

# THE ABE BAILEY



# BURSARY FELLOWSHIP

Newsletter # 90  
September 2015

P O Box 86  
CAPE TOWN 8000

Greetings to all Abe Bailey Bursars. As I have the privilege of keeping in touch with Abe Fellows, I sense that for so many of you your life songs, through your words and actions, impact individuals and communities in ways that enrich human spirits, uplift people, grow relationships and promote truth and justice. This resonates powerfully with Abe Bailey's vision and intentions when he established the Travel Bursary Programme.

It is a pleasure to share news about bursars old and new.

## 1 THE ABES OF 2015

Congratulations to the new Abe Bailey Bursars whom we welcome warmly into our Fellowship, now numbering 872. As last year, there are 18 new Bursars from 18 universities. This year the newly established **Sefako Makgatho Health Sciences University** is included. New Bursars are:

### CAPE PENINSULA (CPUT)

**Ms Anesipho Mvelo** completed the National Diploma (Environmental Health) *cum laude* and is currently reading for the B.Tech (Environmental Health) degree. She was a leader in the CPUT Service Learning Project in the Samora Machel community, served as Secretary of the DA Students' Organisation and is a Residence Assistant.

### CAPE TOWN (UCT)

**Ms Jessica Breakey** gained the BSocSci degree and is now pursuing BSocSci (HONS) in African Studies. A Mandela Rhodes Scholar, she was the winner of the Executive Director of Student Affairs Leadership Award, and of the Discovery Social Innovation Challenge in 2014. Transformation Co-ordinator of the SRC, she started the White Privilege Project and was selected for the SA Washington International Programme.

### DURBAN (DUT)

**Ms Simphiwe Khumalo** gained the National Diploma and the B.Tech degree in Homeopathy, and is in the final stages of the M.Tech. degree. As a member of the Durban Association of Student Homeopaths she provides counselling to rural KZN youth and works in projects that provide free medical care and health awareness. She recently started a women's network programme for eradicating gender inequality and empowering women, and is active in the Students' Christian Organisation.

### FREE STATE (UFS)

**Mr Stefan van der Westhuizen** is studying for the MBChB degree. He is the SRC representative for Arts and Culture and serves as President of the Kovies' Buddhist Association. He is involved in the Leadership for Change Impact Project for which he was the head speaker to the International Christian University in Japan. He took part in the Reach Out Community Project and mentored a group of high school students.

### JOHANNESBURG (UJ)

**Ms Palesa Nqambaza** is reading for the MA in Politics having obtained the BA and BA HONS (Politics). She founded an NGO, Youth Moving Up, to empower youth in the West Rand area, and is involved in the Youth and Young Adult Ministry in her church. She works as an Assistant Lecturer in the UJ Department of Politics and International Relations.

### KWAZULU-NATAL (UKZN)

**Ms Simangele Msweli** is pursuing the MSc degree in Biological Sciences, having been awarded her BSc and BSc HONS *cum laude*. She is President of the Golden Key International Honour Society, and Project Manager for the Black Management Forum

at UKZN. She is involved in Uplift Youth in Africa, tutoring high school students, and promoting biodiversity awareness in university and community projects, and is Co-founder of UKUSA Community Project in her hometown.

#### **LIMPOPO (UL)**

**Ms Ditiro Moloto** has completed the BSc degree in Molecular and Life Sciences and is now studying for the BSc HONS degree in Zoology. She is Chairperson of the Biodiversity Students' Society, and an executive of the Students' Mentorship Programme. She is involved in health promotion campaigns among Polokwane youth.

#### **MANGOSUTHU (MUT)**

**Ms Zinhle Khumalo** is studying for the National Diploma in Accounting (ECP). She is a participant in support and outreach groups such as ENACTUS (entrepreneurial projects), Umlazi Creative Market, and Phumelela Resources Centre serving the community.

#### **NELSON MANDELA METROPOLITAN (NMMU)**

**Ms Samantha Beynon** is reading for the BA HONS degree in Political Science, having gained the BAdmin degree. She served as Deputy President of the SRC and was the runner up in the SABC Education's One Day Leader Season, where she tackled SA social and political issues. She is involved in the Centre for the Advancement of Non-Racialism and Democracy among staff, students and the wider community.

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

**Ms Zoleka Ndolela** gained the BCom degree and is reading for the BCom HONS in Risk Management. She is President of the Golden Key International Honour Society of NWU. She participated in the Envision Global Forum conference in Washington. Her involvement in the Student Christian Fellowship includes outreaches to poor communities. She contributes to the motivation of high school students for tertiary study.

#### **PRETORIA (UP)**

**Ms Cyan Brown** is studying for the MBChB degree. She sat on the Student Forum of the SRC and founded and directs TheTuksRes Female Leadership Academy. She represented UP at the International Federation of Medical Students' Association Congress in Turkey. She also participated in the SA Washington International Programme for young leaders, and is involved in an upliftment programme to Seshegong High School. She holds provincial colours for Triathlon.

#### **RHODES (RU)**

**Ms Simphiwe Duze** obtained the BCom degree, and the BCom HONS degree *cum laude*, and is currently studying towards the LLB degree. She is involved in service projects including career workshops for high school students, coaching debating and the Ncedanda Mentorship programme, as well as being Co-head of the Christian@Rhodes Society's Compassion Ministry. She is active in Youth and Song ministry in her church.

#### **SEFAKO MAKGATHO (SMHSU)**

**Mr Realeboga Sebitso** is studying for the MBChB degree. He is the Chairperson of the Student Mentoring Programme to assist entering students in the transition to tertiary study. He was Editor of the KEYaka Student Magazine and an Executive member of the Students' Christian Fellowship. He is a voluntary Life Sciences tutor, mentor and motivational speaker at rural high schools.

#### **STELLENBOSCH (US)**

**Ms Farai Mubaiwa** is pursuing the BAccounting degree. She is a member of the SRC Committee for Transformation, Diversity and Integration, the Speaker of the Student Parliament and a House Committee member. She was the Deputy Convener of the Reaffirming Human Dignity March, and is involved in community projects both locally and in Mozambique. She is a member of the Golden Key International Honour Society.

#### **TSHWANE (TUT)**

**Ms Sarisha Daya** was awarded the National Diploma in Nature Conservation and is studying for the B.Tech degree in this discipline. She was a delegate to Model Y20 South Africa, and to the SA Youth for International Diplomacy Summit in Turkey. She serves as a Tutor Co-ordinator and as a Research Assistant at TUT.

#### **VAAL (VUT)**

**Mr Katleho Ralehoko** has been awarded the National Diploma and the B.Tech degrees in Public Relations Management, and is

currently studying for the M.Tech. He serves as a part-time Junior Lecturer. He was involved in community outreach through the Organisation of Leaders in Action and as Chairperson for VisionFr3e.

## **WESTERN CAPE (UWC)**

**Mr Keaton Harris** is studying for the B.Pharm. degree. He serves as Vice-President of the Western Cape Pharmacy Association, and is a member of the Golden Key International Honours Society. He has been widely involved in a range of social and community projects in informal settlements, orphanages and clinics.

