# THE ABE BAILEY



Newsletter # 98 September 2023 TRAVEL BURSARY WEBSITE: P O Box 86 CAPE TOWN 8000 http://www.abebailey.org/travel

Warm greetings to all Abe Bailey Fellows across the globe. It is a real pleasure to be in touch with you again, and to share news about bursars new and old.

## 1 THE ABES OF 2023

Congratulations to the new Abe Bailey Bursars whom we welcome into our Fellowship of over 960 Fellows. From 21 of the 25 residential universities, 60 nominations were submitted to the Trust, who selected 16 Travel Bursars from 16 different universities. They are:

# **CAPE TOWN (UCT)**

**Ms Khanyisile Mahlangu** is studying for the Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting, having gained the B.Bus.Sc. and the B.Com.Honours degrees in Economics. She was the UCT RAG chairperson and project manager for the first digital edition of Sax Appeal. She was a remote intern with the Ashinaga Foundation which provides financial and emotional support for young people who had lost their parents.

## **DURBAN (DUT)**

Ms Marizel Hendriks is studying for the Masters degree in Health Sciences, having gained her B.Sc. Homeopathy *cum laude*. She represented DUT on the Homeopathy Association of SA National Board and also at the World Homeopathy Week. She was elected a Class Representative for all 6 years of study. She is a regular volunteer at the Khula Health Centre and in the activities of the Durban Church of Christ, and coaches school children in public speaking.

# FREE STATE (UFS)

**Ms Zama Zulu** is reading for the B.Soc.Sc. degree. She was President of the Umoja Buddy Programme, is a member of the Golden Key Honour Society, a mentor and a sign language tutor and serves as chairperson of the SRC Arts and Culture Executive Council. She does community work and runs mental health workshops.

# FORT HARE (UFH)

**Ms Mulalo Dzialwa** is reading for the LL.B degree. She serves as President of Enactus at UFH, as Deputy Chairperson of Amnesty International UFH and as Volunteer Co-ordinator of the Community Outreach Programme. As a Criminal Law Tutor she has been a peer tutor and facilitator for 3 years. She was an intern in the Women's Legal Centre Association.

## JOHANNESBURG (UJ)

**Mr Tisetso Khumalo** is studying for the Honours degree in Human Resources Management having gained the B.HRM. He is an academic tutor, the Youth Coordinator of the Tshepo Community Development Initiative, and is engaged in community service and high school tutoring. He is a youth leader of a Christian-based community group where he also teaches life skills.

## **KWAZULU NATAL (UKZN)**

**Mr Liso Potwana** is reading for the LL.B. degree. He serves as Assistant Secretary for the International Association of Women Judges, and as the Academic and Legal Research Officer for the Black Lawyers' Association. As Deputy-Secretary General of the Newlands Youth Organisation he is involved in community service and youth empowerment. He was selected as one of Africa's Top 100 Brightest Young Minds.

## LIMPOPO (UL)

**Ms Tokiso Mamabolo** is studying for the B.Com. Honours degree having gained the B. Com. degree in Business Management. She was Co-Chairperson of the Empowerment Network for Female Entrepreneurs and Deputy Project Manager in the Centre for Student Counselling and Development. She was also a mentor, language consultant and peer counsellor.

## **NELSON MANDELA (NMU)**

**Mr Qasim Osman** is pursuing the MB.ChB. degree. He was one of three SA students to participate in a civic leadership programme in Washington D.C. He serves as Secretary-General of the Pan African Universities Debating Council, chairs the Madibaz Debating activities on his campus, and is head coach of the national schools' debating team. He directs Reach Child Health to combat barriers to accessing healthcare for children. He is chairperson of the Muslim Students' Association.

#### **NORTH-WEST (NWU)**

**Mr Shane Alexander** is studying for the B.Eng. degree in Industrial Engineering. He is a member of the Golden Key Honour Society, is Head of his residence and was selected to represent all the residence heads.

#### PRETORIA (UP)

**Ms Zeenat Patel** is reading for the M.Sc. degree in Environmental Science, having gained the B.Sc. Honours and B.Sc. degrees, *cum laude*. She served as the Media and Marketing Officer of the Muslim Students' Association, as Chairperson of NATHouse and as the Academic Officer on the SRC. She was involved in community initiatives: Pretoria Dog Rescue and Jakaranda Children's Home. She coaches Rhythmic Gymnastics.

# **RHODES (RU)**

**Mr Dagan Naeser** is reading for the Masters degree in Politics and International Relations, having gained the BA degree *cum laude*, and the Joint BA Honours in this field. He serves as the Provincial Chairperson of ActionSA Youth Forum and is a member of RU's Ultimate Frisbee Team. He is an Assistant Troop Scouter and an academic tutor.

#### STELLENBOSCH (US)

**Ms Emma Swart** is reading for the B.Ed. degree. She is chairperson of the Academic Affairs Council, Vice-chairperson of the Education Students' Committee and of the Societies Council, an academic mentor and a member of the Golden Key Honour Society. She attended the Business Management Summer School in Innsbruck where she achieved *magna cum laude* awards. She was a SA National Ice Hockey player.

## VENDA (UV)

**Ms Omphu Nekhumbe** is pursuing a B.Sc. in Agriculture Soil Science. She is a member of Enactus Univen, and serves as its Marketing and Recruitment Officer. She is involved in Vhembe Biosphere Reserve youth work, and took part in the Thulamela Business Forum Agriculture Hackathon.

## **TSHWANE (TUT)**

**Mr George Temba** is studying for a Diploma in Motion Picture Production. He serves as an academic mentor, class representative and a library assistant, and participated in the TUT Top Junior Leadership Programme. He received a Joburg Film Festival Award and the TUT Motion Picture Production Award.

#### WITWATERSRAND (WITS)

**Mr Ebrahim Moola** is pursuing the MB.ChB. degree. He is a member of the Golden Key Honour Society and is Head of Skills at the Wits Students' Surgical Society. He has served the community through the Islamic Medical Association and TIBA Services for the blind.

