



**St John of Jerusalem  
Eye Hospital Group**

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# Annual Review 2016

Saving Sight **Changing  
Lives**

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## Snapshot of 2016

In 2016, we treated over **125,000** outpatients, including performing over **4,800** major operations.

### Anabta Clinic

Our Clinic treated over 21,000 people.

**16** staff members, including **11** medical & nursing staff.

### Gaza Hospital

Our Hospital saw 27,000 patients, including performing over 500 major operations.

Our new premises opened in June 2016.

**24** staff members, including **18** medical & nursing staff.

### Community Outreach Programmes:

The **Mobile Outreach Programme's** impact continues to grow. In 2016, the Programme saw over 18,000 patients, compared to 16,700 in 2015.

**Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Programme** saw over 47,200 patients between 2012-2016 in the West Bank, of these almost 12,400 were referred for treatment.

We assisted UNRWA with a similar service in refugee camps in Jordan in 2016 in which over 2,700 diabetic patients were screened for diabetic retinopathy.

### Jerusalem Hospital

Our Hospital treated over 42,100 patients including performing nearly 3,800 major operations.

**180** staff members, including **108** medical & nursing staff.

### Muristan Clinic

The Muristan Clinic, operated jointly with Sovereign Military Order of Malta, opened in October 2016, and we hope it will treat over 5,500 patients annually. Alongside the Clinic we have established a Peace Garden, the Tree of Hope and a Museum.

### Hebron Hospital

Our Hospital treated over 13,600 patients in 2016, including performing over 500 major operations.

Our new premises, opened in November 2015, have allowed us to see nearly 20% more patients and perform over 50% more major surgeries in its first year of operation.

**14** staff members, including **9** medical & nursing staff.

**THE SEPARATION WALL**  
**THE GREEN LINE (1967 BOUNDARY)**

Staff numbers are as at 31 December 2016 and do not include the 6 staff members in our London Fundraising Team.



St John of Jerusalem  
Eye Hospital Group

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**Glossary:** **CBM** – Christoffel-Blindenmission. **EU** – European Union. **JCI** – Joint Commission International; the gold-standard for healthcare worldwide. **NGO** – non-governmental organisation. **NIS** – New Israeli Shekel. **oPt** – occupied Palestinian territories. **PA** – Palestinian Authority. **SJEHG** – St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group; this refers to all of our entities. **UNDP** – United Nations Development Programme. **UNRWA** – United Nations Relief and Works Agency, the UN branch responsible for Palestinian refugees. **USAID** – United States Agency for International Development

## Aims of the Charity

### Saving Sight Changing Lives

St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group is the only charitable provider of expert eye care in East Jerusalem, Gaza and the West Bank. We have been treating patients in the region regardless of their ethnicity, religion or ability to pay for over 135 years. Our sight-saving work is carried out against challenging and difficult odds to the highest international standards.

### Our Impact extends beyond the Individual

We contribute to economic growth in the region, enhance education and employment prospects, all through the services provided by our Hospitals, Clinics and Outreach Programme.

## Statement of Financial Activities

Incoming Resources: £10.8m	£000	\$000	%
Patient Related Income	4,416	6,006	<b>41</b>
Priory Income for Capital Costs	398	541	<b>4</b>
Operational Costs	2,488	3,329	<b>23</b>
Other Voluntary Income for Capital Costs	725	986	<b>7</b>
Operational Costs	2,680	3,645	<b>25</b>
Investment Income	144	196	<b>1</b>
Total	<b>10,811</b>	<b>14,703</b>	

Resources Expended: £9.8m	£000	\$000	%
Charitable Activities	8,947	12,168	<b>92</b>
Cost of Generating Funds	692	941	<b>7</b>
Governance	111	151	<b>1</b>
Total	<b>9,750</b>	<b>13,260</b>	

Cost of  
Generating  
Funds **7%**

Governance **1%**



Charitable Activities **92%**

## Chairman and Chief Executive Introduction

2016 has been an extraordinary year in the history of St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group



L-R Landscape Architect Brayan Muntasser, CEO Tom Ogilvie-Graham, Chairman Nicholas Woolf and donor Michael Dan in our new Muristan Peace Garden

Last year we stated "our overarching aim is to deliver the highest standards of patient care, with the most efficient approach possible." Our major achievements of this year are all focused on that goal.

Our commitment to Gaza has been reinforced, with the opening of our new hospital in June 2016. This year also saw the official opening of our new hospital in the centre of Hebron and our Muristan Clinic in the Old City of Jerusalem. We have also created the adjacent Museum and Peace Garden with its iconic Tree of Hope. We are hoping that this will become an internationally recognised feature for the annual 3.5 million

tourists to the Old City informing them of the history and work of SJEHG and the Order of St John.

In a first for our organisation, 2016 saw our services projected into a neighbouring country, when we seconded nurses to work with UNRWA in Jordan on its humanitarian work in support of Palestinian and Syrian refugees. An offshoot of our Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Programme, this was a great success, and will be taken to Gaza Refugee Camps in 2017.

Our genetic research programme, based in our Jerusalem Hospital, 'Peace in Sight', which is funded by the European Union and undertaken in collaboration with the Israeli Hadassah Medical Center, is also

now well underway - with the aim to eventually enable us to offer new treatments to those suffering from eye conditions in the region.