## **WITWATERSRAND (WITS)**

**Ms Sandiswa Sondzaba** is reading for the BA degree in Philosophy and Politics. She is a volunteer for Lawyers Against Abuse which supports victims of gender-based violence, and she develops and conducts workshops for high school students.

## **2 FEEDBACK FROM THE 2014 ABES AS THEY REFLECTED ON THEIR TOUR:**

*"The beauty of the Abe Bailey Travel Bursary is that it takes you out of your comfort zone and places you somewhere completely different. You're experiencing incredible architecture, history, theatre, food and meeting some of the most interesting and wonderful people along the way. The magic behind it was that we were always being challenged to think differently and even when we weren't having formal discussions, we were still always thinking, absorbing and challenging what we thought we knew. I felt so honoured to go on a journey with a group of strong, intelligent and outstanding people who taught me to be brave and to be true to myself and my beliefs.*

*We have all been through something life-changing together and built strong friendships along the way. We left the UK with our hearts filled with pride for the beautiful country we are so very blessed to call our home and with a new appreciation of what it means to be African."*

**ALICE SCOTT (CPUT)**

*"The tour opened my eyes to greater possibilities and allowed me to experience a different life, in a different country. I have grown immensely from the presentations on challenges faced in South Africa and globally. My view on certain issues has changed, my thought processing has broadened and growth has taken place and indeed continues. We shared a common dream of a hope in this beautiful nation of ours, a dream to produce an educated, hopeful and successful generation.*

*The tour has helped me construct a new meaning of leadership. To me leadership is the ability to influence others with your actions and lifestyle, encouraging and empowering them to become better people and better leaders than you are."*

**BLESSING MASUKU (UJ)**

*"Never again will I get the opportunity to travel to a foreign country with a group of talented and intelligent student leaders, knowing that each day will bring at least one unforgettable moment. Importantly, whilst the events on the programme were all of a splendid quality, what really made my experience inexpressibly superb was the calibre of the people whom I met. The types of debates which my fellow bursars and I engaged in are all too rare: simultaneously intense and respectful, or delicate and jocular.*

*I deeply appreciated how the bursars were treated as responsible adults, as this allowed us to discuss each other's personal development and our roles in South Africa. I left the United Kingdom feeling that some of my internal conflicts had been resolved, but the intelligence of my peers also encouraged me to continue to engage in critical thinking."*

**CAITLIN STOBIE (Rhodes)**

*"It was an absolutely awe-inspiring, life-changing, eye-opening, and once-in-a-lifetime experience. I still cannot find the words to appropriately articulate the depth and breadth of the Abe Bailey Experience."*

**CURWYN MAPALING (NMMU)**

*"It is a rare opportunity to be in a room with 17 other young South Africans who are excellent in their own right, to discuss and debate issues of our time and to think about how we are going to go about shaping our society. Our interactions offered a window of vulnerability and honesty that I had not experienced before. I remember getting "hoendervleis" as I was incredibly inspired by the tenacity and commitment that we all have in making South Africa great. Courageous conversations amongst our dynamic group forever will stand as one of the most significant moments in my life...Sir Abe's vision for unity and critical discussion for different individuals from the South African context was realised."*

**FAITH PIENAAR (US)**

*"I got the opportunity to interact with people who challenged and cemented some of my views about South Africa and the world at large. In order to think out of the box you may either step out the box or simply interact with people who are already outside your box. My view and understanding of South Africa has been expanded way beyond my anticipation. Interacting with students in the UK, both South African and non-South African, is by far the best mental stimulation I have encountered."*

**GABRIEL MOSIELE (UL)**

*"The tour altered how I perceived myself and where I would like to see myself in five years to come. I must say I owe Sir Abe not only a debt of gratitude but also a moral duty to disseminate the information and inspiration I have gained from the tour."*

**GOODENOUGH MABUZA (UV)**

*"I am so privileged to have been afforded the opportunity to experience change at the core of my being, to grapple with challenges*

to my fundamental beliefs and to experience the broadening of my travel and life experiences. I remain challenged by the vigorous discussions we had about pertinent issues in the South African landscape and the possible multi-sectoral contributions that we could make as aspiring leaders. I am encouraged by the determination of this group to utilise their skills and expertise to collectively shape a nation that we are proud to call home.

I look forward to grappling with the challenges associated with our wounded society, alongside a dynamic network of talented and passionate individuals. I look forward to witnessing how we, as a cohort, will contribute to the weaving of new narratives of hope, restoration, reconciliation and upliftment within the South African context."

**IRIS NXUMALO (UP)**

"What impact has the 2014 Abe Bailey Tour made on my life? It wasn't a fundamental change in perspective or a ground breaking epiphany. Neither was it a foundation for me to launch myself in a new direction. Abe Bailey created a silent shift within me that has caused subtle ripples in my behaviour and choices. It was a refinement in what I believed in and a further vindication of the path I have chosen. It was refreshing in the way in which it allowed me to explore myself deeply without having to create the environment in order to do so.

The self-exploration was the most valuable aspect of the Abe Bailey experience. It allowed me to ask myself numerous questions about where I am going and how I want to go about it. Abe Bailey impacted the way I saw my life play out and allowed me to question whether that is really how I want to go about changing this country. Abe Bailey allowed me to freely be myself in a world where that is increasingly frowned upon. For that I am eternally grateful."

**REKGOTSOFETSE CHIKANE (UCT)**

"The tour challenged me to think of how to translate this experience into ways that I can contribute to the bettering of our country in the light of the numerous challenges we face. This travel bursary highlights the power of leaving a legacy. That your life not only serves you but in some way allows generations in the future to reap the rewards of your work. If it were not for Sir Abe Bailey's forward thinking and passion for nation building, we would not have had the experience that we did. I am eternally grateful to the Trust and the legacy left by Sir Abe Bailey."

**MAPASEKA PHALA (WITS)**

"Indeed the tour has exceeded my expectations in more ways than one. From the vibrant representation of multi-culturalism, diverse races and genders to having student leaders from different academic backgrounds with a common goal of a better South Africa, it took the group itself, I believe, to achieve Sir Abe's objectives. The tour has been a watershed moment in my life. It has certainly forced me to DREAM BIG again and instilled in me the moral obligation to play my role in the development of my beloved country."

**MFUNDO MDLETSHÉ (UKZN)**

"The presentations offered me the opportunity to appreciate the minds of the amazing individuals who are equipped to lead our country to greater heights. To belong to a group of such calibre, emphasised the responsibility I have been given to transcend any barrier that hinders any efforts to effect change, be it a racial, financial, linguistic, cultural or religious barrier. The tour through the United Kingdom and interactive discussion with the many public figures spread across business, political, cultural and educational fields, instilled in me the importance of being a positive source of change as these remarkable individuals displayed. To the Trustees for handling Sir Abe's legacy with the utmost vigour and integrity, thank you for allowing a young woman such as myself the chance to explore her identity, refine her thinking, adjust her mentality without losing her joy and aspirations in life."

