

## Leon Louw's Business Day columns: 2012 – 2017

### 2017

#### Jan

How can Friedman be so obtuse about free market group?

#### Feb

Oxfam pulling the wool over eyes on real world wealth

Hate speech law may well curb all manner of freedoms

#### Mar

Difficult times do not turn a bad budget into a good one

ICT policy matters because the internet will be everything

Definitions lose all meaning when in the service of dogma

#### Apr

Zuma: a terrorist to some, beyond reproach according to others

Racists do not trust black people with full land ownership

#### May

Why intellectuals fall for extreme estimate of global inequality

Far-reaching failures now in urgent need of radical change

#### Jun

Benefit deniers and credit takers cling to colonialism debate

Yet another unlawful arrest at yet another illegal roadblock

#### Jul

Gigaba's overcooked action plan will take SA further off course

High cost of flying the flag and keeping a fossil in the skies

#### Aug

Meme of insurers as pariahs is a ploy for greater regulation

### 2016

#### Jan

Facts show humanity is better off than ever

Firestorm around racism raises questions about double standards

By every objective measure of living standards, things have never been better

#### Feb

All eyes on court over 'collusion act' clause

Land dispossession lives on, even a generation after apartheid has ended

Can SA escape the boiling pot in time?

A hugely important victory for South African labour

## **Mar**

'Health' tax bodes ill for societal freedoms  
It's not about the sugar, tobacco or booze  
Trump and Malema appeal to prejudice  
Is socialism a mental disorder?  
Rupert's actions his best reply to critics

## **Apr**

Both sides in the nuclear debate ignore that Eskom has made SA poorer  
Nothing wrong with values of capitalism  
State capture not only criminal, but can be lawful and transparent  
SA courts make popular judgments at the expense of law

## **May**

Tripling horse race the closest Wakkerstroom gets to being 'wakker'  
Superficial loss and substantial win on LRA  
Bureaucrats drunk with power behind absurd idea to raise legal drinking age  
Later Tax Freedom Day sounds a warning

## **Jun**

Anti-tobacco fanaticism threatens every aspect of your life and liberty  
Trade in animals ensures they thrive  
State's transformation ideas are really blatantly anti-transformation  
Staying in the alliance has cost the ANC dearly  
Britain should not waste the Brexit crisis

## **Jul**

Why do we allow power freaks to exploit us?  
State must face reality of job losses in mining  
Pro-market miracle is not out of our reach  
Leon Louw slipped date rape drug at conference banquet

## **Aug**

Voters no longer 'blindly loyal' as SA heads for democratic maturity  
Why rape and expropriation should not pit us against each other  
Stagnation no reason for Eskom to celebrate  
Will the right to vote become an obligation?  
Healthcare despots march us to a bitter end

## **Sep**

We have a new mechanism to make better laws – but it is not working  
Stagnation no reason for Eskom to celebrate  
Minimum wage is an idea of ...  
Repeat after me: there are no free lunches

## **Oct**

Is prohibition Aaron Motsoaledi's end game?  
Health minister uses illusion to talk up benefits of the NHI  
Yes, Comrade Minister, yes indeed. And once more, with...  
Spectrum policy will put telecom sector back in dark ages

## **Nov**

Beware the 'fascist incest fest' that will be the WHO's COP7 tobacco meeting  
Techno-equality calls for cheaper access not lavish entitlement  
Techno-equality calls for cheaper access not lavish entitlement  
Spare us the farcical forums and pretend policy powwows  
ICT infrastructure plan could take irregular spending to new heights

## **Dec**

Let us bust the myths and not believe the nonsense in 2017

## **2015**

### **Jan**

Smoking gun of apartheid is shooting us in the foot

### **Feb**

Rule-of-law fighter Zuma should now turn to FSB  
Left in the dark over nuclear deal with Russia  
Eskom just has to take a leaf from SAA's books  
Fica is a monumental failure that should be scrapped  
Assessment: Despite promises, first-timer Nene has missed more than a trick or two

### **Mar**

Don't stop at banning foreign land ownership  
The disturbing propensity of error to endure  
Eskom is victim of bad policies and absurd expectations  
Enduring myths are impervious to facts

### **Apr**

Civil control offset by economic freedom  
Government gives scant attention to true consequences of laws  
Purely and simply a bad case of the simples  
'Superiority' of foreigners sparking tensions with locals

### **May**

Constitution protects right to life and death  
Bid to hide SAA truth shows contempt for public  
Delinquent state spending redistributes wealth from the poor to the rich  
If cruelty excites you, consider a council job

## **Jun**

Don't despair at ministers ignoring promises and policies - weep  
Nothing to toast in proposed liquor laws  
Vested interests underlie calls for tow-truck rules  
Packaging row is all smoke and mirrors

## **Jul**

Smart Tesla electric car poised to be disrupter  
Liberty works everywhere  
Problem is too many people are employed  
'Turn on your heaters and geysers'

## **Aug**

Cecil: fiction trumps fact, logic loses to hysteria  
The curious case of Cosatu's protest  
Consumers choking on misnomers of control  
SA's bizarre transformation denialism

## **Sep**

Consumer choice lost in tsunami of twaddle  
Kafkaesque reality has been allowed to intrude on us in form of FSB  
SA robust despite the enemies of prosperity  
Anti-smoker shows his true Big Brother colours  
Why state enterprises will never get it right

## **Oct**

Piketty fails to convince in arguments on inequality  
Nicotine nazis hate one thing: pleasure  
Orania easy to experience but impossible to describe  
Pro-market policies will sustain free education