#### **ZULULAND (UZ)**

**Mr Kwanele Davidson** is reading for the M.A. in Industrial Sociology, having gained the B.Honours and the B.A. Industrial Sociology degrees. He is an academic tutor, peer helper and mentor, and has presented research papers at various conferences including the SA Sociology Association, and is active in the Sociology Student Society.

#### 2. KEITH RICHARDSON WRITES ON HOW THE 2023 ABES WERE SELECTED

Selection for the Abe tour was a little different this year with 60 nominees from 21 universities being invited to an online chat for an hour with myself, Neil Eddy and a panel of recent Abes over a period of five days. About five candidates were in a session at a time having to field a variety of questions on life, university, human relations and the joys and challenges of travelling. At the end of the process, recommendations were made to the Trust who balanced these against the university recommendations and the candidates' CV's and made the final choice of 16 bursars for 2023. This is what some of the panelists had to say:



I felt delighted and honoured to be asked to be on the panel. I hoped that this could be a way to give back from my own most extraordinary tour. Nene Shelter (UZ 2022).

As past Abes, we are all well acquainted with the life-changing impact of the Bursary - as a result, we hold a vested interest in the continued development, quality, and success of future tours. I was able to utilise my personal experience of the 2022 tour to gain a

glimpse into a candidate's emotional intelligence and character - essential elements needed daily on an Abe Tour. Interestingly, a few interviews mirrored discussions and interactions that would occur formally or informally during the tour itself. I believe that this additional metric used in the selection of candidates will enhance the quality of the tour group. **Tia Joseph (UP 2022).** 

I thought it was a wonderful way to find the next better me. Asking questions from experience was the most valuable part of the interviews, and it was the only way I could measure whether the candidate could be a perfect fit. I am confident that this year's Abes will play a full role in the events of the tour. Luxolo Tomsana (UFH 2022).

Reflecting on this experience as a past Abe was such a fantastic way to contribute to the tour's ongoing success. I feel energised and inspired by the discussions that took place and truly hope that these interviews go some way to bring the 2023 Abes together. The interviews enabled me to reconnect with some of the 2018 group and re-live some of those tour moments, have a good laugh and remember some of the goals I had that have perhaps been lost along the way of just trying to cope with the "real world". It will also aid in strengthening the Fellowship which is an excellent network of resources and guidance. **Tevarus Naicker (US 2018)** 

What was it like on the other side of the interview panel?

The concept of a 'travel bursary' was new to me, so I threw myself headfirst into research when I learned of the Abe Bailey Travel Bursary. I found the online interview to be as encouraging as it was nerve-wracking. Being surrounded by such capable and accomplished panelists and fellow interviewees resulted in a lot of nerves. It was inspiring to be challenged in this way. **Khanyisile Mahlangu (UCT).** 

The panel discussion with past Abes and fellow candidates did not happen without a healthy dose of stress, but luckily it dissipated as soon as I allowed myself to be immersed in the conversation as my true self. This thought-provoking panel discussion has made me all the more excited for the discussions I will take part in on the tour. Marizel Hendriks (DUT).

The challenging part about it is that the topics that we spoke about were more related to the other students' field of study. Nevertheless, I was able to express my genuine thoughts and views about the topics. I'm super grateful for the privilege of being part of that discussion. **Tisetso Khumalo (UJ).** 

The interview experience with other candidates, was a lot more enjoyable and interesting than I expected and I feel that I certainly gained something valuable from the experience and a knowledge of the expectations while on tour. **Zeenat Patel (UP)** 

# 3. THE 2023 TOUR

The first Abe bursars in 1951 were accommodated in London House, now Goodenough College, and have stayed there for every tour since then. This year marks the 70th occasion that the Abes will be hosted in Goodenough College.

The 2023 tour is three days shorter than in 2022. Although much will be packed into the available days, past bursars will recall the basic skeleton of the Tour. Two new features are a visit to Chatham House for whom Sir Abe Bailey's financial support in 1920 was pivotal in its establishment as the Royal Institute of International Affairs, and a visit, while we are at the Burn, to Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen. This is a different tertiary institution from the others we are visiting as it is well known for its practical and industry-oriented approach to education.

## 4. NEW TOUR MANAGER FROM 2024

The Trust has appointed Mr Neil Eddy as the next Tour Manager to take over in 2024 when Keith Richardson, who has done such sterling work in programming and managing the last few tours, stands down. He will join Keith on the 2023 tour to become familiar with the travel bursary programme. After completing his schooling at the Wynberg Boys' Schools, he furthered his education at U.C.T. where he studied to become a teacher. For almost three decades he has taught in high schools around Cape Town, except for one year when he taught at a school in Oxford as part of a sabbatical period. Currently he works at the Ubuntu Mathematics Institute which tries to change the mindsets, narratives and practices around mathematics education in South Africa. During his spare time he enjoys getting out onto the mountains around Cape Town, where he runs with his young Alsatian, Janno. He said: "I am looking forward with great anticipation to my first trip with the Abe Bailey



bursars. It will be an incredible opportunity to work with the future leaders of our country and to experience the perspective that is afforded us by the privilege of travel. I have learned most important lessons in my life through reading, travelling, and speaking to interesting people. This trip will give us all the chance to do all three and to come back enriched, to do all that we can for others."

## 5. THIS IS WHAT THE 2022 BURSARS HAD TO SAY ABOUT THEIR TOUR.

# ABICHA TSHIAMALA (UCT)

There's something powerful that happens when you put bright, passionate young people together. With almost every interaction I

had, I felt as though life was being poured into me not only because these students were incredibly beautiful people, and certainly not because I agreed with their perspectives at all times, but because it's a wonderful thing to have another person care enough to want to teach you what they know and love - to have the will to make you understand something foreign to you and in the process make you a more holistic and understanding person...it was in a way which inspired me to dream bigger, to learn more and extend my contributions to this world to places further than what I had initially planned.