**ZANELE MATSANE (CUT)**

"It was so amazing to see such a diverse group of young like-minded individuals with such great ambitions. It was such an amazing opportunity to share our opinions and views in both formal and informal discussions on issues affecting our country. What added to the depth of our discussion was the different view that came with being far from home as well as being exposed to a country quite different from our own. It's those moments of heated discussion that ignited such a great deal of personal growth and understanding our diverse nation. My way of thinking has definitely been challenged and a great appreciation for my country has been fostered.

I found the way in which the tour was designed unique because of the opportunity it offered me to ponder and reflect on the role I could play in the advancement of my country. It gave me a chance to truly recognise my potential and it inspired us to be those individuals who actively take upon themselves the role of making a difference in our country and the world."

**NEO PANANE (NWU)**

"This experience reinforced the belief that anything is possible in life. There are absolutely no limits, only those we impose upon ourselves. It reminded me to never settle for less than I can achieve.

I have to compliment the Abe Bailey Trustees for putting together a fantastic group of future South African leaders. I learned so much from the team, especially during our individual presentations, because of the diversity in fields of study and in culture in the group. We had a variety of topics to discuss which stretched our thinking and challenged our perspectives."

**ZOLA MCACISO (UWC)**

"I experienced a lot of firsts in the tour. I took my first flight ever; it was my first time in Cape Town. When we went to Robben Island it was my first traveling by boat and the experience was phenomenal. Last but not least it was my first time traveling overseas. Those are special moments that I will forever cherish, all thanks to Sir Abe. Getting out of my comfort zone and into a world full of possibilities has been absolutely phenomenal and eye-opening in terms of fostering innovative community projects that will improve the state of our country."

**SINDI SITHOLE (MUT)**

"Goodenough College in central London was our new home away from home. What a magnificent place. Colin Street is a Blue

*Badge tour guide in England, and probably the best in the world I might add! What an absolute character he was. He took us for the most enlightening walking tour through London; history suddenly came alive with his passionate and colourful history lessons. The structured discussions were by far the most valuable experience to take from the tour, to have debated and learned from each other, to better understand how others see and feel about situations, to look back towards our home country from an outside perspective. What a tremendous impact this has had on every single student in the group, and especially me! I never before realised what it might take to make a change in our country. I have had a taste of what that might be! I am now motivated and inspired to make a difference.*

*I owe great gratitude to every person who invested time, effort and money into this tour. To Sir Abe Bailey for making this trip possible. To the Goodenough staff: Major General Andrew Ritchie, Naomi Schulke, Roger Llewellyn and others for making our stay in London unforgettable. To the Burn Bursar, David Turner, Paul and staff, thank you for ensuring we had the full Scottish experience and for creating an environment that felt like a home away from home.*

**TIAAN OOSTHUIZEN (TUT)**

*"The Abe Bailey Tour of 2014 was a very great, educational, mind-opening experience for me...the love, passion and visions for our country are the things that kept us united as a team. The tour taught me to get out of my comfort zone, to be flexible but also to stick to my values and norms as an individual...great inspiration to me to further my studies in the UK in the future as well as to go back and make a difference in my country and my community."*

**ZIKHONA TSHAKA (WSU)**

*"It is easy to become disenchanted with the many challenges facing South Africa today. The tour has strengthened my resolve and commitment to building a united South Africa. The process of meeting young leaders from across the country and engaging on critical issues gave me the opportunity to examine my own vision for our country's future through vigorous debates and personal reflection. The Abe Bailey Travel Bursary also gave me the opportunity to grow as a leader and to test my resolve and talents amongst some of our nation's greatest young minds.*

*A common theme of the tour has been reconciliation and redress, and how far we as a South African society have come in attaining it. In many ways the conversation we had surrounding these themes challenged my own thought. I believe that in having these conversations we were living out the objectives set out by Sir Abe Bailey of fostering an understanding between different societies within South Africa. The tour reignited my belief that true cooperation and friendships can overcome any barriers. I was privileged to see these words in action."*

**WILLIAM CLAYTON (UFS)**

#### **4 WE SAID A JOYFUL FAREWELL TO THE DEPARTING 2014 ABES**

The *Atlantic Imbizo* at the Cape Town Waterfront buzzed with excited interaction as 92 of us--Old Abes from 27 tours, Trustees and new Abes--celebrated the 63rd Abe Bailey Tour last November, and bade the 2014 bursars farewell. Father and daughter Old Abes, **Le Roux van der Westhuizen (US 1985)** and **Helene-Mari (US 2013)**, in a fascinating, sometimes humorous and often poignant reminiscence, compared their respective tour experiences in pre- and post-1994 settings.

Old Abe **Stan Ridge (Natal 1963)** reflected on the evening and wrote these comments: *"In public life in South Africa, with the shenanigans in Parliament and the idle statements of those responsible for failing public utilities, hope has recently been in short supply. And loss of hope in one area corrodes hope in others.*

*The 2014 Abe Bailey travel bursars' farewell dinner refreshed my hope. There have been over 800 bursars since the first group left on a remarkable tour of Britain in 1951. Most have gone on to become significant leaders. About 50 old bursars from 1954-2013 had gathered with partners and Abe Bailey trustees to give the latest group a good send-off. What in this event inspired renewed hope?*

❖ *The sheer quality of the 18 young people in this group from 18 of our 23 universities. They are articulate, well-informed, committed South Africans, active in the community, and able to reach across all kinds of differences to listen to one another. Easing their way is a lively, playful sense of humour. We have some excellent leaders on the way up.*

❖ *Remembering where we have come from. 51 years ago, ours was an all male, all white group. The 2014 group is more than half female and is as diverse as our country. A 1985 bursar and his daughter who was in the 2013 group presented us with markers of how far we have come. In 1985 the group gained their first substantial knowledge of Mandela through the British media - they couldn't even hear about him in South Africa. The 2013 group had the news of Tata Madiba's death in the UK and were united in grief laying tributes before his statue in Westminster's Parliament Square. Talking to Old Abes, I was struck by how much we have changed, too."*

#### **5 ABE BAILEY BURSAR GALLERY AT THE BURN HOUSE, SCOTLAND**

**David Turner**, manager of The Burn House, was delighted to receive from us copies of many of the tour group photographs from past years. He is creating an Abe Bailey Display in the upstairs Sports Room at the Burn House. The Trust presented a handsome print of Sir Abe for this display.

The Burn now has photographs for the following 28 year groups: 1956, 59, 61, 63-70, 72, 73, 76, 82, 84, 96, 2000, 2002-2009, 2011 and 2014. If you have a formal or informal photograph of your tour group, and your year is not included in the above list, please send me a scanned copy to take with me in November this year. Many thanks.

