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Back Row: Liso Potwana, Rushane Alexander, Dagan Naeser, Tisetso Khumalo, Kwanele Davidson.
Middle Row: Khanyisile Mahlangu, Ebrahim Moola, Marizel Hendriks, Omphulusa Nekhumbé, Zeenat Patel, Zama Zulu.
Front Row: Emma Swart, Qasim Osman, Neil Eddy, Mulalo Dzialwa, Keith Richardson, George Temba, Tokiso Mamabolo.

Abe Bailey Travel Bursary Tour

<http://www.abebailey.org/travel>



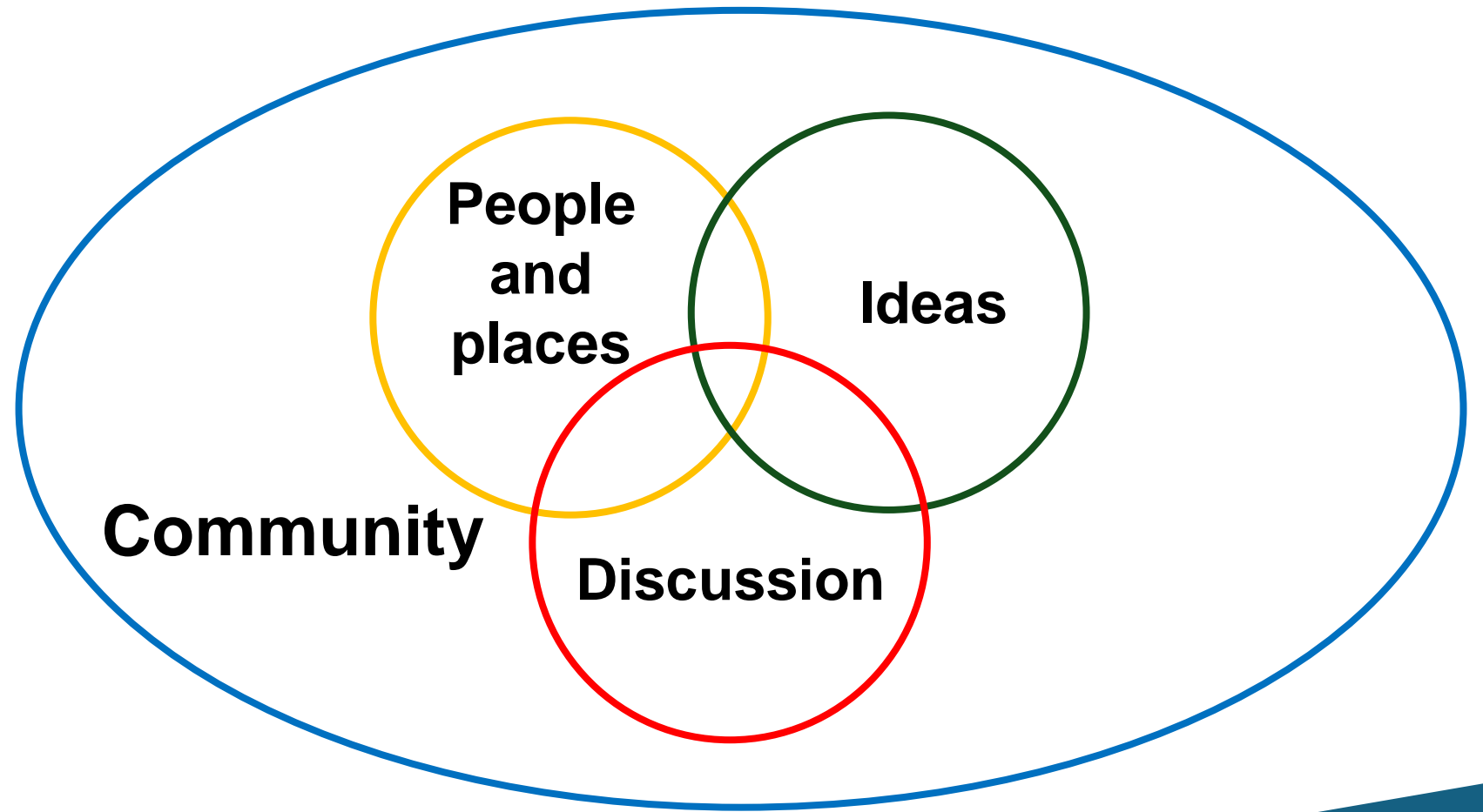
The Physical Journey



London
Cambridge
Stratford-upon-Avon
Oxford
Edinburgh
St Andrew's
The Burn, Brechin
Aberdeen



The Real Journey



Cape Town Orientation

The journey commenced in Cape Town with a session on authentic voice and creating a thinking environment. This experience, combined with interactions with past Abes, instilled the importance of embracing who I am, which set the tone for the entire tour. - Rushane



Goodenough College, London



We had the great privilege of meeting the Mayor of Camden, who immediately caught our attention with her incredible and caring heart. This was one of the pivotal moments on our tour. She was like a beacon of hope. – Omphu



Goodenough
College



London

Engaging in brief conversations with Mr. Jordan as we explored London allowed me to glean valuable insights into his life and journey. His story of overcoming challenges to build a fulfilling life in London resonated deeply with me as a fellow South African.