## IVAN BECK (North West University)

With a destination so rich in history and importance ... the individuals who were celebrated by monuments and statues throughout the UK... represent along with everyone we met during the tour, be they experts in their fields or my fellow bursars, had one thing in common. They all wanted to leave their mark on the world, be it the form of leaving a legacy or building a better society for the people around them. This is something I found to be quite profound. Something that drove me to multiple hours of introspection into how I might also leave my own mark on the world and people who live in it.

#### JESSE FERGUSON (Rhodes University)

The lessons I learned affected my whole self: lessons of conflict management, listening, appreciative enquiry, consent in conversations, of financial intelligence, of eco-feminism, free will vs hard determinism, the usefulness of coalition government, environmental activism, of the pointlessness of moving on when the conflict is unresolved and can be resolved...in the company of some of the brightest, kindest and most stubborn-for-their-causes people; I feel like I met myself for the first time.

## KIERON BOOSI (Durban University of Technology)

I simply allowed myself to be fully immersed into the experience that is the Abe Bailey Bursary; every day I was exposed to a new way of thinking, a different culture or activity...learning to listen to others but also allowing myself to share my thoughts and feelings too without feeling like I need to take a step back.

## VHUDI RAVHUTSI (Stellenbosch)

This tour inspired me to think even bigger. My life started between 2 mountains surrounding a village, but that does not mean my thinking is limited by those mountains. I have seen the world, I will continue to see the world, and my mindset will follow suit. I will do justice with my talent, I will work hard to realise my potential, both in my profession and in my personal capacity, and I will contribute to society.



## KARABO ASALA (Wits)

I've learned how to be more patient with others, how to listen more and speak less, how to be more accommodative of views that may differ from the ones I hold, and how to embrace change. I've become a better person in terms of my thinking-my world views have changed on quite a number of topics.

## TIARA JOSEPH (University of Pretoria)

Conversations with experts and leaders in their respective fields have filled my pot with a refined/redefined approach to what it means to listen meaningfully, and discuss critically. Filled with new knowledge, and diverse thinking systems acquired from listening to different individuals, their lived experiences, and their academic backgrounds. The tour facilitated the most authentic version of myself whilst concurrently

challenging me to reimagine, deepen, and broaden that very sense of myself, the world, and my models of thinking. I learned the importance of being interested, and interesting. I learned the importance of asking questions, questioning, and independent thinking. I learned the value of fostering authentic connections with others.

#### PRECIOUS MAMOGOBO (University of Mpumalanga)

I am leaving the tour with a vast amount of Exposure, Equipped, and Empowered. I can gladly say that my dreams and ambitions were elevated because of the tour. Moreover, it equipped me with the necessary skill sets that will propel me forward.

## SEKEDI MABATHA (University of Limpopo)

The tour enriched my knowledge on almost every horizon and aspect and realising that I have a lot to learn. Everyone is different and that is what makes us beautiful. I have learned how to travel.

#### HUMAIRA MOOSA (University of Kwa ZuluNatal)

I realised quite early on that the true value of the tour lay beyond the sights (as amazing as those were!) but in the relationships we formed with each other. I was intentional about crafting relationships and connections with people even when it was difficult and uncomfortable. I leave with a fire in my belly to speak up when I want to be heard but also the softness of doing so gracefully and respectfully.

## LISA MSIZA (University of the Free State)

One lesson I have significantly gained from this journey is that I am more capable than I thought previously; this tour taught me confidence, independence, and freedom. It also enhanced my self-awareness and problem-solving abilities. It became one of the most transformational moments of my life

## SHELTER NENE (University of Zululand)

I was greatly inspired by chatting to former Abes and hearing about how the tour affected their lives.

I'm leaving the tour with the ability to express my ideas in unfamiliar settings. The tour placed me in uncomfortable situations that prompted growth. I also gained a greater respect for other people's viewpoints and realized how important it is to try to approach things differently.

#### LUKE RUDMAN (Nelson Mandela University)

I have found confidence in my ability to connect and bond with anyone - regardless of their fields of interest and background. I have learnt about my boundaries. Being so busy and so close to the other Abes for 4 weeks was challenging and I have come to better understand my mental and emotional limits. This has empowered me to know when and how much of myself I am truly able to offer to those around me - I learnt that my capacity was larger than I knew. I am leaving with an excitement about the vastness of the world. I have been deeply inspired by the people and places that I engaged with and this has energized me to work towards larger goals this coming year.

## DONALD MUKWEVHO (University of Venda)

I learnt to appreciate cultural, racial and intellectual diversity that exists amongst young and vibrant future leaders...I believe this tour made me a better person. I learnt that there is more to learn from other people if you approach any situation with an open mind and respect towards people.

## SAMKELISIWE TEMBA (University of Johannesburg)

I believe that the tour was a continuous learning experience. Each day presented an opportunity to learn, evolve and expand my mind. I also felt an intensified sense of pride with my developmental journey embellished with optimism for the future of South Africa. I felt a zealous urgency to continue challenging the status quo as a young leader in South Africa because I believe that change is the law of life.

## LUXOLO TOMSANA (University of Fort Hare)

I have a strong sense of accomplishment, enhanced critical thought, more acceptance and am more comfortable with disagreements on issues, deeper understanding of different perspectives, better viewpoints on different cultures and a full realisation of who exactly I am.

# NTEBOHENG XABA (Sefako Makgatho University)

This tour deeply inspired me. The vastness of the trip, the phenomenal people I travelled with. I was exposed to a side of the world that I've never seen before. I am inspired to excel beyond any limits that I had set for myself. The world is enormous, endless. There is so much more beyond South Africa. I am leaving this tour feeling deeply grateful to have been selected to participate in such an amazing journey. I am fuelled to continue to make a difference within my community and in the world at large.