## 6 WELCOME TO THE 2015 ABE BAILEY BURSARS IN LONDON

Any old Abes in the UK who are in or near London are warmly invited to join us for the Welcome Reception at Goodenough College in Mecklenburg Square on **MONDAY 30TH November at 6.30 for 7 p.m.** Director *Andrew Ritchie* will be our host. If you have not yet received an invitation, please send your name, tour year and e-mail address to the Director's P.A., *Naomi Schulke*, at [naomi.schulke@goodenough.ac.uk](mailto:naomi.schulke@goodenough.ac.uk) so that she can send you the official invitation with details about the event. It would be a great pleasure to have you join us for that function.

## 7 SAD NEWS FROM GREEN TEMPLETON COLLEGE, OXFORD UNIVERSITY

Abes from the last five years will be distressed to learn of the untimely death of *Sir David Watson*, former Principal of Green Templeton College, who very generously hosted bursars for dinner each year with some of his graduate students. A very lively interchange of ideas and issues characterised these functions. Anonymous feedback from the 2014 Abes included these comments: "*Highlight of the week; great inspiration; what great hosts; best intellectual stimulation I've ever had.*" **Blessing Masuku (UJ 2014)** commented: "*The day I met the Principal of Green Templeton College will forever mark the change in my world view, self-perception, and the possibility of reaching the impossible.*"

David Watson's predecessor was Old Abe **Colin Bundy (UN 1965)** who was the first Principal of Oxford's newest graduate college, founded in 2008 following the merger of the former Green and Templeton Colleges. Colin initiated these dinners to host the Abe tour group when they visited Oxford, and provided a superbly stimulating interaction between the bursars and a cross-section of his graduates.

Three Old Abes have done post-graduate studies at GTC: **Richard Wilkinson (UCT 2010)**, **Jess Standish-White (UCT 2012)** and **Rone McFarlane (US 2012)**.

## 8. NEWS FROM ABES AROUND THE WORLD

We are sad to record the death of these Fellows, and offer our sincere condolences to their families and tourmates:

- **Hennie Klerck (OVS 1953)**
- **Willem van Niekerk (UP 1963)**
- **Glen Cowley (Natal 1966)** - see obituary below

**Thomas Langley (UP 1955)** het aangename herinneringe van sy toer gedeel: "*Ek hou myself op hoogte met die Genootskapsake deur jou nuusbriewe te lees...daar was tot en met 1955 39 Abes, waarvan 16 nog in lewe is. Onder hulle glo ek dat ek die jongste is en op pad na 82 jaar. Soos ek terugkyk oor die jare bly my Abe Bailey belewenis 'n onoortrefbare belewenis wat my steeds met helderheid bybly. Na 'n 14-daagse bootreis met die Edinburgh Castle van Kaapstad tot Southampton is ons daar ontvang deur mnr Neville Nightingale en per trein na Victoria stasie in Londen. By London House was ons verwelkom deur Brigadier Pepper, Controlier, en Colonel Sprunt, Deputy Controlier...dit was die begin van 'n lewenslange vriendskap tussen my en wyle Neville wat ingesluit het 'n besoek van hom en sy vrou Nancy aan SA, en 'n besoek aan hulle in Engeland toe my vrou en ek daar was. In ons tyd het London House vir ons individuele afspraak gerêel en so het ek 'n afspraak kon kry by Garter, King of Arms-ongelooflik! Kersfees het **Lionel Melunsky (Rhodes 1955)** en ek by Mrs Mary Stent in haar Milton Manor House deurgebring. Ons verblyf was ongeveer ses weke en elke oomblik was of 'n hoogtepunt of deel van 'n hoogtepunt!" Dankie Thomas, en geluk met jou verjaarsdag.*

From New York **David Clain (UCT 1958)**, with whom I was at school, wrote: "*After all these years reassuring to know that you still hold the reins. While recently moving house I came across a photo of **John Gibbon (UCT 1959)**. Those were the days. Similar footsteps: Sea Point Boys' High, SRC at UCT, Abe Bailey tour. I made contact with **Neville Rubin (UCT 1956)** at his summer flat in Kalk Bay-another SPBH, SRC at UCT, NUSAS, Abe Bailey...Always enjoy getting the Abe Bailey updates and hearing news of fellow bursars. I have been retired from academia and medical practice in New York for the past four years. We divide our time between Great Neck and Manhattan with daughters and grandchildren in both places. Kind regards.*" Splendid memories! Good to hear from you.

A tourmate with me, **Dirk Meiring (OVS 1959)**, penned some thought-provoking words: "*After browsing through your March 2015 list, I suddenly experienced the urge to share a few thoughts with Fellows: It is sobering to realise that your own year group...is now one of the oldest Abe Bailey year groups. It is a source of pride that-when scanning through the long list of names-you recognise many of the names as persons who have made a substantive contribution to development in our country, and in many professions. Sir Abe would have been proud to state that this also holds true for the younger generation. I, personally, as a young adult in 1959, derived the most benefit from the 'Abe Bailey Experience' in my late formative years. And this probably still is the case. Maar die Abe Bailey Trust het ook op makrovlak gedink. Daarom is dit weereens nie verrassend dat die universiteite soos Wes-Kaap. Fort Hare, Durban-Westville en Zululand sedert 1977 by die groep ingesluit is nie; en sedert 2008 ook die Universiteite van Tegnologie. Dit was nie die geval in ander strukture op nasionale vlak nie. En dit is dan ook nie vreemd dat die name van die vroulike geslag sedert 1979 in toenemende mate op die lyste voorkom nie-in sommige jare selfs as die*

meerderheidsgroep. Dit alles maak my oneindig trots om te kan verklaar: EK WAS 'N ABE BAILEY REISBEURSHOUER!!  
Vriendelike groete." Jy het gelyk, Dirk.

**Richard Goldstone (Wits 1960)** selected email contact: "As always, I enjoy reading your excellent newsletters. The comments by the 2013 bursars are inspiring...happy to receive newsletters by email. Thank you for your amazing contribution to the Fellowship over so many years. Warm regards." Thank you, and all the best to you Richard.

**Dawie de Villiers (US 1963)** wrote to confirm attendance at the 2014 Farewell dinner: "The sad news is that **Ds Willem van Niekerk (UP 1963)** passed away quietly on 25th September 2014. I am so pleased that he could attend our 50th reunion at the 2013 Farewell dinner. He was delighted to be present and to meet several of our teammates of 1963. Kind regards." **Keith Wimble (Wits 1964)** also at the 2014 dinner, wrote: "Thank you for the March newsletter. I shall appreciate future newsletters coming to me electronically. At the dinner when you made an appeal for photographs you reminded me that I had one and all I had to do was find it. The finding has taken me longer than I anticipated but find it I have. Kind regards." Thanks Keith-safely received and now handsomely displayed at The Burn in Scotland.

