

THE ABE BAILEY



BURSARY FELLOWSHIP

Newsletter # 93
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P O Box 86
CAPE TOWN 8000

In his Budget Vote in May 2018 in Parliament, Pravin Gordhan said: *"We need moral and ethical leadership. We need people that act with integrity. And each one of us needs to have the courage to act on our beliefs. Working for the national interest is the duty of us all. This period requires all of us to have the clarity, humility and resolve to move South Africa to a fair, just, inclusive and prosperous society."*

As I warmly greet Fellows across 68 years, I suggest that in whichever national space across the globe Abe Bailey Fellows currently find ourselves, these words resonate with what Sir Abe envisioned when he designed the travel bursary programme to further equip us for our place in this world, and especially in South Africa.

1 THE ABES OF 2018

Congratulations to the new Abe Bailey Bursars whom we welcome into our Fellowship, of over 900 Fellows. From 21 of our 25 residential universities, 654 applications were received, and 125 of the applicants were interviewed by their university committees. This year the Trust selected 18 new Bursars from 17 universities including the first one ever from the University of Mpumalanga. They are:

CAPE PENINSULA (CPUT)

Mr Anele Gebenga is doing an M.Tech: Business Admin. in Project Management, having gained the B.Tech: Project Management degree. A co-founder of a Non-Profit organisation *Give a Teen a Future Dream* for high school students, he also serves as a Retention Officer and Teaching Assistant for CPUT.

CAPE TOWN (UCT)

Ms Cayla-Rose Jack holds the B.Com. degree in Politics, Philosophy and Economics, and is reading for the B.Com.(Hons) in Financial Analysis and Portfolio Management. She serves on the SRC, and on the EFF Student Command, and is Fundraiser for *Born to be Free* which develops computer literacy skills among learners at school level.

DURBAN (DUT)

Mr Robert Thema is studying for the B.Tech. in Tourism Management, having gained the N.Dip. *cum laude*. He served on the SRC (Education/Transformation Officer), and as Chairperson of an HIV/AIDS Community Project. A *Green Champ* of the Green Campus Initiative, he implements environmental education on the campus and in the community.

FREE STATE (UFS)

Mr Nkhiseng Ralepeli is pursuing the LLB degree. He served as Chairperson of the SRC, Vice-President of the Debating Society, and Development Director of the Golden Key Honour Society, and volunteers for the Institute for Reconciliation and Social Justice. He attended the 2018 International Youth Conference in Prague.

JOHANNESBURG (UJ)

Mr Sibongakonke Kheswa is studying for the B.Accounting degree. He was selected for the Study of the U.S. Institutes academic programme, convened the *Dr Gopal Energy Foundation* conference in India on energy education, and spoke at the *Africa Now* Conference to mobilise active young professionals.

KWAZULU-NATAL (UKZN)

Mr Kumeren Govender is pursuing the Mb.Chb. degree and also a Masters degree in Health Science. He founded and chairs the SA Medical Students' Association at UKZN. He is the President of the Golden Key Honour Society. He convened the World TB day in Durban and organised a march for gender equality to the Durban City hall.

LIMPOPO (UL)

Mr Frans Matlakala holds the B.Soc.Work degree and is reading for the M.Soc.Work degree. He serves as a Senior Mentor for students, assists the University Centre of Academic Excellence, presented papers in Rwanda and in Malaysia at Social Work Symposia, and is involved in community outreaches to high school learners.

MPUMULANGA (UM)

Ms Confidence Ndlovu is studying for the B.Development Studies degree. She is Secretary of ENACTUS promoting entrepreneurial action among youth, and participates in the Vice-Chancellor's Leadership Development Programme. A Youth Leader in her church she does community projects on teen pregnancy and drug abuse.

NELSON MANDELA (NMU)

Ms Zilondiwe Goge is reading for an M.A. in Psychology having gained the B.A. and B.A.(Hons) degrees. She is Vice-Chairperson of the NMU Business Women's Association, and previously served as Treasurer General of the SRC and Vice-Chairperson of the Psychological Society SA student division.

NORTH-WEST (NWU)

Ms Anneke Schoeman is pursuing the M.Sc. in Environmental Science having first gained both the B.Sc. and B.Sc.(Hons) in Entomology *cum laude* at Pretoria University. She was a facilitator for the Women in Leadership Course. She has presented abstracts at international conferences. She is active through her church in community service.

PRETORIA (UP)

Ms Annalize Morgan is reading for the B.Ed.degree. She is a member of the Golden Key Honour Society and co-chairs the *Oprah Winfrey Academy Alumnae Association*. She is involved in the *Lwatilwetfu Resource Centre* to promote literacy in the community, and in a community initiative which provides uniform items for disadvantaged learners.

PRETORIA (UP)

Mr Tebogo Mphelo is pursuing the B.Eng. in Mechanical Engineering. He was President of ENACTUS at UP, supervising community engagement projects and overseeing a team of over 100 students. He serves as Chairperson of his Residence and Vice--President of UP Agricultural Society. He is a member of the Golden Key Honour Society.

RHODES (RU)

Ms Tuscany Parkin obtained her B.A. degree with distinctions in both her majors, and currently is reading for the LLB degree. She served as a volunteer in the Rhodes Law Clinic Community Service and as an SI leader for mentoring students. In the Rhodes Moot Final Competition she was selected as Best Speaker.

SEFAKO MAKGATHO HEALTH SCIENCES (SMHSU)

Ms Faith Makhubele is studying for the Mb.Chb. degree. She is Head of Public relations of *Big Sister Programme* aiming to improve the lives of women. She was an ambassador to the 2017 Youth Summer Assembly of the Global United Nations Project, and works through the *Unforgettable Smiles Foundation* to combat violence against children.

STELLENBOSCH (US)

Mr Tevarus Naicker is pursuing the Mb.Chb. degree. Chairperson of the Tygerberg SRC and a member of the US SRC, he participated in the Global Engagement Summit in Chicago where he presented a campaign to destigmatise mental illness. He also did a medical elective at the *Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine* in Chicago.

WALTER SISULU (WSU)

Ms Abongile Nkamisa is reading for the LLB degree. She is a social justice advocate working with the Sexual Health Rights and Advocacy Foundation, the Students for Law and Social Justice and the Black Lawyers Association student chapter in community services and outreach. She trains school learners in moot and public speaking skills.