## ALUNCEDO ZIKHALI (Walter Sisulu University)

I have learnt that, even how diverse we are, when we work together there is a lot that we can achieve. I am leaving this tour with a different mindset, with mental growth and development. I am leaving this tour with a motivation to play my part in making my country a better place.

# 7. GAUTENG FELLOWSHIP RE-UNION

In April a splendid Re-union took place at the Woodmead Country Club for Fellows from the northern provinces who understandably do not have the opportunity easily to attend the November Bursar Farewell dinners in Cape Town, to which all Fellows are invited. This had been scheduled for March 2020 but was cancelled at the last minute when the Covid lockdown was declared. Some 120 Abe Fellows from the 1958 to the most recent 2022 tours were the guests of the Trust for a thoroughly enjoyable re-union. Here are some of the comments from Old Abes who were there:

"It was such a pleasure to meet the Abe's I know as well as to see so many persons from previous years. It was somewhat worrisome to learn that I was the oldest Abe present but the special gift of an Abe Bailey tie was a very special surprise. Thank you so much!!" Jan Hofmeyr. (UCT 1958).

"I am really happy I attended" Maria Marchetti-Mercer (RAU 1988).

"My wife and I had a lovely time and I'm certain the other bursars did too! Your idea of grouping alumni by year worked well - it made the initial ice breakers much easier". **Nhlanhla Dlamini (WITS 2004).** 

"Thank you very much for organising the reunion last night. It brought back so many fond memories, it was great to catch up with everyone, and to make new friends." Philip Phatudi (UP 2005).



"What a lovely evening last night thank you!! It was another inspirational evening. Always a blessing to be surrounded by Abes." Caterina Nicolaou (WITS 2010).

"Thank you for a wonderful evening." Nalize Buys (TUT 2016).

"Thank you once again for the most wonderful reunion gathering. I am delighted that I could attend and meet other Abes from across many years and, of course, see you again! It was wonderful to hear stories from other Abes which triggered memories from my own tour. It was indeed a trip down memory lane. The Abe Bailey tour continues to be an incredible opportunity and privilege for those that are selected to attend." Sharon McGregor (RAU 1999).

"Thank you for putting together an amazing reunion here in Johannesburg. It was indeed a nostalgic night. I am once again so grateful to be called an Abe Bailey scholar. The reunion was a reminder that as South Africans we were selected 13 years ago for our individual roles in society. Being part of this alumni has been humbling & it has positioned us over the years to reach to greater heights. I'm looking forward to the next reunion where we can once again reminisce about the awesome memories that strengthened our global footprint." Geraldine Lazarus (UZ 2010).

"I cannot tell you how much we enjoyed the reunion, Ashley couldn't stop talking about it for nearly two days! As did I, I loved every moment of it!" Tiaan Oosthuizen (TUT 2014)

# 8. NEWS FROM THE 1973 ABES ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR TOUR - THE "HALF-CENTURIONS"

# **MICHAEL KING (RHODES):**



The tour remains still a wonderful memory, especially being exposed to the wealth of history which we were shown by the Major. On returning, I taught at Kingswood College, then at Westerford in Cape Town. I achieved an MA in English at UCT in 1984, after which I worked in the administration in the UCT Economics department. I returned to teaching in 1987 at Rhodes High School, and then moved to Bishops. I taught English but spent most of my time in school management and administration as Deputy Principal. When I retired from Bishops, I went back to UCT to complete a Creative Writing Masters degree, after which I had a five-year stint as Associate Principal at Parklands College. I retired from that at the end of 2018, and since then have written three novels which I self-published. Happily married to Liz for 37 years, and now happily retired.

## **CHRISTO VAN LOGGERENBERG (UPE):**

The whole tour was an experience never to forget, starting with the 14-day sea voyage from Cape Town to Southampton. The highlights in the UK were many and varied, but one of the favourites was the visit to Scotland and the Burn. The various theatre productions were a delight, e.g. The Mouse Trap, at the time the longest running show on the West End. We were also blessed by having an exceptional tour guide, Major Batcock, whose knowledge and insight never ceased to amaze me. After the tour I completed my LL.B studies, following it up later with a Law Doctorate at Leyden University in the Netherlands. My career as a law academic at the then University of Port Elizabeth had already commenced by then. I moved through the ranks and eventually became Dean of Law at UPE. I retired from the now Nelson Mandela University in 2010 as Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic). I still reside in Port Elizabeth (Gqeberha) with my wife and daughter, my son being a partner in a big law firm in New York city.



**FIKA JANSE VAN RENSBURG (PUCHO):** The Abe Bailey study tour of 1973 - indelibly engraved into my memory!! I was 22 years old, and a couple of months into my term as the SRC Chairperson of the PUK. Two impact making consequences of this tour were (1) the opportunity to get to know English-speaking fellow South Africans on a deeper level, and to be enable to look at our country through their eyes; (2) the broadening of my horizons to be exposed to the centuries-old culture of the United Kingdom. An event I still cherish today is to have spent many hours in the British Museum, and especially to stand in front of the Rosetta Stone.



ADAM KLEIN (Wits): Warmest greetings to my fellow Abe's. Since 1976 I have been living in the USA - first in Boston



where I completed my MBA and the Doctorate of Business Administration at Harvard Business School. My career has been in both industry and as an academic (Harvard and Columbia universities) but my passion for driving strategic and organisational transformation - the subject of my doctoral dissertation. My wife Lindsay, our daughter Georgia and our dog Tache live in Manhattan on the Upper West Side. My wife is an architect focused on applying sustainability technology into construction (called Passive House), and I continue to consult and advise increasingly on sustainability focused investments. Before New York went into lockdown for Covid in early 2020, I started a six month chemotherapy treatment for a cancer in my lungs. It was a complicated and highly isolated few years but just recently I was declared 'cancer free.' I am one of the lucky ones. We will be in SA over the Christmas period - hopefully will greet a few of our 50th year in person. Or, a glass of wine in NY whenever you visit us here.