**Philip Reineke (UOVS 1965)** advised a change of address: "I am retired now and have moved to a farm with my daughter to help run the farm. I would prefer the email option as the postal system is not always reliable. Kind regards." Enjoy the new setting, Philip. From the same tour, **Peter Maggs (UCT 1965)** wrote from the USA: "Happy to receive newsletters by email. Allow me to report a little news of myself. I remain fully active as a Cardiothoracic surgeon at a smaller Harvard hospital. I moved from Cambridge, where I had been for over 40 years, to Weston, Massachusetts...dictated by a need for a larger house as I now have 2 young children. Both are healthy and active and looking forward to visiting South Africa as is my second wife. She has visited before and will be happy to return. Good wishes." What a delight it would be if you and Christine can time your visit to join us in late November for the Farewell dinner function!

UKZN Press paid tribute to **Glenn Cowley (UN 1966)**: "It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Glenn Cowley, past publisher, after a short illness in Johannesburg. Glenn was Publisher at UKZN Press for 11 years until his retirement in July 2009. Through his vision and leadership Glenn, a graduate of the University of Natal and of Harvard, developed the Press into a well-known and respected scholarly publishing house with worldwide connections, and an impressive list and author base. Glenn will be remembered affectionately by his colleagues, past and present, as well as authors and those in the wider publishing and book circles in South Africa and abroad. To many he was a mentor and a friend and he will be remembered for his energy, love of life, kindness and generosity of spirit."

**Boet Coetzee (UN 1967)** wrote: "Thank you for the recent Abe's Address List you kindly sent us. I will gladly receive email versions of the Newsletters. Trust you and Morag Naylor are keeping well. Keep up the good work-your efforts are most appreciated. All the best." Boet often attends the Farewell Dinners. Thank you, Boet, and we hope to see you in November. **Don Gibbon (Rhodes 1968)** wrote: "Thanks so much for all the effort that you put into the Fellowship and to the Newsletter. It is always a welcome arrival and you do a grand job giving us news of old and new bursars and including such a range of interesting and uplifting comment." Thank you for your encouraging words, Don-it is indeed a joint effort, so enriched by many of you Old Abes who send in your news and comments. Appreciation to **Roger Crawford (UN 1968)** who kindly sent me the above obituary for **Glenn Cowley**, and wrote: "Thank you for the March Fellowship address list. I notice that **Albert van Jaarsveld (UP 1984)** was awarded the Travel Bursary. I assume that this is the newly appointed Principal and Vice-Chancellor of UKZN. Best wishes." Indeed, it is he-see his news below.

**Rex van Olst (Wits 1969)** and **Nigel Desebrock (UCT 1969)** met in Johannesburg in September last year, "not least to recall the Abe Bailey tour for which we have always been grateful. As was usual in those days, it had started with a relaxing 10-day voyage on the Windsor Castle to Southampton, while one of so many subsequent highlights was watching, albeit with dismay, the Springboks losing 6-3 to Scotland at Murrayfield (they were not to play again until 1994)."

Asked to write about their careers, **Rex** wrote: "Rosie and I remain in Benoni, but are presently building a home at Gowrie Village in the KZN Midlands. I currently hold an Associate Professorship at the School of Electrical and Information Engineering at Witwatersrand University, which I returned to (after 25 years in the IT industry) in 2002. I head up the Telecommunications Research Group at our School and also lecture some of our post graduate Software Engineering courses. Shortly after I re-joined Wits, I noted a gap in the education market, that of a programme to teach and coach Chief Information Officers (CIOs). With a few colleagues from a variety of Schools and Faculties at Wits, we developed a multidisciplinary programme on CIO Practice, and it has been running successfully on an annual basis since 2005!"

**Nigel**, who lives in Australia, wrote: "I have been associated with the gold industry for 34 years. Worked for the Chamber of Mines of SA and the Government of Western Australia in the 1980s, and since 1989 have operated through my own small research and consultancy company. Sponsored mainly by the World Gold Council, we have produced gold market-related books and reports, and since 2007 have managed an industry information website: [www.goldbarsworldwide.com](http://www.goldbarsworldwide.com). In 1993, we also established, with support from Rothschilds in Australia, what became the world's largest gold bar collection (1,000 bars) - used for gathering information and staging gold promotional exhibitions around the world, but relocated to Germany last year for inclusion in a gold museum. I am looking to winding things down, having discovered I am not immune to the ravages of old age!" Thank you for such fascinating updates; strength in all that you are doing.

**Johan Kruger (Potchefstroom 1970)** also sent greetings: "The newsletter still reaches me here in the deep Bushveld but, as you may suspect, mail is more or less delivered by mule once a month (if we're lucky!). Receiving the newsletter via email is hence more than welcome. Regards to all, especially my 1970 compatriots." From **Tony Siopis (Rhodes 1972)**: "Thank you for your letter asking for photos of the Abes for their year. I dug around the archives and found my old photo. I have been living in Western Australia now for 32 years where I am a Federal Court of Australia judge. I still enjoy getting news of the Abes and would be happy to receive the newsletter by email. Keep up the good work. All the best." Thanks Tony for the photo (now displayed at The Burn), and your news. Thank you, **Japie Engelbrecht (UPE 1972)**, Professor Emeritus at NMMU, for your contact: "Thank you for the recent Fellowship Newsletter. I spend a long time reading through all the news from the many Abes who responded. What a privilege to belong to such a great group of people! I am basically an 'old-timer' who prefers hard copies of letters. But I also recognise that one can print the email version-so you are most welcome to use email to me in future."

**Bill Pierce (UN 1973)** wrote: "Many thanks for the latest newsletter. My 'new' career which combines a 'portfolio' of business coaching, lecturing and workshop facilitations, has exceeded all my expectations in terms of enjoyment (first and foremost!) and remuneration. The little phrase I use for the work I do is that 'I enable high quality conversations' which enrich me enormously and from my clients/students' feedback, they find adds value to them: so a real win-win! It was a real joy seeing **Michael King (Rhodes 1973)** for the first time in many years last year, and great to see that he is also starting a new career! Otherwise I and all who are dear to me are well. Please keep up the good work. Warm regards."

**Kit Vaughan (Rhodes 1974)** mentioned: "I am busy finishing off a book at the moment-the subtitle is 'A Biography of the South African Academic Rating System'-and one of the people I interviewed was **Loyiso Nongxa (Fort Hare 1977)**, one of only six vice-chancellors to have received a rating. I discovered he was an Abe the first year that students from the black universities were invited. He and I shared some of our recollections of our respective tours. His even made it into the book! Warm regards." From the same tour group, **Jo Michael (Wits 1974)** also requested emailed newsletters: "Here's a quick update while I'm about it. Having been on the staff of the School of Chemistry at Wits for 37 years (20 as Chair Professor of Organic Chemistry, and more recently having served a five-year 'sentence' as Head of School), I was due to retire at the end of 2014. I wasn't quitting though-I have an emeritus professorship, and I am continuing with research as long as the funding holds out. I see from the last newsletter that **Theuns Verschoor (UP 1974)**, my fellow Abe from the tour is on the verge of retirement, and my colleague and fellow organic chemist **Cedric McClelland (UPE 1975)** retired last year. The years have caught up with us! It was also good to see some news from **Bruce McInnes (Wits 1970)** with whom I shared a lab during our PhD days in the early 1970's. Best wishes." Happy retirement (and productive further working) to all of you.