WESTERN CAPE (UWC)

Mr Riedwaan Fakier was awarded the B.Com. Information Systems degree *cum laude* and is studying for the B.Com.(Hons) degree. He featured in SA's *TOP 100 Future Leaders 2017*. A keen cricket player and certified cricket coach, he works with a *Care*

Centre in a local primary school co-ordinating winter programmes and food schemes.

WITWATERSRAND (WITS)

Mr Oduetse Nthetse was awarded the B.Sc. and B.Sc.(Hons) in Big Data Analytics, and the Higher Dipl. in Computer Science, and is now studying for the M.Sc. in Computer Science. He runs a project in Limpopo to empower communities to use technology, teaches school learners Computer Science and provides reading and entrepreneurship skills and tutoring to an under-resourced school.

2. WELCOME TO THE 2018 ABE BAILEY BURSARS IN LONDON

All Old Abes in the UK are warmly invited to join us for the Welcome Reception at Goodenough College in Mecklenburg Square on **MONDAY 3rd December at 6.30 for 7 p.m.** The new Director **Ms Rebecca Matthews** will be the host. In October the College will send out email invitations with details about the event. Please send your name, tour year and e-mail address to the Director's P.A., **Ms Amanda Streeter**, at amanda.streeter@goodenough.ac.uk so that she can send you the official invitation. It will be a pleasure to have you meet the 2018 bursars at that function.

3. THE 2017 ABES REFLECT ON THEIR TOUR EXPERIENCES

"The chance to travel abroad for the first time as a young South African leader gave me the opportunity to broaden my worldly perspectives and meet astonishing people from my own country and the United Kingdom. This tour made me realise that I can stand my ground on a global platform and that we do not have to stand back as South Africans."

Christian Rudman [North-West University]

"The tour changed my life, it made me dream even bigger, it made me realise that I am bigger, stronger and more talented than I thought, that I should keep on dreaming, keep on working hard till I reach my goals, have another set of goals, keep dreaming, keep striving, never limit myself."

Katlego Mashego [Tshwane University of Technology]



2017 Bursars at Goodenough College. Director Ritchie(r), Keith Richardson(l), John & Disa Gibbon

"I think the most life changing moment for me was visiting Addis Ababa. It was extremely fascinating to juxtapose the socio-economic standards of South Africa and Ethiopia. I had unrealistic images of what I was going to see in a country that escaped colonisation, but reality struck me harshly when I explored the capital city Addis Ababa and poverty was in full display right across where we stayed. I was severely touched emotionally."

Athi Ndita [Cape Peninsula University of Technology]

"The most meaningful aspect of the trip for me had to be the trip to Ethiopia. Though we only spent a night there, the privilege of being South African was apparent and right then and there I felt a sense of duty towards Africa and ensuring that development is people-centred...I thoroughly enjoyed engaging with Goodenough College's students and fellow South Africans living in the UK...this tour is a life changer."

Thembelihle Ncayiyana [University of Cape Town]

"The 2017 Abe's made the biggest impact on my life, and I am so fortunate to be able to be a part of the big things they have planned for this beautiful country of ours. Their positivity and ideas on how we can make South Africa great were so inspirational and motivating, they made me see that no matter how big or small your gesture or endeavour to make a difference in someone's life may be, the effects may be infinite."

Chloe de Villiers [Central University of Technology]

"Throughout the tour I experienced a rollercoaster of emotions, pain, joy, sorrow, happiness and hope. Hope is a feeling I'll never get tired of, especially looking at the quality of my fellow bursars, because it is the fuel which drives change. Hope is the catalyst which will help us realise our dream of making South Africa better for each and every person in it. Hope is the bridge between a dream and a reality."

Gosego Moroka [University of the Free State]

"I am from a 98% black dominated University; being around different racial groups for a period of three weeks made me appreciate the importance of diversity, move out of my comfort zone, and understand how others think, react and analyse things. This made me reflect on myself, choose which habits and views are worth taking, which match with my morals and values. Others challenged my beliefs, culture and social capital; which saw me emerge from the tour as a well-rounded leader."

Desry Lesele [University of Limpopo]

"The tour provided an essential platform for students from diverse backgrounds and convictions to challenge each others' views on issues that shape our world today. The influential and inspiring people we met, made me realise that anyone can make a difference and that I can be that difference in my South African context...The organisation of the tour was superb."

Clarindi Greeff [University of Pretoria]

"I met Old Abes and heard their testimonies about how the tour had afforded them incredible networking opportunities, opened doors to further studies at prestigious institutes like Oxford and Cambridge and how it had been the catalyst for the programmes that they now run back home in South Africa. I was able to connect with people that otherwise would never have crossed my path - high-profile figures; movers and shakers. The talks and discussions were a controlled, safe environment to bring to light perspectives on very profound topics. I'm looking at old things with new eyes."

Hannah McKay [Durban University of Technology]

"Every day was a new experience, whether it was walking through Camden, having lunch in the crypt at Trafalgar Square, or rushing to the underground train after Les Miserables; the people on this tour made every event unforgettable...amazing students with whom I danced, walked, boated, cried, laughed, debated, sang, joked and flew... But the ultimate feature of the trip for me was The Burn. It took my breath away!"

Megan Smith [University of Johannesburg]

"I am now more convinced that we all have an active part to play in the rise of Africa. The leadership that young South Africans need to exhibit was not only evident in our visit to the United Kingdom but also at the African Union in Ethiopia. Through our presentations to each other, we were able to discuss pertinent issues of race relations, medicine, law and feminism...this resulted in us continuously being pushed out of our comfort zones and into areas of growth."

Lize-Mari Doubell [University of Stellenbosch]

"The tour encouraged me to experience personal growth. I gained a new understanding of who I am and a bigger appreciation of the many things I took for granted in our beautiful South Africa. It taught me to never become comfortable and confined to what I know. I became more independent and self-confident as I navigated (while still getting lost sometimes!) a completely different culture and environment."

Michael Balie [Nelson Mandela University]

"Oxford was an amazing experience. The dinner with the former Abes and Rhodes scholars was inspiring. The college dinner at Green Templeton College was one of my favourite parts of the trip. I have applied to study for a DPhil in International Development, and my preferred college is GTC."