Piet Strauss (OFS): The tour of 1973 was full of highlights for me. We visited the House of Commons to witness the speech of Prime Minister Ted Heath on the introduction of a four day work week; went to Twickenham for a match between Oxford and Cambridge; to Murrayfield to have a look where the Boks of 1951-2 had their famous win of 44-0 over Scotland; had an informal debate about politics at Nottingham University at night without meeting Robin Hood! There was London House with its cricket nets and excellent breakfasts, our guide, the major who knew how to treat these visitors from

Africa. We played golf in Scotland and experienced the Scottish approach of straight-forwardness.

# **MARIUS POTGIETER (RAU):**



After returning from the 1973 Abe Bailey tour and completing my studies, I worked as lecturer and later senior lecturer in UNISA's law faculty. During the period 1981 to 1998 I practised, for about seventeen years, as an advocate in Johannesburg, then from 1998 to 2018, as an attorney. I completed my professional career as director and later executive consultant at Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr in Sandton. After about forty years of practising law in Johannesburg, I enjoy the blessing of a third cup of morning coffee on the stoep, without having to rush to work. Maatjie and I have been married for four and a half decades. We have four children and six grandchildren. When not searching for my mobile phone, my car keys or my glasses, I enjoy reading and a bit of writing (for myself and our children). We enjoy road trips to Namibia or the Karoo, particularly those where you choose a general direction, pack your tent and, without advance plan, booking or return date, hit the road.

**BILL PIERCE (UN):** Highlights from our 1973 tour for me were: a) the time at Oxford and Cambridge Universities, which made me want to study there!; b) playing golf in Scotland with frozen greens!; and c) the lasting friendships made with several of the other bursars on our tour.

## 9. SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCES

We pay tribute to these Fellows who passed away recently, or in earlier years:

Victor d'Assonville (PUCHO 1952), Gert M M Pelser (UP 1959), Pieter G L Joubert (US 1960), Ian Strickland (UCT 1961), Dawie de Villiers (US 1963), Boy Geldenhuys (US 1965), Peter Haxton (RHODES 1967), Petrus van Blerk (PUCHO 1986), Enos A Tshivhase (UV 1999), Eusebius McKaiser (RHODES 2001), and Chad Brevis (UWC 2012).

#### 10. NEWS FROM ABES AROUND THE GLOBE

ROB PARKER (UN 1959) on tour with me, wrote: "Thank you for an extremely interesting and informative Newsletter. My congratulations to the 2022 Abes. John, we had a great trip together and I commend you on the sterling work you keep on doing for the Fellowship." News from COLIN BUNDY (UN 1965): "I was very pleased, when I was Principal of Green Templeton College from 2006 to 2010 to renew links with the Abe Bailey programme. When the group visited Oxford, I arranged a dinner each year, attended by South African students at the college and members of the student leadership. The Abes seemed to enjoy it very much. And I was pleased that my successors continued the booking, for a few years at least. But it was good to meet up with John Gibbon again at a couple of the college dinners." The Abe groups of those years enjoyed their Oxford dinners greatly. TONY HEYER (UN 1965) wrote: "I'm so very pleased to see how the Fellowship has evolved over the intervening decades to support dynamic young talent. It makes me proud to be an Abe - if a little ashamed that we didn't do more in 1965 to promote dialogue."

BOET COETZEE (UN 1967) responded to the 2022 Newsletter: "You excelled once more with the 2022 Newsletter which I read with great interest. Thank you for your efforts to keep us connected in this way. It also reminds us of the marvellous privilege we have in being part of this Fellowship. Reading about the new bursars and the opportunity they have of sustaining the traditions and values of the Fellowship, is always inspiring. What I also enjoyed in the Newsletter is Tiaan Oosthuizen's account of the work he and the TUT students have done with their solar electric prototype car. Hats-off to you for picking it up. Wouldn't it be great if other Old Abes were inspired to share information about any of the projects with which they are involved, regardless of their field of endeavour. It will further serve to engender pride in this remarkable Fellowship to which we belong. The real contribution we as 'Old Abes' make must be found in the difference we make, no matter how small, to building this great country of ours." Other Abes? - news of projects? From London, DAVID KATZ (UCT 1967): "Although as others have said we are "of an age" nonetheless it is sad to hear of an Abe's death, brings back memories of our youthful formative experiences, and allows us to convey our condolences to their families. Remembering smoke filled rooms and long discussions include memorable critique of one of our hosts about East of Suez!" Thanks David for what you do to host 'medical' bursars in London. DON GIBBON (RHODES 1968) wrote "As always, but more so this year, your AB newsletter was fascinating and full of interesting information." Likewise REX VAN OLST (WITS 1969). "Many thanks for preparing this Newsletter and distributing it. I know all the Abes enjoy "catching-up" via this letter each year. What a bumper issue this latest newsletter was; THANK YOU!" TONY FROST (UN 1969) embarked on a challenge: "Unfortunately, Jen and I will not be able to attend the Gauteng Reunion as we will be undertaking our 13th Fundraising cycle tour from Jozi to Komani to raise money for bursaries for talented kids. This little initiative started in 2011 and since then we have raised over R7m and awarded over 160 bursaries." Remarkable effort, Tony - well done! An update from HOFFIE HOFMEYR (UP 1971): "Thanks for all your wonderful work with the Abe Bailey Fellowship. Briefly with regards to my career I am currently an Emeritus Professor at the University of Pretoria, and an Emeritus Professor at a Faculty of Theology in Leuven, Belgium. At the end of my career I also was the Vice Chancellor of the Nkhoma University in Malawi for 5 years." JASPER STEYN (UP 1972) wrote: "Thank you very much for the newsletter. It is an astounding reminder of the legacy of the Fellowship." WILLEM LANDMAN (US 1972) sent an update: "Many thanks for the contact list and all the effort that goes into keeping it up to date. Ds ALEX LUTTIG (US 1970) became an attorney and retired to Stellenbosch." Thanks Willem. Acknowledging receipt of the Contact List, MARK WEBBER (UN 1975) wrote: "Thank you for the continued role that you carry out for this very worthwhile adventure, increasingly relevant in the challenging times in which our beloved country finds itself."