**Piet Naude (US 1981)** brought us up to date: "Just a note that I left my position as Vice-Rector (academic) at NMMU and have joined the University of Stellenbosch Business School as their new Director from September 2014. I am now closer to the annual dinner...and wish all Abes the best." Thanks Piet for arranging so many functions for new Abes at NMMU. Greatly appreciated. **Marius Swart (OFS 1982)** wrote: "Once again thanks for the 2014 newsletter. Due to the strike I received my letter only in December. As always it was good to read about the new Abes, as well as feedback from the previous year, and to hear from the old Abes. I attach a photo of the 1982 group. Prof. Swemmer hosted a lunch in November for the Bloemfontein Abes and we had a chance to meet **William Clayton (UFS 2014)**. I was awarded a PhD at the summer graduation ceremony at the University of the Free State. My thesis was an auto-ethnographic interdisciplinary study between cardiac and practical theology. We appreciate your effort with the Newsletter." Thank you Marius-so good to hear your news. Congratulations on the doctorate.

All the way from Virginia, USA, **Peter van Niekerk (US 1983)** wrote to Morag Naylor and me: "Allow me to thank you both for the good work you are doing in keeping our crew together across so many years and geographies! I'd appreciate receiving newsletters by email. Kind regards." A tourmate, **Servaas de Kock (OVS 1983)** said: "Thanks and appreciation for the latest newsletter. Please add me to the electronic list. Regards." From **Louis Stassen (UPE 1984)** who recently reconnected with the Fellowship: "I am grateful to have bumped into Morag Naylor...I fell off the bus...I am indeed working at the Coronation head office in Cape Town." Good to be in touch again, Louis. Join us at the dinner in November if possible. Also from the USA, **Daphne Sluys (Wits 1984)** "Please add my name to the email list. Bit of news from this part of the world...I'm making good progress with my PhD in Education at Seattle Pacific University, focusing on educational research methods and statistical analysis. The material I'm learning is directly applicable to my job as Maths instructor at Western University in Bellingham, Washington State. If any other Abes are in the higher education field, I'd especially enjoy hearing from them. I enjoy seeing the ever-growing list of Abe Scholars and reading snippets of news about past Abes. Warm regards."

Another 1984 Abe, **Albert van Jaarsveld (UP)** wrote: "Thank you for the newsletter and informative snippets from fellow Abe Bailey bursars. I moved in February to join UKZN." Congratulations Albert on your appointment as Vice-Chancellor at UKZN. This extract is from the Mail and Guardian:

The UKZN council chairperson announced the university's new leader, saying van Jaarsveld "brings with him a wealth of experience and new ideas on how to keep the university on an upward trajectory, building on its record of excellence through transformation".

Van Jaarsveld, who has been president and CEO of the National Research Foundation since 2009, and whose appointment there was renewed for a further five years, has a PhD in zoology from the University of Pretoria. Most of his academic life before joining the NRF was divided between two formerly white Afrikaner universities, Stellenbosch and Pretoria, in which he held both academic and managerial positions. Conservation planning and biodiversity are among his research interests.

Now he will take over a university vastly different from those two bastions of privilege: UKZN was created from the stormy 2004 merger of the former universities of Durban-Westville (with a then largely Indian student population) and Natal (then mainly white and English-speaking).

It now has about 44 000 students, 1 400 academics and more than 2 000 administrative staff.

*"I have been presented with an invaluable opportunity to return to academia in a capacity that will bring me closer to the coal face of skills development and scientific research in South Africa," Van Jaarsveld said in a statement. "I feel that I can make an important contribution to UKZN in its efforts to further grow its teaching stature, improve its research capacity, to contribute to institutional transformation and to enhance the international standing of UKZN as a major research-driven higher education institution."*

We wish you enormous strength and wisdom in this exciting challenge, Albert

From **Phil Struckmann (UCT 1990)** in New Zealand: *"Always good to hear from and about the Abes...I cannot believe that we are nearing the end of yet another year!! I would be more than happy to receive newsletters by email-in this day and age, I think that makes absolute sense. Kind regards."* Another happy email recipient, **Murray Thomas (Rhodes 1993)**, now a Headmaster in Gauteng: *"Very happy to receive emailed versions. I am well, quietly celebrating a work anniversary of one year (in April 2015) in my new role at St Peter's College in Johannesburg. Best regards."*

**Nicole Erasmus (UWC 1995)** is back in Cape Town and was at the Farewell dinner: *"After 17 years at Corporate Eskom, I decided to come back to my roots at UWC. Regards."* **Charles Walters (Rhodes 1996)** in York, UK: *"Thanks again for a very enjoyable newsletter. I noticed **Chris Murray's (Rhodes 1957)** comment about the list of Old Andean Abes where his name was not included. I had the great privilege of attending St Andrew's College from 1989-1992, and I was in Espin House. Warm regards."* This now makes 7 Old Abes for **Roger Crawford's (UN 1968)** St Andrew's list!

**Melanie Steyn (UP 1996)** wrote: *"I just cannot believe you are still so enthused and continue to be such an inspiration to Old and New Abes. Thank you for all your work. I received my newsletter today and, just for a moment, I remember almost 18 years ago returning from this life event that is the legacy of Abe Bailey. Wonderful to receive the news from everyone. I was very touched by the insert about the Abes receiving the news of Madiba's passing in York. It was one of those events where everyone remembers where they were, but I had great appreciation of how this had such an impact on the 2013 tour. I am currently reading for a PhD, and will be spending some time in London on research and planning to stay at Goodenough College. So looking forward to rekindling some of the inspiration the tour brought to my life so long ago. My praise for your and the Trust's work as encouragement for continued enrichment of young South African lives. Best wishes."* Thanks Melanie-being in touch with so many young and older humans who do such positive things is a great joy and inspiration.

**Zodwa Velleman (UWC 1998)** shared her current details: *"Thanks for the contact. I am the Executive Director: Legal and Corporate Security, Brandhouse (JV of Diageo Pic, Heineken Intern and Namibia Breweries Ltd.)"* A tour mate, **Rob Stead (Rhodes 1998)** wrote: *"Good news-the Newsletter finally made it through the troubled postal network and into my mailbox! I trust that the 2014 tour went well and that the bursars enjoyed and grew from their experience. I still feel the Old Abe network is under-utilised. I know that there have been attempts to get a Facebook page going but perhaps a LinkedIn group would be more appropriate."* **Ryan Lamb (UFS 2011)** launched a closed LinkedIn group which I joined and used to obtain current email details for sending out this Newsletter. Perhaps you have joined it-be sure to contact Ryan if you can suggest ways to make it more effective, Rob. Also from **1998, Johnny Motlogelwa (NWU)** sent news: *"I am currently trading as an Advocate of the High Court and a governance and management specialist, and serve as MD for Mosakga Governance and Management Services (Pty) Ltd."*

**Sharon McGregor (RAU 1999)** sent news: *"Thank you for the newsletters which I always thoroughly enjoyed reading. News from my side is that I am still happily working at P&G and over the years I've had the opportunity to explore the fields of Logistics Management and Human Resources, both so different but both for which I have a passion. I also continue to play indoor action netball and represent Central Gauteng in the Over 30 category. I was blessed to have the opportunity to represent South Africa in the 2013 Tri-Nations Tournament, when I played in the Mixed Over 30 team. It was a wonderful honour and an unforgettable experience. Thanks for always keeping the Abes connected."*

**Jakes Maritz (UFS 2002)** happily back in SA, wrote: *"It appears that the Abe Bursary is still running very strongly which is great news. I recently moved back to SA after an 11 year stint in the UK, and now live in Cape Town-yes, the Abe tour impressed me that much! I would love to attend the send-off. Best wishes."* Great that you are back, Jakes, and we look forward to seeing you at the Farewell Dinner-details later in this Newsletter.

