice-Chancellor of the University of Cape Town.

A short history of Brian Bishop:

In the early 1960's, Brian was a volunteer teacher at the Cape Non-European Night Schools Association in Tramway Road and later at the docks. The authorities subsequently shut down the schools.

He played a leading role in the Civil Rights League, the Institute of Race Relations, the Catholic Commission for Justice and Peace, the Liberal Party and the United Nations Association. Of the latter he was a co-founder in 1961.

In 1975 he and Di Weaver (now Oliver) married. Together they assisted in the work of the Dependants Conference helping families to visit imprisoned husbands and fathers on Robben Island and offering hospitality. They cared for Eastern Cape COSAS leader Sphiwo Mtimkulu during his long recuperation in Cape Town when he was recovering from thallium poisoning by the police during his detention. Their home was a haven for many in need.

When, in 1982 police violently removed people living in Cape Town trying to force them back to the Eastern Cape, Brian was an active presence and eye witness to much of the official action. During the fast by some 50 victims in Cape Town's St. George's Cathedral as a symbolic, highly effective protest,

Brian was a watching presence as he slept in the Cathedral during their 22 day fast. His interviews and experience is recorded in a publication “Nyanga – a Personal Perspective’.

As a member of the Cape Chamber of Commerce, Brian initiated meetings between community leaders and the Chamber to build relationship across the gulf that separated people in the same city.

A year before his death Brian sold his computer business to devote his time to support the Black Sash and in particular Molly Blackburn and his wife Di, in collecting affidavits on human rights abuses in rural areas. Together with Molly’s sister Judy Chalmers, Brian, Di and Molly had collected affidavits in Bongoletu, Oudtshoorn when Brian and Molly were killed in a car accident about which questions remain. The Catholic Bishops Conference, under the title ‘The Last Affidavits’, published the affidavits they collected on this last trip.



Brian Bishop

Kindly rsvp:

Horst Kleinschmidt at:
kleinschmidt.horst@gmail.com

or

Deon Snyman at:
deon.snyman@telkomsa.net