LOUIS BEZUIDENHOUT (UP 1978) wrote: "Thank you very much for your email. It will be very good to have contact with the Abe Bailey Fellowship again. I have fond memories of the 1978 tour. My wife and I are retired now, and we stay in a small town in the North of Scotland." From BERTUS DE VILLIERS (RAU 1981): "I can't believe your steady hand is still holding this ship. Amazing what you have done over the years. The trip really opened my life to the world and since then I have reached so many milestones that can be traced back to my first experiences overseas with Abe Bailey." HANS OOSTHUIZEN (UP 1982) located 'lost' Fellows: "I have managed to trace two unknown bursars from Pretoria. The one is Louis Bezuidenhout He is an interim minister near Inverness in Scotland [see above]. The other Abe is **HS KRIEK (UP 1986)**. He is at the University of Witwatersrand." Your effort much appreciated, thanks Hans. From ALBERT VAN JAARSVELD (UP 1984). "I now serve as Director General for the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis. I will be relocating back to South Africa from October 2023." Contact restored with ASENATHI NDUNGANE (UPE 1986) "What a delight to hear from you. I trust that you are in good health. Thank you for remaining adamant to reach me." VICTOR D'ASSONVILLE (jr) (PUCHO 1987) wrote: "Sadly I have to inform you about my father who passed away on August 25, 2022 at the age of 95 years. He always had very fond memories of the second Abe Bailey tour (1952) that he had been on, being one of the first two students of PUCHO to received the Abe Bailey Scholarship. That privilege was cherished by him very much and he often told us about the wonderful experiences he enjoyed with his fellow Abes in 1952." We remember him with pride, Victor. From LEOLYN JACKSON (UWC 1987) "Greetings and thank you for your email and sharing of the Abe Bailey Contact list. I am currently employed at Central University of Technology and will retire in 18 months." Happy and relaxed days ahead Leolyn.

**MARIA MARCHETTI-MERCER (RAU 1988):** "I'm happy to share that I'm starting a new position as Assistant Dean: Research at University of the Witwatersrand." Congratulations, Maria.

**JACO CILLIERS (UPE 1991)** relocated: "Thanks for the contact list - and great to hear from you. It makes communications much easier. I am currently based in Ukraine, leading the work of the United Nations Development Program in the country." Strength to you, Jaco, as you probably face an extraordinary challenge

amidst the war situation. KENNETH CREAMER (WITS 1992) wrote: "Thanks John - enjoyed the write up about our 1992 group." From the same year, IMMANUEL VAN TONDER (UP 1992) wrote: "Good to hear from you every year and celebrate wonderful memories." "Thank you for this informative newsletter. It's wonderful to see that the tour has resumed" from NICOLE ERASMUS (UWC 1995). News from NIKKI SCHÖNFELDT (RAU 1996) "It is always special to receive the newsletter! In 2018, I visited London with my family and we visited Goodenough House. In June this year, I received a message from Melanie Steyn (UP, 1996) that she too visited Goodenough House. It was good to talk about our trip memories, how our children have grown and what's happening at the moment. During the pandemic, Melanie and I had contact with Renier van Aswegen (UFS 1996) who is a partner at PwC in New York, and Nadine Fourie (US 1996) who is a lawyer/mediator in Johannesburg through LinkedIn. Some of our years' bursars have joined the Abe Bailey Bursars' group on LinkedIn." Now in the USA, RENIER VAN ASWEGEN (UFS 1996) wrote: "Thank you for sharing the newsletter! A very enjoyable read and happy to catch up again on this after so long. My new address is New York City." ZODWA VELLEMAN (UWC 1998) wrote: "Great news, I found contact details for Sizwe (UZ 1998) and he asked that I share his details with you and the group as he is keen to reconnect with everyone." Thanks Zodwa. We are also in touch again with ATEEQA PERSOTAM (NMU 2001): "Thank you John for making contact and the updates, it really brings back some wonderful memories. I will be sure to keep in touch." MULALO MAROLE (UV 2003) wrote: "Thank you for sharing such a lovely and inspiring newsletter and I can't believe that this year marks the 20 years anniversary for our group." Fascinating letter from MARCIA SHERATON (UWC 2003): "It's great to be included in this year's tour updates with the initiative from the 2022 Abes! It's made me quite nostalgic thinking of how this trip has impacted on my life. Looking at the programme, I am reminded of how this magnificent trip has influenced my life. My son's name is Camden inspired by the time in the UK! I live in the False Bay area close to the Abe Bailey site and driving past I often regale the tale of the trip!" Our appreciation to the 2022 bursars for setting up a WhatsApp link for Fellows to 'share' in tour activities. Courageous JUDY SKIKUZA (NMU 2007) wrote: "In August 2022 I climbed Kilimanjaro on Women's day with a group of inspiring South African women executives to raise funds for the African girl child through the Trek4Mandela initiative. An incredibly challenging and rewarding journey with many lessons to still process. After beginning my career in the financial services industry, I've been with the Mandela Rhodes Foundation for the past 8 years, and CEO for 3 of those years." Well done, Judy!



Another Abe who has relocated is **KOBUS EHLERS (US 2007):** "I'm happy to share that I'm starting a new position as Lead Product Manager at Personio based in Madrid!". From **CHERI-LEIGH ERASMUS (US 2009)** in the USA: "Receiving this annual Newsletter brings back really warm and cherished memories. I'm residing in Washington, DC. I've been here for a decade". Also about **Cheri-Leigh** on LinkedIn: "I'm extremely excited to announce that I am transitioning to the Co-CEO position alongside two colleagues in a bold move to change our leadership structure at Accountability Lab." Great work!