On Facebook I noticed that 2 of the **2002** Abes met at the May 2015 Rural Development Conference at the ICC in Durban, 13 years after their Abe Tour: **Ernest Jele (UV)** and **Unati Speirs (UFH)**. From **Matthew Charlesworth (Rhodes 2002)** *"My news is that I was ordained to serve as a transitional Deacon in the Society of Jesus and the Roman Catholic Church, in May 2015, and will be returning to South Africa next year after I complete my Masters in Theology at the University of Toronto."* Congratulations, Matthew-we look forward to seeing you in SA again.

**Mercutio Motshedi (NWU 2003)** brought us up-to-date: *"I am delighted to write after a decade...the newsletter brought memories of our 2003 tour. What experience and lessons we were exposed to. I was appointed as Junior Lecturer in the School of Social Work at NWU. The tour deepened my dreams, visions, and aspirations of making a difference in the lives of downtrodden communities. I learned the notion of resilience, asset-based approaches, strength-based perspectives, to mention a few. In 2004, I graduated MA in Social work, and was appointed as a lecturer. I presented papers at local, national and international conferences, in Australia, Japan to mention a few. I obtained my PhD in Social Work from NWU. I was then appointed Head of Department of the School of Social Work. In 2011 I left academia for the Public Service as Senior Researcher in the Department*

of Social Development. The tour instilled in me the true values of humanity and social justice. I am truly indebted to the spirit of Sir Abe Bailey. Sincere Greetings to all the Bursars."

I caught up with **Nhlanhla Dlamini (Wits 2004)** on LinkedIn: "Managing Director at Maneli Group which is focused on investing in and/or acquiring agricultural businesses in Southern Africa." From **Lourens du Plessis (US 2006)** in London: "Bit of news: I've recently resigned from PwC. Since then I've been volunteering at Canada Water Church, and I will hopefully start theological college in September here in London. Very excited about this new direction God has laid out for me." Blessings on you as you embark on this new phase of your life. **Phillip du Preez (UFS 2006)** wrote: "I moved to Cape Town late last year. I got a registrar post in Psychiatry at the University of Cape Town. Being in Cape Town, I will definitely attend the farewell functions. I can't wait!" Welcome to Cape Town-we look forward to seeing you at the November dinner. From the same tour group, **Pravashen Naidoo (UCT 2006)** wrote: "I was cleaning up my emails and came across a tour email... a flow of emotions went through me as I read again my report after my tour. I can't believe it is over 8 years since our trip! I am doing fine, finally married and started my own business venture-quite interesting in that we are the first people in the country recycling light bulbs including CFL's. Best regards."

I saw on social media that **Glendon Ascough (UKZN 2007)** has been appointed as Research Manager at Starke Ayres in Johannesburg. From the same tour, **Ingrid Fabris-Rotelli (UP 2007)** requested emailed newsletters and said: "I am still a lecturer in the Department of Statistics at the University of Pretoria and enjoying it very much. We're expecting our second child in August. Very excited." **Sandika Baboolal (UKZN 2008)** wrote: "I have moved again back to Cape Town northern suburbs. I have a post as an ophthalmology registrar at Tygerberg Hospital and I am doing my MMed with Stellenbosch University-so very much into my speciality training." Join us for the Farewell dinner if you are available, Sandika. At the University of Warwick in the UK, **Lali Dangazele (Wits 2008)** wrote: "I am pleased to tell you that I am at Warwick pursuing my PhD. I thought I would find it hard to settle but am much better now...I am based here for the next 4 years. During this time I would love to see you and the new bursars on tour. I am so appreciative of the bursary I got as it planted the seed of coming back here. I have since brought schools from Limpopo to the UK in a project I did with the Royal Shakespeare Company and the British Council all because the Trust paid it forward with me and I intend to do the same." Lali travelled from Coventry to London to attend the Welcome Reception for the 2014 Abes at Goodenough College. It was a great joy to see you and have you meet the bursars. Perhaps this year again!

**Jodie Posen (UKZN 2009)** sent address updates as she has moved from KZN to Cape Town. We hope you can share in the November Farewell function, Jodie. **Hein Visser (NMMU 2009)** wrote from London: "I received the Newsletter last week and could not put it down. The people change every year but the magic never fades! I went for drinks with **Ryan Lamb (UFS 2011)**-what an inspirational man! The Trustees seem never to get it wrong. I have some good news. I was selected as one of 200 outstanding 'Leaders of Tomorrow' to attend the 45th Gallen's Symposium in Switzerland in May 2015. It's an incredible privilege to be associated with this organisation which already has another Abe among its alumni, **Garreth Bloor (UCT 2009)**. I look forward to welcoming the new Abes to London at the end of the year."

**Geraldine Lazarus (UZ 2010)** was awarded her PhD in March: "I am pleased and humbled to announce that I am officially Dr GG Lazarus. At the moment I am a post-doctoral researcher at UKZN in the non-viral gene delivery lab. I am also a volunteer in the Reach for a Dream Foundation." Warm congratulations Geraldine-a fine achievement. On social media I saw that **Phiwe Ndinisa (UFH 2010)** is a legal researcher at The Centre for Law and Society at UCT. Splendid news from another 2010 bursar, **Abrie Marais (UFS)**: "I am delighted to inform you that I have secured a Chevening award to study a Master's degree in Public Health at the University of Southampton. I will be leaving for Southampton in just over 2 months. I will therefore not be able to attend the annual Abe Dinner (I'm a bit sad, 'cause this year is our 5 year reunion), but I would love to meet up with the new group of Abes." Hearty congratulations, Abrie-we look forward to seeing you in London. Latest address details came from **Cherese Thakur (UKZN 2010)** who is a Candidate Attorney at Webber Wentzel in Johannesburg. From **Mario Meyer (UWC 2010)** "Thank you for compiling the Newsletter. I look forward to receiving it each year as I appreciate being introduced to the New Abe Bailey bursars, and finding out what old Abes are up to."