Nonkululeko Mabaso [University of the Witwatersrand]

"The tour was remarkable...A new way of looking at South Africa and how we as its youth relate to it was probed, challenged and broadened. It was imperative that young, dynamic leaders from all over South Africa get together outside of their usual environments and share their ideas and ideals with each other. It not only broadened my outlook on life, showed me that possibilities are almost infinite and disagreements and different points of view do not have to hinder development and transformation."

Nonfundo Phambuka [University of Fort Hare]

"Group discussions were so well structured and constructive. The topics that were discussed really challenged my thinking and at times made me uncomfortable and I had to learn to be comfortable with discomfort. There were moments when we cried, laughed but, most importantly, we got to learn more about others' passions and through that we got to bond."

Sinenhlanhla Bengu [Rhodes University]

"The Abe Bailey tour for me was a remarkable experience. This was the year God chose for me to change my personal ideologies through this progressive academic tour. Thanks to the Abe Bailey personnel, managers and other contributors for making this run so successfully. For me the purpose intended by Sir Abe Bailey was fully achieved." **Clarrence Mangena [University of Venda]**

"This was an eye opening experience that reaffirmed that my life is filled with endless possibilities. My mentality changed completely...I've learnt that we set our own limits and pave our way to our destination, regardless of the unending trials and bitter obstacles. I was forced to change my perspective of life itself; now I can say that my past does not really have to affect my future unless I allow it to. I realised that at the end of every journey is a beginning of another, because one accomplishment breeds another. The tour has lured me to serve and lead my community and the University even more than I did before. I am now in awe of the endless possibilities that I thought were impossible before I went to the United Kingdom. My life has changed."

Mohau Mafojane [Vaal University of Technology]

4. THE ABE BAILEY WEBSITE: <http://www.abebailey.org/travel>

A website was launched earlier this year both to keep Fellows informed about the travel bursary and also to enable prospective applicants to gain better insight into the purposes and features of the programme. Fellows who receive Newsletters by email were advised of this innovation immediately and many positive affirmations have been received.

"Warm congratulations on launching an excellent website. I look forward to looking at it again from time to time. Also to the dinner in November." **Richard Goldstone Wits 1960**

"Well done! This is a major milestone for the Trust and it will do wonders for the profile of the Abe Bailey Travel Bursary. I hope to see you later this year for the farewell dinner." **Nhlanhla Dlamini Wits 2004**. "Most impressive! The site will be a wonderful new resource, not only for new applicants, but also for old-timers like me looking to re-live the good times they had in the UK." **Lloyd Smuts UPE 1982**. "What an awesome website! Trying to imagine it from a 1st applicant's perspective. I believe it will be such a great source of info and motivation for many new and eager applicants. Great to look through the photo albums. It was the greatest pleasure to have been able to contribute." **Gabriel Nel UP 2016**. "Congratulations on the launch of the website. It made for a fascinating 'browse' - it was most interesting to observe the extent to which the tour has evolved since my own in 1975. Thank you for many years of excellent service." **Cedric McClelland UPE 1975**. "WOW!!! Loved going through the website. I know how much work it is to put everything together. Congratulations on an outstanding website" **Mariaan Lombard TUT 2009**. "Salutations, John. I am an Abe from 1991 (seems like yesterday!). The website is an excellent idea and I highly appreciate it. It now gives me an opportunity to network with the other Abes, young and old, and to share experiences. Well done and keep up the good work." **Benesh Somai UDW 1991**. "Thank you so much! I have had a look and it looks great! Wonderful that there is now a page where people can find more information about the programme - I remember how little I knew when I applied back in 2012! What a great legacy to leave the programme with in addition to all your other incredible contributions." **Roné McFarlane US 2012**

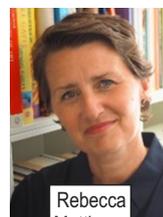
5. CHANGE OF GUARD

2018 has heralded a number of changes in the team associated with the Travel Bursary:

- **Mr Brian Robinson**, Chairman of the Abe Bailey Trust since 1995 and a trustee for 32 years, retired in February. At the 2017 bursars' Farewell Dinner our Fellowship presented him with an *Exceptional Service Award* to acknowledge and thank him for his service to the Abe Bailey Travel Bursary Programme. We wish him and Mrs Robinson well for the years ahead.
- **Mr Brian Figaji**, previously Vice-Chairman, now chairs the Trust which includes **Mr Will Bailey**, **Dr Eltie Links**, **Ms Ann-Maree Tippoo (UCT 2011)** and **Ms Tersia Mdunge**.
- **Mrs Morag Naylor**, the Trust Officer for decades, retired in March but is assisting the Trust during 2018. At the 2017 Farewell Dinner our Fellowship honoured her, too, for outstanding service to bursars over many years, and thanked her for the caring support she gave them each year. Our best wishes for an enjoyable retirement go with her, with much love.
- **Ms Lynnsay Jones**, a Senior Trust Practitioner for Nedgroup Trust, has taken over as the Trust Officer in charge of the bursary tour programme.
- **Mr Keith Richardson**, a retired Headmaster, takes over the role of Tour Manager now that I have stood down after fulfilling this task for 17 years.
- **Ms Rebecca Matthews** takes over as Director of Goodenough College, the bursars' tour base in London, from October - details on our website. We wish the outgoing Director, Major-General Andrew Ritchie and Mrs Ritchie great joy in the years ahead, and thank him for his much appreciated engagement with bursars over many years.



Brian Figaji



Rebecca Matthews

6. NEWS FROM ABES AROUND THE GLOBE

We are sad to record the deaths, some in earlier years, of **David Gordon (Natal 1961)**, **PH Kapp (US 1961)**, **CvH Brand (US 1962)**, **Stan Ridge (Natal 1963)**, **Willie Coetzee (Potchefstroom 1966)**, **Wim Botha (US 1968)**, **Donald Williams (Wits 1968)**, and **Paul Theron (UCT 1970)**, and offer our sincere condolences to their families and fellow bursars.