Appreciation was expressed by **KAMEEL PREMHID (UKZN 2012):** "Thank you so very much for the comprehensive update, illuminating as always. It is so very reassuring to see the Tour continue after the minor interruption occasioned by Covid-19." Also from **RICHARD CHEMALY (UFS 2012):** "Thank you for your outstanding commitment to the Fellowship and continued commitment to the cause. It's appreciated." From the same tour year, **RONÉ MACFARLANE (US 2012):** "I'm really hoping that I might get to see the 2022 group at Goodenough as I've recently moved in here to complete my PhD at King's College. It feels incredible to have ended up here after visiting Goodenough exactly ten years ago with the Abe Bailey tour. The tour started a journey, which saw me coming to the UK to study a Masters and now back at Goodenough for a PhD. I'm so thankful for the tour and the opportunities it opened up for me."



Dismayed at the untimely death of **Chad Brevis (UWC)**, his tourmates wrote: **MPHIKELELI JELE(CUTFS 2012):** "Very sad to hear about the recent passing of Dr. Brevis"; **KAMEEL:** "Regrettable that our cohort is brought together to receive such sad news. We mourn the loss of Chad and pause to reflect on the transience of life, and one of promise gone to soon"; **MEME MATHOBELA (NMU 2012):** "This is incredibly sad. I cannot imagine him no more - he was sooo full of life"; and **RICHARD:** "This is such devastating news. Chad and I grew very close thanks to the Fellowship and I made a point of seeing him whenever I was in Cape Town. McDonalds in Greenpoint was our go-to rendezvous point before heading to the beach."



Reminiscing, **DONETT (HAVENGA) LARKENS (NWU 2013)** wrote: "How wonderful to receive the newsletter! I hope you are doing well and keeping safe. I still have fond memories of our tour in 2013! With the passing of Queen Elizabeth II I can't help but think back to



2013 ABES AT THE MANDELA STATUE

the day Nelson Mandela passed away almost 10 years ago. Our group was in York when we found out of his passing, we lit candles at York Minster in his honour and we were able to sign the book of condolences at the Scottish Parliament. We watched his funeral at the Burn and when we returned to London his statue in Parliament square (which we also visited before his death) was adorned with flowers, candles and messages. A moment forever captured in time. I have since married Aaron and we are in the process of relocating to Cape Town from Johannesburg. I will still be working for Anglo American Platinum managing their surface rights and land use." 2013 Abes will recall that we sang our National Anthem at the Mandela statue.

From **LUKHONA MNGUNI (UKZN 2013):** "I appreciate how well you have managed to keep us updated and glued as a community. I perused the list you sent earlier this year and it is amazing to see how many of the Abes now occupy important positions in society. I am now part of the co-founders of the Rivonia Circle, a political think tank that is committed to the revitalisation of our democracy. I will be part of a small group that will be having dinner with Lord Peter Hain. This will be my second encounter since the session we had with him on the Abe tour almost 9 years ago".

**CLARA RAVHUHALI (UL 2013)** wrote: "I have changed my surname to Ravhuhali. Currently living in Boston Massachusetts, USA."

Catch-up news from **WILLIAM CLAYTON (UFS 2014):** "It was great to read the latest newsletter and catch up with news from Abe's around the world. After spending two years in sunny Malta launching Bolt, a food and ride hailing app, I recently took up a position at Amazon based in Spain where I head up one of their sales teams overseeing Europe, Africa and the Middle East. Thank you for all the work you put into making the scholarship and the network a success!! It truly is appreciated!" TIAAN OOSTHUIZEN (TUT 2014) wrote: "The Newsletter made my heart warm after reading, what a privilege! I keep telling my wife time and again that the Abe experience was one of the most unforgettable journeys OF MY LIFE, and it made a permanent impact on my way of thinking. Thank you for your hard work in the programme, and also the rest of the support structure (other people and the Trust) impacting on young people's lives in a way I yet need to find words to describe." From KAT MASHEGO (TUT 2017): "It is always emotional receiving the Fellowship Newsletter as it brings back the splendid memories of Ethiopia, London, Scotland and other places we visited. It has been almost five years now and I visited many other countries after that but the memories of this trip never fade away." TEVARUS NAICKER (US 2018): "Absolutely delighted to hear the tour is back and looking forward to meeting this year's bursars. I have recently taken up a position at Ceres Hospital so it is good to be back in the Western Cape and being able to avail myself for the dinner." From the same tour group, RIEDWAAN FAKIER (UWC 2018) wrote: "Thank you for the newsletter. It is great to see all the updates from previous scholars and where they are in their journey now." Welcome to the Mother City to ANNEKE SCHOEMAN (NWU 2018): "Thank you as always for a lovely newsletter. I am happy to announce that I am also a Capetonian now. I have taken up a position as a climate change and environment consultant at a company that develops projects for development corporations such as UNEP and UNDP. It's an exciting challenge after almost a decade in academia. I must say, I am constantly surprised at how much the experience of the tour has prepared me for my current work environment." MIKAELA OOSTHUIZEN (WITS 2019) wrote: "Thanks for the newsletter. Always a great read!" SERGIO ALVES (US 2019): "I am very glad to hear that the tour is going ahead... I have spoken with the incoming 2022 Abe bursar from Stellenbosch and I am sure he will be a great addition to the group and will benefit greatly from the experience." From MUANO NEMAVAHIDI (UV 2019) "Since my stint as a law researcher to Chief Justice Raymond Zondo at the Constitutional Court, I became a candidate attorney for the Socio-Economic Rights Institute, a law clinic for those facing unlawful evictions, political persecution or unfair treatment in an employment setting."