– Khanyisile



Chatham House

The solutions that SA desperately needs are in the uncomfortable conversations and we need to start having those conversations.

– Kwanele



South African High Commission



Engaging with individuals from diverse backgrounds and listening to their unique stories inspired me and broadened my understanding of various global perspectives.

– Tokiso



Houses of Parliament

The sharp contrasts and similarities shared by MP Florence Eshalomi and Lords Younger and Bilimoria respectively gave me a greater appreciation for the components that make up governance, and when Mr Feinstein spoke on the role of politicians within governance, I had my eyes opened to the roles of key stakeholders within OUR society.

– Emma



Stratford-Upon-Avon

The authenticity of the current and past Abes redefined what humility is. My constant ability to create a new connection every day with the same 15 people around me filled my pot in a sense that we are always evolving with people and that is the beauty of growth and learning.

– Zama



Decolonisation

The importance of continuous learning and embracing diverse perspectives quickly became the foundation of this trip. No two Abes were created from the same mould, and seventeen other different personalities provided seventeen new teachers.

– Ebrahim



Edinburgh



I also learnt to appreciate different cultures and perspectives, we got the opportunity to share a room with different Abes at each point on the tour and through this I learnt so much about being mindful of people's cultures and practices.

– Qasim



St Andrews



The Burn, Brechin



Firstly, and this is a lesson I learned from the tour before we even left Cape Town: Leaders are grateful people. This was shown in the way thank-you speeches and thank-you gifts were emphasized prior to the tour. This stuck with me. I also came to realize that it takes humility to truly be grateful. – Tisetso



The Polar Bear Challenge

There were group moments like at the Burn where we took an icy, stormy dip in Loch Lee or danced in a Ceilidh.

These experiences are extremely valuable in themselves, but for me, what has been the absolute highlight of the tour is the “in-between” times and spaces. For example, when a group of us were walking from our visit at Tate Modern across Millennium Bridge. There was not a breath of wind or cloud in the sky. This moment was very special to me. – Dagan



Aims of the Bequest

To effect greater cooperation and understanding of different viewpoints and opinions among those with various language and cultural backgrounds.

To encourage open debate that demonstrates leadership and mutual respect for others.

To enable outstanding South African students who show exceptional leadership and a strong service ethic to experience British culture and participate in an interactive programme, and examine its significance in the context of South African history.

To foster enterprise, commitment, and effective participation in a common future.
To promote South African unity.



Full itinerary – physically and mentally

However, the story of our journey would not be complete without a reflection on the challenges. The hard work never stopped. Early mornings and late nights reading our research to prepare for the following day, our DODO day(s), hosts, guests and the very long walks – made us stronger.

– Liso

Day 18	Friday 15 December 2023 <i>Motto of St Andrews: 'Ever to Excel'</i>	Dagan NAESAR
07:15	Coach to be packed	
07:30	Breakfast	
08:00	Depart by Coach for St Andrews	
10:00	Visit to St Andrews University Tour of the University Campus	
11:00	A visit to the University's Wardlaw Museum	
12:00	Talk from Dr Charles Warren	
13:00	Lunch in the Town	
15:00	Depart for the Burn Dinner at the Burn	
19:30	Evening Discussion: <i>Role of British Army in the Modern World led by David Turner</i>	



Although there is some fun

Finally, the experiences that allowed us to fully immerse ourselves and participate in new activities such as the caelidh and practicing curling were highly enjoyable as they not only taught me things that I would be unlikely to be exposed to at home but also challenged the group to work together.

– Zeenat



Themes for 2024

What will . . . look like in 2050?

- . . . artificial intelligence . . .
- . . . democracy and politics . . .
- . . . sustainable energy . . .
- . . . educational institutions . . .
 - . . . city planning . . .
 - . . . the performing arts . . .
 - . . . food security . . .
 - . . . poverty . . .



A Final Word

In the truest sense my pot is overflowing. How do I even pack the best 3 weeks of my life so far into a page. My journey through the United Kingdom and Scotland has been transformative, akin to filling a pot with the essential ingredients of personal growth, confidence, cultural sensitivity, and adaptability to globalization.

– Mulalo