To hear from **Gert Pelser (UP 1959)**, a fellow bursar with me (**UCT**) was an absolute highlight: *"Ek was al by verskeie geleenthede van voorneme om aan jou te skryf en dankie te sê vir die uitstekende diens wat jy al só lank vir die Fellowship gelewer het. Ek het trouens deurgaans trots gevoel dat 'n lid van ons groep hierdie belangrike funksie met soveel onderskeiding vervul het. Jy het dit net so goed gedoen soos toe jy ons vir die balletvertoning op die boot op pad Southampton-toe afgerig het. Wat 'n vertoning!? Soos vir so baie ander, was die toer ook vir my 'n belewenis uit 'n ander wêreld. Ek het met belangstelling in die 2017 nuusbrieff gelees dat **Dolf Gruber (Rhodes)** ons land besoek het en is so jammer dat ek hom nie ook kon sien nie. Sonder om hulle te na te kom, herinner ek my dat hy en **Ben Pieters (US)** wanneer ons in die aand êrens heen moes loop, bymekaar ingehaak het om mekaar op koers te hou. Hy was mos nagblind en Ben effens mank, iets waaroor hulle self goedig saam gespot het. Sterkte met die werk wat jy hopelik nog lank vir die Fellowship sal kan doen."* Opregte groete, Gert.

A great pleasure to have **Richard Goldstone (Wits 1960)** and his wife Noleen at the last Farewell Dinner: *"Thank you for the latest newsletter - as always inspiring and interesting. Good to see you after the lapse of too many years."*

Great to hear from **David Woods (Rhodes 1962)**: *"Greetings from Kenton on Sea and thank you for the Abe Bailey 2018 List. We moved from Camps Bay to Kenton on Sea."* From the same year, **Neil Callie (Wits)** wrote: *"Thank you for the Abe Letter, always good to receive. I note your handing over the baton to Keith Richardson. It is appropriate indeed to record our combined thanks to you, if I can be so presumptuous, for all you have given to the Abe movement over the years. You have been both dedicated and efficient in promoting our Fellowship, and the one ninth above the water that we, as participants, enjoy relies undoubtedly, for its success on the eight-ninths below, put into place so reliably and without great fanfare by you and your team. Congratulations on a wonderful contribution over the years; so glad you will still be around for a bit. Gail and I are well, given the passing of the years. We plan to return to our family in Australia once we have spent our time here in Plettenberg Bay."* Thank you, Neil. It is a huge privilege and inspiration to interact with such a span of outstanding humans and share your life journeys.

Stanley Ridge (Natal 1963), an incredibly enthusiastic and supportive Fellow who with his wife Elaine regularly attended Farewell Dinners and encouraged the new bursars, passed away in January after a long battle with cancer. UWC paid high tribute to him: *"Prof Ridge joined UWC in 1979 and retired in 2007 but continued to serve as an Emeritus Professor. He was an internationally recognised expert in the fields of higher education and language policy and planning, Renaissance literature, 19th century American literature, religion and literature, South African literary and publishing history, discourse analysis, sociolinguistics and translation studies. He could doubtless have claimed a senior academic post at almost any academic institution in the world. He was a former Pro Vice-Chancellor of UWC."*

His final words to the Fellowship late last year were: *"I am very sorry not to be able to attend the farewell this year. The first reason is a happy one: I have been elected one of the first two Fellows of the English Academy of Southern Africa and the award ceremony is that night. The second reason may make it impossible for me even to attend that event: I have had a really bad run of health and have been in hospital four times in the past seven weeks. At all events I shall be thinking of the Abe gathering on the evening, remembering my excitement 54 years ago when we set off on a journey which has had wonderful echoes throughout my life."* We shall miss Stan. Rest in peace.

Pieter van der Walt (Potchefstroom 1965) sent an address change and details about other Fellows, for which much appreciation, Pieter: *"Thank you for the fine work done for the Fellowship over many years. Sorry to hear that you are laying down the tour reins. Much strength for the days ahead as I gather that we shall still hear from you by way of the Fellowship Newsletters. Friendly greetings."*

From Tony Heher (Natal 1965): *"Thank you for the newsletter. I have had a tumultuous few years culminating in the death of my wife...it is taking time especially as I have been left to care for our handicapped son. If any of the Abes are interested, there is account of my wife's life and our son's 'achievements' on the family website www.heher.co.za. Writing this 'family story' made me realise how much the trajectory of our lives as a family was impacted by that initial Abe Bailey experience. It truly was transformative and really only appreciated in the closing years of one's life when people start asking questions like 'why are you such a maverick!' It's all old Abe's fault! I wish I could convey to all the new Abes how fortunate they are and what unexpected opportunities may open up for them from their unique and special tour experience."* Our warm sympathy, Tony, and wishes for strength as you face the challenges.

See the life stories of our half-centurion Fellows of **1968** in section 7 below.

Callie Coetzee (Potchefstroom 1969) wrote: *"I saw the latest Newsletter at my friend's, Dries du Plooy, and then realised once again that for some reason I wasn't in touch with the Fellowship anymore. I was a bursar together with **Tony Frost, Vink Mostert Piet Hancke, Syd Rogers, Wimcar Celliers**. I was a Reformed Minister for about thirty years, after which I became Professor at the theological seminary of our churches and the Faculty of Theology of the PU for CHE (now NWU). Currently I am still involved at the faculty in a research capacity. I took note of the reunion of the 1967 bursars at the last dinner. May I suggest that you ask someone like Tony Frost to take the initiative to organise something similar for the 1969 bursars. Thank you so much for all your work to keep our Fellowship alive."* Very good to renew contact Callie. Tony has indicated that he will take action for next year!

Also from 1969, Tony Frost (Natal) wrote: *"I read your Newsletter with great interest! And I so enjoyed **Peter Haxton's (Rhodes 1967)** story. Of course he and I share something in common with another Abe Bailey Bursar, **John Frye (Rhodes 1964)** - we all went to Queen's College, Queenstown. What Peter didn't say in his brief autobiography is that he was recognised by the*

Queenstown Education Foundation for his great contribution to education by awarding him the Wilkinson Award - given only to worthy recipients and not awarded every year! He is undoubtedly a worthy recipient for his years and years of service to education in the town!"

From the same year, **Ricky Buwalda (Rhodes)** requested previous copies of our Fellowship newsletters: "*May I thank you most sincerely for the excellent work you have done for the Abe Bailey students over the years, your conscientious efforts are greatly appreciated. I do hope that I will be able to meet you one day. Kind regards.*" This would be a privilege, Ricky. If perchance you travel to Cape Town, join us for the Dinner.