**Ziyanda Stuurman (US 2011)** sent news: "I am currently working as Researcher in Parliament for the Democratic Alliance. I started in October 2014 and have the national department portfolios of Home Affairs, Social Development, Women in the Presidency, International Relations, and Co-operation and the Presidency." From **Eugene Davids (UWC 2011)**: "I trust this message finds you well. Thank you for the well wishes regarding the postdoc. I'll be doing the postdoc in Czech Republic. My research will be an extension of my PhD topic that looked at developing and testing a model examining the associations of parenting and decision making of adolescents on healthy lifestyle behaviours." **Tony Peng (CUTFS 2011)** has very generously designed a Farewell dinner function logo for the nametags we use at that function, creatively using our ABF letters. Thank you, Tony. He wrote: "Feels just like the other day that we were walking the streets of London, exploring the history of Oxford and chilling by the fireplace at the Burn. Definitely yearning to go back. I've played around with some ideas for the logo. Kind regards."

**Awonke Tshetu (UFH 2011)** shared exciting news: "I woke up to this email this morning: 'Congratulations! You have been chosen to participate in the 2015 Mandela Washington Fellowship for Young African Leaders.' This is the flagship program of President Obama's Young African Leaders Initiative. I marvel at the grace that God continues to show over my life." Well done Tshetu Junior! **Ryan Lamb (UFS 2011)** wrote: "Thank you for sending the Newsletter to me, it really is such a pleasure and inspiration to read about all that the Abes continue to achieve. Every time I read the newsletter I feel so humbled." On Facebook I saw a photo of Ryan and **Rachel Morrow (UKZN 2011)** listening to the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra at the Royal Albert Hall.

**Phillip Mogodi (Wits 2012)** shared: *"Currently residing between two places: Johannesburg RSA and Dundee, Scotland. I'm halfway through my LLM programme at the University of Dundee. I'm working for Anglo American as a project associate. Freelancing as an events and lifestyle photographer. Regards."* From **Kameel Premhid (UKZN 2012)**: *"Thank you for the wonderful newsletter. It is a venerable document-both for its ability to give updates over decades so succinctly, and for its value as a historical record. Seeing the diversity of the Bursary as the Abe Family expands, and the impact that its recipients go on to make, it is heartwarming. I dined for the last time with the 2014 Abe Bailey cohort at The Randolph. While I have enjoyed this, what I have enjoyed more has been interacting with a dynamic group of students on an annual basis. The Abe Bailey Trust does a very good job of selecting some of South Africa's most talented and promising youngsters and watching their eyes opened to the world of opportunity as they tour the UK, as mine were, is gratifying. This is especially when they realise that they are inferior to no one and that they, too, can go to an elite British University, like Oxbridge, and utilise those skills to make our home fires burn brighter. Indeed, I believe that through the interactions, formal dinners and pub visits afterward, Abe Bursars make full realisations of their own potential and just how much they are capable of achieving. All in all, things progress very well but I firmly feel that I am preparing to disengage from the Oxford bubble, firmly looking towards the future."*

**Clara Maila (UL 2013)** wrote: *"I am very pleased to tell you that I have been accepted at Oxford for my four weeks medical elective. I will meet the 2015 Abes when they visit Oxford. The tour really changed my life and I will forever be grateful to Sir Abe Bailey."* We look forward to meeting you there. Wonderful news from **Priscah Ramalekana (UP 2013)**: *"I'm writing to let you know that I was awarded a Rhodes Scholarship for 2015. Thank you so much for my Abe experience, it opened my eyes to a bold new dream that has now become possible! I look forward to helping out with the 2015 Abe Bailey Scholars while at Oxford this year."* Congratulations, Priscah-see you in Oxford!

Further good news from **William Clayton (UFS 2014)**: *"I have some exciting news to share. I've been accepted to the University of Edinburgh and I have been awarded a full scholarship by the British Council. I will be leaving this September for a year in Scotland."* Well done, William. We look forward to meeting you in Edinburgh. **Alice Scott (CPUT 2014)** is embarking on a challenging venture: *"I am absolutely thrilled to be on my way. I am moving to South Korea for a year to teach English."* Finally, a reflection from **Kgotsi Chikane (UCT 2014)**: *"After deeply reflecting on the tour I must say this experience has truly been enlightening. I went into the tour with a certain prejudice about the proceedings and the interactions we would have with each other but after the first week those were completely shattered. The entire experience has been amazing and has really helped me with my personal development. I think the Abe Bailey Bursary is a surreal experience that I will not forget anytime soon. Hopefully my children will be able to experience it as well."*

## 9 FAREWELL FOR THE 2015 ABES: Thursday 26th November 2015

Join us at the ATLANTIC IMBIZO, the venue in the Cape Town Waterfront to give the new Abes a good send-off this year. An invitation to the Farewell Dinner with all the relevant details, directions and free parking information is enclosed with this Newsletter if you live in or near to Cape Town, or if you receive the Newsletter by email. If you live further afield and can arrange to be at the dinner, please contact me and I shall send an invitation to you-see my contact details below. We would be delighted to enjoy your company. A special invitation is given to last year's bursars to share in the send-off to their successors, and to the **Abes of 1965** to mark the 50th anniversary of their tour as half-centurions, by attending the dinner as a group. Please let me know if you and your partner will attend, preferably by e-mail or by way of the enclosed reply slip, so that we can make accurate catering arrangements.

## 10 ABE CONTACT DETAILS

A number of Old Abes with whom we had lost contact have been traced by fellow Abes or have reconnected with the Fellowship. Good to welcome you back! If you know details of any bursars listed as 'unknown' in the March 2015 official address list, please send them to me. Please inform me of any changes in your own e-mail or postal details.

## 11 FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTERS BY EMAIL

Nearly 150 Abes now receive Newsletters by email in place of posted hard copies. This Newsletter has been sent to them electronically. **How about YOU?** Please send me a quick email if you are willing to receive future Newsletters/Address Lists by email.

## 12 AFTERTHOUGHT: WORDS FROM SIR ABE . . .

*"All my life I have been a gambler. I have not in mind the meaningless habit of putting a pound or two on a horse and waiting for a jockey to pull it first past the post. That's just feeble fumbling with fate. I mean going all out on something which may yield big returns in life... but always be guided by a sound knowledge of what is possible (even though seemingly in the realm of the miraculous), and what is not possible. The chances against success may be terrifying, but if you have got the gambler's instinct, the more nearly they are terrifying, the more fascinating they become."* **Sir Abraham (Abe) Bailey**

13 **THANK YOU!**

- ❁ To those who sent in news, contributions and contact details
- ❁ To those who have agreed to receive Fellowship Newsletters by email
- ❁ To Brian Robinson and fellow Abe Bailey Trustees for all that they do to maintain the annual bursary award programme
- ❁ To Morag Naylor for ensuring that the whole Abe Bailey programme runs smoothly, and for her communications with new and old bursars.
- ❁ To Andrew Ritchie, Naomi Schulke, David Turner and their colleagues who co-ordinate arrangements in the UK and welcome each year's bursars so warmly

Warm greetings and good wishes to you all

*JOHN GIBBON*  
SECRETARY/ORGANISER

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