## **Nov**

Transformation denialism is an extreme form of racism  
ANC denial of strides to change is myopic  
Poor getting richer faster than the rich  
Zimbabwe First Lady's rape stance defies logic

## **Dec**

Are some people blind or deaf to certain concepts?  
The lofty highs and dangerous lows of 2015

## **2014**

## **Jan**

Dogmatic certainty is seldom justified  
Polygraphs of politicians could save us billions

## **Feb**

Nuclear is safer than a banana or two a day  
SAA's new plan will not put an end to the farce  
Onslaught on private healthcare is relentless  
Inequality propaganda hides defeat of destitution

## **Mar**

Paradoxes of SA can be difficult to fathom  
Nuanced observation beats binary imperative  
Helping save power helps to keep us in the dark  
Pistorius and the dubious certainties of fast thinking

## **Apr**

Land clichés give no firm foundation for reform  
Mpumalanga village points way for land reform in SA  
Neononsense from critics of liberalism nothing new  
Critic of bots trade really shows how well it works  
Unions' dire threats over question of law are baffling

## **May**

Gautrain trundles over needs of the poor  
Modi could teach SA how to tame Leviathan  
Transfers of land can unlock 'dead capital'  
Debunking the myth of the 'new colonialists'

## **Jun**

Government needs to do less for SA to prosper  
Medicines rules are insulting to consumers  
Free-market liberalism is on the side of workers  
Sacrificing our liberty on the altar of solidarity

## **Jul**

What will be banned next in the name of health?  
The war on private healthcare is misguided  
Not much mystery in SA's high misery score  
Let's all 'go home' to Krugersdorp (if we can fit)

## **Aug**

Good news presents a dilemma for the ANC  
'Progressive' forces take regressive Eskom stand  
Inflation is the way governments plunder  
Soon water will have to be taxed as dangerous

## **Sep**

Corruption flourishes in hothouse of bureaucracy  
Preference for small business not productive  
Ignorance fuels feeding frenzy over Pistorius  
Our brains deceive us in dangerous ways

## **Oct**

Apartheid dompas still rules on SA's roads  
SA's move from proven market-friendly policies is the path to disaster  
Inequality gaps are declining dramatically  
What has become of Boer racism?  
More than parastatals should be privatised

## **Nov**

Not much difference in who rules US Congress  
Time for government to throw in towel on SAA  
If Jews had less success Israel would be left alone

## **Dec**

Why do we love alarming stories filled with twaddle?  
The fatal flaw in the anti-tobacco lobby's thesis

## **2013**

### **Jan**

Poverty, not prosperity, is an economic phenomenon  
Why is the state ignoring its own power policy?

### **Feb**

Impossible for men not to promote own ends  
Bailing out SAA takes from poor to give to rich  
ANC must shift back to its laissez faire roots  
Land-reform 'lie' keeps Verwoerdian tenure alive

### **Mar**

Cost to SA of unreliable power not easily known  
Regulatory barricade is suffocating our society  
Vilified for trying to give the jobless a choice  
Who would oppose reforms to labour law?

### **Apr**

Is business licensing bill just a bad dream?  
Thatcher's policies could have made SA wealthier  
How the left tackles the man instead of the ball  
Household solutions are the cure for the crisis

## **May**

Environment an excuse to gain power over liberty  
Yet another example of 'rape by regulation'  
Poverty is an intended effect of state policy  
Big Brother Eskom has turned us all into culprits  
Nothing special so far about new economic zones

## **Jun**

Why the rule of law is of the utmost importance  
Exchange controls send wrong signal to investors  
'Ombuds' undermine consumers' freedom  
'Fairness junkies' - be careful what you wish for

## **Jul**

The fact that I am wrong doesn't mean you are right  
'Indigenous' names really belonged to settlers  
Why we should use more energy - not less  
Cops turned robbers an indictment of our society  
No hiding the fact that Fais failed to perform

## **Aug**

If you think CEOs are overpaid, consider this  
Vavi's denial of freedom for unions is backfiring  
Forgetting that justice must be seen to be done  
Landless blacks are victims of state fraud

## **Sep**

The changing meaning of the Freedom Charter  
No logic in 'house arrest' for owners of RDP homes  
Throw off our nappies and rein in all those nannies  
Liberalised markets are the cure for destitution

## **Oct**

Another lost chance to end waste in boondoggles  
The Bitcoin revolution could change government  
Are court delays an abuse of the legal process?  
No 'African Century' with no economic freedom  
Why South Africa's 'terrible triplets' are unrelated

## **Nov**

Malema and Verwoerd are two sides of same coin  
Simple ideas to end the bane of the intellectuals  
Parliaments work better when they repeal laws  
The poor are punished for trying to make a living

**Dec**

Sell-by date of alliance ended with apartheid

Number of 'I knew him' tales suggest Mandela was superman

**2012****Oct**

One man's 'crisis' is another's correction

It's better to nationalise fashion and chewing gum

Labour crisis is a failure of the state not the market

Every 'free' lunch has its unavoidable trade-offs

What was missing from the budget statement

**Nov**

Nanny state wants to take your lifestyle liberty away

Econobabble has everyone worried over nothing

Econobabble revisited: 'hard data' only guesses

Not all Ponzi schemes are actually fraudulent

**Dec**

'Secrecy bill' may just be a blessing in disguise

Power play: economic stagnation is guaranteed