Paul Moller (OFS 1970) sent new address details, and wrote: "*Many thanks for the address list. I was shocked at the passing of Paul Theron (UCT), the first of our 1970 group. Sincere thanks and appreciation for Newsletter 92 too. It is always wonderful to receive news of the Abe Baileys. Greetings and best wishes.*"

Alwyn Marx (RAU 1972) re-established contact with our Fellowship and was warmly welcomed. He replied: "*Thank you for your prompt response. It is great to be in touch again.*" Join us at the Farewell Dinner in November, Alwyn. Appreciated your details about other Old Abes.

From **Bill Pierce (Natal 1973)**: "*Always such a joy to hear from you and to go through the Newsletter. Well done!! I left the corporate world over 5 years ago and have created a wonderful new career of business/management coaching, lecturing at Wits Business School and at Wits itself-on 'executive' programmes and facilitating workshops. This work is done through a number of 'consultancies' where I am on a panel of outside resources. Suits me wonderfully! Also keep myself busy as chairman of my old school (St Martins) governing council. Keep up the good work.*" Strength for all that you still do.

From the same year, **Louis Louw (UP 1973)** wrote: "*Thanks for the latest Abe Bailey list just received. Take note that ds. CvH Brand (US 1962) passed away a few years ago. It surely must be a tall order to have to keep this list up to date. You yourself deserve an Honour Award! Thank you for keeping us informed. Groete, and looking forward to the next Newsletter.*" Thank you, Louis

Cedric McClelland (UPE 1975) wrote: "*Thank you for the Abe Bailey Fellowship address list - it is always interesting to browse through the bursars' names and realise how many have made such exceptional impacts in so many different domains. Thank you for the many years of sterling work you have done for the Fellowship - it is much appreciated.*"

Lifelong growth continues for **Keith Matthee (Natal 1976)**: "*My main focus at the moment is to complete my PhD through the Theology Faculty (took some persuading as they said I should do it through the Law Faculty!) at US. I hope to finish by the end of 2018 - my thesis involves a philosophical/theological reflection on our bill of rights. Warm regards*" Great strength for this challenge, Keith!

In response to my acknowledgement and appreciation of his work at UCT, **Max Price (Wits 1978)** replied: "*Thanks for your kind words. I will be stepping down from my position as Vice-Chancellor of UCT in June 2018, as I come to the end of my ten-year term. It has been an enormous honour to lead this great university during this time of growth, success and challenge. In spite of how stressful the last three years of my term have been, as a result of a student uprising that disrupted business-as-usual, I feel privileged to have been an actor shaping this transformation while steering the ship through the storm, rather than a bystander. I will take a sabbatical in London and attempt to write a book about this period - both the personal - of leading the university through this recent turbulent period, and more analytically - a reflection on the watershed period that higher education in SA has gone through.*" Very best wishes for the future, Max.

Managing the amazing Vula educational outreach from Hilton School in KZN, **Lloyd Smuts (UPE 1982)** wrote: "*I recently met up with Prof Jean Greyling (UPE 1988) of NMU. He was at Hilton College to talk to the pupils about careers in computing. I spent some time with him as he was interested in the work of the Vula Programme, and we were also able to briefly chat about the impact our Abe trips had had on our lives.*"

From **Daphne Scott (Wits 1984)**: "*Thanks for your great work in keeping the Abes in communication. Getting the newsletter by email works very well indeed. I still work as a Senior Lecturer in the Math Department, Western Washington University. All the best.*" Thank you Daphne. I am hoping that many more Fellows will switch to receiving newsletters by email.

Ronée Robinson (RAU 1985) made contact: "*Thank you for the 2018 newsletter and, as always, all the work you do for us. Please send me the newsletter electronically. Also, just to let you know that I took silk some time ago.*" An exciting step. Congratulations.

Mollie Lyons (US 1987) boldly faced significant life space changes: "*Thank you so much for everything you do for the Fellowship. Just a quick update: I have moved to Standerton in Mpumalanga, I opened a small psychology practice focusing on career counselling, life and relationship coaching, trauma counselling, etc. I am also a part-time cattle farmer and I am engaged in community work. I love being back in my home town and particularly enjoy the rich and enduring relationships that are formed in such a small community. In addition, being out of the big city just works for me. I am sure my new life-style out in the sticks is not suited for everybody but it does wonders for my emotional well-being! I am still very grateful for the learning opportunities the Abe Bailey Bursary provided me with-it expanded my understanding of life on so many levels!"* Flourish happily, Mollie.

Christel Fourie (RAU 1992) was one of a number of Old Abes who attended the official Welcome to the 2017 bursars hosted by

Goodenough College. She wrote to the Director to express her thanks: *"It was interesting to relive the charm and atmosphere of London House again and to meet some of the talented bursars. When the weather turned bitterly cold last week, I spared a thought for the young South Africans. I know their optimism and excitement about the tour could not dull their vibrancy. It was good to see John Gibbon again and to wish him and his wife well for the future."*

Paulo Andrade (RAU 1994), reconnected with the Fellowship through the kind action of **Alwyn Marx (RAU 1972)**, replied: *"Thank you for your email. I am currently the Acting CEO of Banco Letshego which is a Commercial Bank in Mozambique and also part of Africa's Leading Inclusive Finance Group based in 11 Countries. In Mozambique we have the largest consumer lending book in the country and have also started agency banking in rural communities, one of the first banks in Africa to do so. I wish you all the best and hope to stay in touch with you."* Great to hear from you. Stay strong Paulo.

Refilwe Phaswana-Mafuya (UNorth 1998) was appointed as Deputy VC (Research and Innovation) of North-West University. She replied to our congratulations on this outstanding achievement when I re-established contact with her again: *"Wow!.I'm so excited for this reconnection. I yearn to go back to the organisers of the Abe Bailey Travel Bursary to say: Thank You. This experience changed my life."* There can be few Old Abes who have risen to such prominence after only 20 years after their tour!