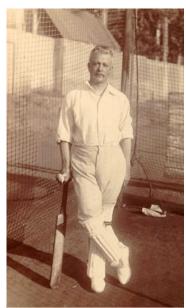
#### 11. ABE BAILEY SCHOLAR AT GOODENOUGH COLLEGE

The Trust makes a significant annual grant to Goodenough College to cover accommodation costs for a South African student studying in London. The 22/23 Scholar is **NHLANZEKO KHANYILE**. Here is her story:

"It is a great pleasure to share my story with the Abe Bailey Trust. I am Nhlanzeko, a current MBA student at London Business School. I was born and bred in South Africa. Pursuing my MBA studies in the UK has given me great exposure to diverse and like-minded individuals who aspire to leave a positive impact in society. As a qualified chartered accountant and former renewable energy investor, I would like to bridge the financing gap in Africa and work towards stimulating more investment in infrastructure and sustainable projects on the African continent. Being a member of the Goodenough College community has enriched my student experience and has kept me focused on achieving my personal goals. One of my highlights was meeting the 2022 bursars and hearing their inspiring stories. Many people may have limited hope about South Africa's future but organisations like the Abe Bailey Trust

remind us that the glass is half full and with the right education, network, and support, that glass can fill up. Thank you to the Abe Bailey Trust for identifying potential in me to contribute towards filling South Africa's cup."

## 12. SIR ABE'S ART BEQUEST TO THE SOUTH AFRICAN NATION



Bailey in the 1890's, captain of the Transvaal cricket team

In 1940 Sir Abe Bailey's Art works were bequeathed to the *Iziko South African National Gallery* in terms of his will, which also provided for the establishment of the *Abe Bailey Travel Bursary programme*. The Bailey Art collection comprises over 400 works, including paintings, drawings and prints. Nearly all the works were produced in Britain in the period 1750-1850, a 'golden age' for these types of painting. The great majority of the paintings in the Bailey collection are by British artists. Most of them fall into the



category of sporting art. This is a broad term for a genre of art popular in England from approximately 1690 to 1850. The sports featured in this art might include cricket or boxing, both established and popular in the 18th century, but the ones most commonly seen in sporting art are horse sports, images of horse races and those of hunting on horseback in the countryside. Other common themes of sporting art include that of game shooting, and the world of horse-drawn transport. Sporting art offered essentially a nostalgic image of the rural world long-past, but this probably only endeared it further to Bailey. His own involvement in the life of the countryside was linked both to work and to leisure. He was a major landowner in South Africa and Rhodesia, owner of a number of large working farms in the Cape and a leading breeder of racing horses. He was passionately interested in horse racing, loved hunting and shooting and was additionally a keen cricketer. The fact that these interests were addressed by sporting art led to his building up one of the world's largest private collections of the genre. The collection was officially opened by General Smuts on 5th March 1947.

## 13. FAREWELL DINNER FOR 2023 ABES

An invitation to the Farewell dinner in Cape Town to be held on 30 November to which all Fellows and their partners are invited, will be included with this Newsletter, containing relevant details. Please reply in good time as acceptances in order of receipt will be limited to the capacity of the venue.

These were comments from Fellows after the very enjoyable 2022 Farewell dinner:



"It was a great dinner and a joy to attend. Thanks for making it possible for us to be with you." **RICHARD AND NOLEEN GOLDSTONE** (WITS 1960).

"Thanks so much for the latest of many Abe Bailey Dinners. What a lively bunch of young'uns. We loved the venue and the food was so good." JOHN AND JENNY FRYE (RHODES 1964).

"Colleen and I very much enjoyed the dinner last night. Well done to you and the 'Team behind the Tour' on getting the Abe Bailey programme started again. It's such a valuable initiative." **DON AND COLLEEN GIBBON (RHODES 1968).** 

"I had the good fortune to attend the Abe Bailey Farewell Dinner in Cape Town last night. What an inspiring occasion. I'm very impressed at how the Abe tour has evolved with the very strong emphasis on the learning, sharing and communication with each other. I was rather embarrassed to admit to the new Abes how little of that we did in 1965. We were 6 English and 6 Afrikaans (all men of course!) with a tacit agreement to never talk politics as there was no common ground. But the Abe tour led to my 2 year post-grad scholarship at the University of California, Berkeley. That really and truly was life changing, so the Abe experience was not wasted!" TONY HEHER (UN 1965).

"It was a night to remember, and the knowledge that so much has been achieved by the Abe Bailey Trust Travel Bursary programme over the years was both humbling and inspiring. I met **Will Bailey**, a trustee and grandson of Sir Abe, and his wife. We shared some jokes, and it was wonderful to meet a real 'Bailey' **Lisa Msiza (UFS 2022)**, the first ever speech-challenged Abe, thanked the Trust and the Abes from previous years, using sign language. So ended a night of wonder, joy, humility, pride and hope for the future. What an absolute privilege it was for me." **JAPIE ENGELBRECHT (UPE 1972)** 

#### 13. OUR SINCERE GRATITUDE:

- To all who sent in news, contributions, up-dated contact details and located 'lost' Abes.
- To Chairman **Brian Figaji and the Abe Bailey Trustees** for their commitment to the annual travel bursary programme and the Abe Bailey Fellowship; special gratitude for arranging for the Gauteng Reunion to take place.
- To Ms Lynnsay Jones, Trust Officer, for her conscientious work in connection with the programme.
- To Ms Debbie Webber, our local travel agent who arranges flight reservations with great care.
- To Tour Manager, Keith Richardson, for his creative planning of the tour programme and his commitment to each bursar during the tour.

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- To Goodenough Director Alice Walpole and her team for their support and for welcoming the tour party to Goodenough College.
- To **David Turner** at The Burn for ensuring that the bursars' stay there continues to be an absolute highlight.

Warm good wishes to all Fellows, wherever you find yourself at this time. Please keep in touch.

JohnGibbon SECRETARY/ORGANISER