Pravashen Naidoo (UCT 2006) sent a message to the new bursars: *"Can't believe it's been over 12 years since my tour. Dear new Abes: welcome to one of the greatest journeys of your lives. Have the time of your life during this journey. The chance to travel with and get to know each other, the future leaders of South Africa, must be taken with the seriousness and intent that the programme deserves. We look forward to hearing what each of you will be doing to make our country greater in the years to come."*

Richard Chemaly (UFS 2012) wrote: *"Glad to hear you'll be getting some well-deserved rest after years of travelling. Thank you for your contribution to the Trust and, by extension, my personal development. I still reflect on the travels of 6 years ago. I'm also glad to hear you'll still be involved in the Abes. I hope I'll be able to see you at the dinner this year."* We look forward to being with you at the Farewell Dinner, Richard.

From the inimitable **Kameel Premhid (UKZN 2012)** in response to the 2017 Newsletter: *"As always, overjoyed by your crisp synthesising of a vast and varied history of the Fellowship. May it, and you, go from strength-to-strength. Thank you for all your years of service and congratulations on the phenomenal legacy you have achieved. Your mark on the Tour and the Fellowship is an indelible one."* Thank you Kameel. Your enthusiastic support and encouragement have been terrific.

Superb news from **Helene-Mari van der Westhuizen (US 2013)** who is doing her community service as a medical doctor in the E Cape: *"Thank you for continuing to manage the Fellowship administration - it's wonderful to have a way to remain connected to the Abe Bailey Fellows. I am excited to let you know that I will be able to meet the 2018 Abes in Oxford this year - I received a Rhodes Scholarship to further my studies. What makes this very special is that my husband also received a Rhodes scholarship, so I will be sharing this phenomenal opportunity with him! I will be studying a DPhil in Primary Care and will focus on TB prevention in South Africa. We will both be members of Green Templeton College. We will not be lonely in Oxford, as I am the third Abe in our 2013 group to have received a Rhodes Scholarship. I am looking forward to being reunited with my great friend, **Sizwe Mkwanazi (UJ 2013)**.*

The Zithulele team is absolutely phenomenal - we are incredibly fortunate to be doing our community service here. We are learning many new clinical skills as working in a rural environment demands a lot of versatility, but also about leadership, service to others and team management. It is a privilege to spend time here." Congratulations to both of you-a remarkable achievement! Enjoy Green Templeton and the 2018 Abes.

Another 2013 Abe, **Jordan Griffiths (UP)** also shared exciting news: *"I hope you are well. I figured you would be glad to hear that I have been chosen for the Young African Leaders Initiative programme and will be spending 6 weeks in the USA later this year."* YALI is an initiative of the US Department of State begun in 2010 by Barack Obama. Well done, Jordan-have a life-stretching time.

Zanele Matsane (CUT 2014) wrote: *"I moved to Johannesburg so work has been quite busy. But I am enjoying it. So good to hear from you, I am happy to hear that the travel bursary is going from strength to strength. I find myself envious of the new bursars and the amazing new developments they get to experience."*

An interesting enquiry from **Sam Beynon (NMU 2015)**: *"I hope you are well! I want to find out if you ever extend an invitation to old ABES to join you for a leg of the tour for the current year of Abe Bursars and if so, at what cost?"* This fascinating proposition has not arisen before-but wherever possible during a tour we try to arrange for available Old Abes to meet the new bursars.

Also from 2015, **Simphiwe Khumalo (DUT)** wrote: *"I must say my life has never been the same after receiving the Abe Bailey award. Being an Abe fueled me with a lifetime energy and zeal to always strive for the best and to make a difference in people's lives. I am working for the Wits Reproductive Health and HIV Institute making a difference through HIV research."*

Ten Abe Fellows from NWU gave **Christian Rudman (NWU 2017)** a formal send-off on the Potchefstroom Campus of North-West University. This tradition was initiated in 2016 by Prof Fika Janse van Rensburg, current Deputy Vice-Chancellor. Present were **Elmarie van der Schyff (1989)**, **Henk Stoker (1985)**, **Fanie Coetzee (1984)**, **Pieter Möller (1976)**, **Pieter Mulder (1974)**, **Philip Steenkamp (2003)**, **Heleen Coetzee (2001)**, **Fika Janse van Rensburg (1973)**, **Christian Rudman (2017)**, **Pieter van**

der Walt (1965), Paul Maritz (2016).

Interesting facts: Pieter Mulder and Heleen Coetzee are father and daughter, with another daughter/sister, **Suzanne Mulder (UV 2002)** also an Abe Fellow.

7. WHERE ARE THEY NOW? THE 1968 HALF-CENTURION ABES

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Abe Tour of 1968. **Roger Crawford (UN)**, co-ordinated life stories from his tour mates for this Newsletter. Thank you Roger, and to the 1968 Abes, two of whom have passed away: **Wim Botha (US)** and **Donald Williams (Wits)**. Roger wrote: *"Over the years I have enjoyed sporadic contact with the Abe Bailey Fellows of 1968. It has been both fun and rewarding to strengthen those ties over the last few months. It would be exciting to have a handful of the group attend the 2018 farewell dinner."* A warm welcome awaits available half-centurions at the dinner.

Don Gibbon (Rhodes) [High School Education]

"The Tour exposed me to a bigger and wider world. My memories have been an ongoing inspiration to me and I am deeply grateful to the Trust for making it all happen. My physical science teaching career began immediately after the Tour. My first post was at Grey High in Port Elizabeth where I was also very involved in sports coaching and administration. In 1977 I became one of the founder staff members of Fairmont High in Durbanville.

I served as principal of Muizenberg High in Cape Town from 1986 to 1998. The change to 'open schools' during this tenure produced the most fulfilling time of my years in education. Tiring of school administration and lured by the state VSP offer, I returned to my first love, science teaching, and spent ten happy years teaching at Herschel Girls' High. After retiring, I wrote school science textbooks and ran a series of workshops for teachers mainly in rural areas. My wife and I met at Rhodes and married in 1969. We have two children and six grandchildren. We live in Cape Town, spend time down the coast at Rooiels and like to travel."



1968 ABE BAILEY BURSARS

Back:

Roger Crawford,
Don Gibbon,
Olaus van Zyl,
Philip Henning,
Pieter van Huyssteen
Johan van der Walt,
Michael Lownds

Front:

Wim Botha,
John Inglis,
Ben de Klerk,
Donald Williams,
Mark Orkin

Formal
looking
dudes!!

Pieter van Huyssteen (US) [Economics]

"I remain immensely grateful to the Trust for arranging the Abe Bailey Tour. My personal exposure to the history, architecture and culture(s) of London and parts of Great Britain enriched my life. My studies and lecturing in Economics at Stellenbosch led me to international banking quite early in my working career - as the head of International Project Finance until 1983 and later as Director of a privately held South African bank, Finansbank.

In the interesting period between 1988 and 1993, I was seconded to the State as head of the Government's Policy Unit on Privatisation and facilitated the privatisation of the iron and steel company, ISCOR, and the incorporation of a number of other major SOE's. I felt most privileged to interact very closely with expert international financial advisors in many parts of the world, including regular visits to the UK Prime Minister's Policy Unit advisor Prof Brian Griffiths and also presenting at the annual meetings of the World Economic Forum in DAVOS.

Price Waterhouse invited me in 1993 to join the international firm to develop its Corporate Finance practice in Africa as Partner/Director until my official retirement in 2004. I continued consulting to PWC and to major SA financial institutions on different infrastructure projects including Public Private Partnerships and between 2013-2107, to the Department of Energy & National Treasury on their Renewable Energy IPP Programme as the Independent Reviewer (Finance).

I am now fully retired and reside in Johannesburg. Karina and I married in 1974 and are blessed with four children and six granddaughters. We are active in our community, fond of reading and love to travel around Southern Africa, overseas and spend as much time as possible in the Drakensberg and Stilbaai (W. Cape)."

Olaus van Zyl (UP) [Civil Engineering]

"The Tour was certainly a very special experience in my life, a privilege for which I remain very grateful. I am a professional civil engineer specialising in transportation engineering. I also did post graduate studies at the University of California in Berkeley (USA). After university I joined the BKS consulting engineering group where I first spent 20 years and later another 17 years, the last few years as CEO. Just before that I was MD of an affiliate company Khuthule Projects. I worked on a number of very interesting projects all over Southern Africa. The highlight of my engineering career was being Project Coordinator for the Gautrain Project from its inception in 2000 until 2016 when the last aspects of the development period were completed and I then retired from full time work.

In my early years as a consulting engineer, I was also a part time councillor in the Town Council of Randburg for 11 years, being Mayor for 1 year and Chairman of the Management Committee for a number of years. In 1988 I was appointed MEC (Local Government) and later MEC (Institutional Development and Negotiations) in the Transvaal Provincial Government. In 1993/4 I was Executive Director of the National Party and M.P. and from 1994 to 1996 MEC for Public Transport and Roads in the Gauteng Provincial Government. It was a special privilege and experience to be involved in the constitutional reform and transformation of our country and also good to return to the engineering profession for the last nearly 20 years of my working life.

I was the only bursar in that year who was married. We had our 50th wedding anniversary in July this year. We have 3 children and 7 grandchildren. We still live in Randburg and spend time during the year in the Southern Cape. I love travelling and reading."

Ben de Klerk (PU for CHE) [Theology]

"After a wonderful Tour I spent another year studying at PU for CHE and in 1970 became a minister in Gobabis, Namibia. During my ministry I served in Randburg and in the student congregation in Potchefstroom. My career changed in 1998 when I became a professor in Practical Theology in the Faculty of Theology at the North-West University. By attending two academic congresses in the UK I had the opportunity to walk in the "footsteps" of the 1968 Tour and the memories were sweet. I retired in 2010 from fulltime academic work and became a so-called Post-65-researcher, reading and writing in my own time and at my own pace.

I met my wife in Potchefstroom and we married in 1971. We are blessed with four children and seven grandchildren. We are still living in Potchefstroom and we enjoy camping in our beautiful country and Namibia, especially in the "wilderness".

The unique experiences I was given by participating in the Tour of 1968 broadened my view on many aspects of life and I remain very grateful to the Trust."

Mick Lownds (Rhodes) [Chemistry]

"After graduating from Rhodes and going on the memorable Tour of Britain, I did a PhD in Chemistry at UCT. My first job was in R&D in explosives with AECI at their Modderfontein laboratories. That was the start of a 42 year career in commercial explosives involving several different employers on three continents. With the help of one of these companies I emigrated with my family to the United States in 1988, becoming a US citizen in 2001.

During my career I worked in explosives and blasting research, technology management, and product management of electronic detonators. In the USA I have worked for explosives companies in Utah, Minnesota and Colorado. I am a past Fellow of SAIMM, and have been given a President's Award from the International Society of Explosives Engineers, and a Medal of Merit from the Mining Foundation of the Southwest.

While at UCT I married my Rhodes girlfriend, and after many moves we are settled in Salt Lake City. We feel very lucky to be close to our 3 children and 5 grandchildren. I am thoroughly enjoying my retirement doing a little consulting, child-minding, woodworking, and teaching and playing bridge."

Roger Crawford (UN) [Education; African Studies]

"Towards the end of my school career my headmaster famously said "Crawford ... teach for a few years and learn about yourself." After the memorable '68 Tour I returned to my alma mater, St Andrew's Bloem, to teach. Gill joined me a year later and the 'few years' soon became ten which remain the most fulfilling years of our professional lives. Degrees were added from Free State and London and after serving as deputy head I decided to learn a little more about myself by joining the world of commerce. A 32 year career in a global health care company, Johnson & Johnson, offered opportunities to grow, serve and expand horizons.

A masters degree in African studies offered the platform for my ultimate role as executive director of government affairs and policy. Stints as a board member of trade associations, chambers of commerce, community organisations, 'think-tanks' and school governing bodies added to the learning and giving. Shortly after the implementation of the Sullivan Principles (a code of employment practice for US companies in South Africa) I was tasked with leading the Signatory Association which thrust me into the national business arena during the transition to democracy. A stand-out memory is driving the development of Africa's first specialised burn treatment centre in Soweto which later brought a Life-Time Achievement award from the SA Burn Society. Wider horizons came as a global facilitator on the 'Leaders Developing Leaders' programme and serving on the corporation's Africa task team.

The thrill and friendships of the Abe Bailey Fellowship have remained fresh in my mind. Post the Biblical 'three score and ten'

years unfolds a life of books still to be read (and perhaps one to be written), travel, some board responsibilities and five invigorating grandchildren....soon Gill and I will mark 50 years of marriage partnership. Robert Browning's exhortation that 'a man's reach should exceed his grasp' has been a mantra since I had his poem explained to me by an inspiring teacher. I remain deeply grateful to the Abe Bailey Fellowship for the privilege of being a member of the 1968 Tour"

John Inglis (UCT) [Education]

"The Tour of '68 was a close encounter with a group of young socially concerned male South Africans with very different views, but not representative of most South Africans. I am very happy that this has long changed. The tour was also a fascinating encounter with Britain - so familiar in its language. But I discovered how 'foreign' it was to me, and this made me aware of my identity as a South African. After leaving UCT I studied Maths at Oxford for 2 years as a Rhodes Scholar. In 1972 I trained as a teacher at Stellenbosch University, then taught Maths at Michaelhouse and Maritzburg College for 8 years. In 1981 I moved into a different aspect of education - working as Maths, Sciences and English publisher for Shuter & Shooter for 25 years. A core aspect of this work was the need to produce learning materials accessible to learners for whom English was not their first language. In 1972 I married Margi Murray. Our 3 children are all now married and I have 5 grandchildren. Sadly Margi died suddenly in 1999. I have since married Marie Odendaal and acquired a second family. We live in Pietermaritzburg and, since retiring, are mainly involved in various volunteer NGOs and in Quakers in Southern Africa."

Mark Orkin (Wits) [Sociology]

"Alongside the amazing sightseeing and events, the 1968 Tour was my first substantial exposure to fellow white male student leaders who were as intensely committed to their pro-apartheid SRCs and the Afrikaanse Studentebond as I was to the overwhelmingly liberal Wits SRC and Nusas. Although we were courteous, it was occasionally trying, perhaps for both sides. We may celebrate that bursars nowadays enjoy post-apartheid diversity of race, gender and campus. I switched from my undergraduate physics to sociology, via a PPE at Oxford and an MA at Sussex on a Rhodes Scholarship. After a decade lecturing back at Wits, I set up a progressive social-research NGO in 1985, at the onset of the states of emergency. Concurrently with my protracted PhD, our projects for various organisations of the liberation movement led to my recruitment during the Mandela administration as Head of Stats SA, to lead its transformation. My task was similar, subsequently, as CEO of the HSRC and Director General of the (now) National School of Government. Since retiring in 2009 I have consulted, shifting gradually from change management back to social statistics. My wife Jenny - a lifelong worker in the field of lifelong education - and I have been together since 1969. We still live in Jo'burg, and occasionally travel with our children who live abroad."

Johan van der Walt (Potchefstroom) [Theology]

"Our Tour heralded my last year of study, in which my wife Duba and I married. After that I was a minister in Reitz, Bloemfontein, Frankfort and Rustenburg until 1997. At national level, I was involved in managing various cultural organisations, including leading the Voortrekker movement. This brought me into contact with young people among whom we focused on leadership development. In 1997 I was invited to do leadership development on a fulltime basis. The focus was especially on the '10% factor', young leaders in grades 8-11, across all cultures. This was a special calling. A non-profit Trust Partnership Foundation covered the expenses and more than 12 000 young leaders across the nation were effectively mentored. Potential leaders from various cultural groups were brought together to be equipped for the new South Africa. These courses were offered near Rustenburg at Eduland, the centre which I set up. What took place here was surely what Sir Abe Bailey was seeking to fulfil through his travel bursary programme. We have four children spread across the country which makes it difficult for us to enjoy our grandchildren fully. Since 2013 we have been living in Mossel Bay."

8. FAREWELL FOR THE 2018 ABES: Wednesday 28th November 2018

Join us at the ATLANTIC IMBIZO, at the Cape Town Waterfront to give the new Abes a good send-off. An invitation to the Farewell Dinner with relevant details, directions and free parking information is enclosed if you live in or near Cape Town, or attached if you receive the Newsletter by email. If you live further afield and can arrange to be at the dinner, please contact me for an invitation. We would be delighted to enjoy your company as guests of the Trust. A special invitation is given to the **2017 bursars** to share in the send-off to their successors, and to the **Abes of 1968** to mark the 50th anniversary of their tour, 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/attached reply slip, so that we can make accurate catering arrangements.

9. ABE CONTACT DETAILS

Old Abes with whom we had lost contact have been traced by fellow Abes or have reconnected with the Fellowship. Welcome back! If you know details of any bursars listed as 'unknown' in the March 2018 official address list, or of Fellows who have passed away, please let me know. Please inform me of any **changes in your own e-mail or postal details, especially if you receive newsletters by email.**

10. STORIES FOR OUR WEBSITE

You are keenly welcomed to contribute your 'STORY' for uploading onto the STORIES page of our new website, mentioned above in Section 4. Initially a small number of Fellows were invited to do so to start the ball rolling, but it would be fascinating to have a wider cross-section reflected on this page. The hope is that these will be rotated so that we are introduced to more of our Fellows and able to share their life journeys. If you email your STORY to me, please attach a head-and-shoulders photo as well.

11. RECEIVE FELLOWSHIP NEWSLETTERS ELECTRONICALLY

Well over 300 Fellows now receive Newsletters by email in place of posted hard copies. **How about YOU?** Send me an email if you are willing to receive future Fellowship communications electronically. From 2014 all new Abes receive them by email.

12. THANK YOU!

- ✿ To all who sent in news, contributions and up-dated contact details
- ✿ To all who have agreed to receive Fellowship Newsletters by email
- ✿ To **Chairman Brian Figaji and the Abe Bailey Trustees** for their commitment to the annual travel bursary programme and for their conscientious selection of bursars
- ✿ To the **Trust** for their generosity in inviting my wife to accompany my last tour in 2017 as manager. (She had a ball!!!)
- ✿ To **Morag Naylor** and **Ms Lynnsay Jones** who make the extensive arrangements for the 2018 Tour
- ✿ To the incoming Tour Manager, **Keith Richardson**, who is creatively revitalising the programme for the forthcoming tour.
- ✿ To **Andrew Ritchie** (until August), **Amanda Streeter**, **Alan McCormack**, **David Turner** and their teams who co-ordinate arrangements in the UK and host each year's bursars so generously and warmly.
- ✿ To incoming Goodenough Director, **Ms Rebecca Matthews**, in anticipation of the role she will play in receiving the 2018 bursars and tour groups in the years to come.

Warm good wishes to you all

JOHN GIBBON
SECRETARY/ORGANISER

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