Unfortunately, 2016 had other events, most notably Brexit, which caused a sharp depreciation in the Pound Sterling against all currencies, including the Shekel. Our budget for 2017 shows a £1.5 million deficit and is set at a £/Shekel rate of NIS 4.8 - the lowest rate in SJEHG's history. While the budget does include £1 million of depreciation (due to the infrastructure enhancements), this is a worrying position that requires action on a number of fronts to bring the budget back into balance.

We therefore continue to be dependent upon our donors around the world. Without their generosity, our much needed services would have difficulty operating at their current levels. The world around us changes very fast. While we endeavour to be nimble and react to it, this is not always easy. But with everyone's continued help we can aspire to deliver the highest standards of patient care to those we are committed to serve. Saving Sight, Changing Lives.

*Nicholas Woolf*

Nicholas Woolf  
Chairman

*Tom Ogilvie-Graham*

Brigadier Tom Ogilvie-Graham  
Chief Executive

9 May 2017

## Highlights of 2016: A remarkable year for St John Eye Hospital

Our ambitious Plans for 2016 are reflected in our Highlights of this year.



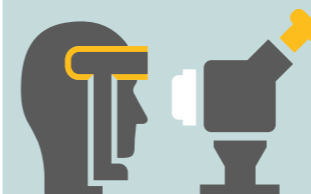
### Patients

- In 2016, we treated over 125,000 outpatients including performing over 4,800 major operations (for an analysis of patients treated see the Snapshot on page 2).



### Quality of Care

- JCI accreditation is considered the gold standard in international healthcare systems. SJEHG had its three-year review in April 2016, with reaccreditation achieved.
- SJEHG outperformed all international benchmarks in infection control for all ophthalmic procedures, including cataract surgery, and hospital acquired infections, in all clinical sites.



### Professional Development

- 2 residents graduated from the Medical Residency Programme, 3 residents continued their studies.
- 7 nurses enrolled and 6

- nurses graduated from the postgraduate training programme at our Sir Stephen Miller School of Nursing.
- 15 nurses graduated from our Gaza Nurse Training Programme.
- One doctor began a Fellowship in Ophthalmic Genetics and Retinal Diseases in partnership with Hadassah Medical Center.
- One doctor began a Fellowship in Glaucoma and one nurse completed an advanced Oculoplastic course at the Aravind Institute in India.



### Modernisation

- Hospital Management Information System (the digitalisation of our hospital patient records): the initial stages of implementation were successful across all our locations and patient services.



### Infrastructure

- The official opening of our new Hebron Hospital was in September 2016, although it began treating patients in November 2015. Its first year of service saw a nearly 20% increase in outpatients and 50% increase in major surgeries performed.
- The new state-of-the-art Gaza Hospital opened in June 2016.

- It has seen new surgeries available within the Gaza Strip for the first time, such as corneal transplants.
- The Muristan Clinic opened in October 2016.
- The adjacent Muristan Garden of Peace, Tree of Hope and Museum were also opened to the public and will inform locals and tourists of our history in the area as well as promoting SJEHG as a centre for peace.



### Research

- Our Peace in Sight (Genetic Research Programme) was established in Jerusalem in 2016 in partnership with the Hadassah Medical Center and the EU Partnership for Peace Programme. Its research into genetic eye conditions will help us develop better treatment for the conditions which are most prevalent in Palestine.



### Media

- The documentary 'Eyes of St John', produced by Carlo Nero and Vanessa Redgrave, has continued to allow us to showcase our work to our supporters and new audiences. It has won three prestigious awards and was a finalist in the London Short Film Festival 2016.

## Our Patients

An incredible 80% of blindness is preventable but in many countries reversible conditions can be left undetected for decades. This is particularly true in the oPt where rates of blindness are ten times higher than in the West. Lack of infrastructure, high poverty rates and a complex permit system and Separation Wall leave many Palestinians struggling to access even the most basic eye care.

SJEHG has been working to tackle preventable blindness in this region for over 135 years. Our flagship **Jerusalem Hospital** is proud to cover all ophthalmic specialities, except oncology. It was the first hospital in the oPt to be awarded JCI accreditation, a testament to our commitment to quality of patient care.

In the past twenty years we have expanded our services to be accessible to as many residents of the West Bank as possible, especially as 20% of patients (and their companions) from the West Bank are denied permits to enter Jerusalem for treatment. Our **Hebron Hospital** provides screening and surgeries for the 640,000 people who live in and around Hebron, including the semi-nomadic Bedouins. Our **Anabta Clinic** is accessible to the 1 million residents in Anabta and surrounding towns such as Nablus and Jenin, where some of our poorest patients reside.

Over 1.8 million Palestinians

live in isolation in the Gaza Strip, one of the most heavily populated areas in the world. In July 2016 over 30% of patients from Gaza were denied or delayed access to the West Bank to receive medical care (WHO). Our new state-of-the-art **Gaza Hospital**, replacing our previous clinic, has greatly expanded our ability to provide diverse and high-quality care in the region.



*Maya recovers from her successful squint surgery whilst her mother comforts her. Her mother says "I would follow St John doctors anywhere"*

Our **Muristan Clinic** is located on the site of the original Crusader hospital from where our charity's history originates and will treat the many residents of Jerusalem's Old City. Adjacent to the Clinic is our new Peace Garden and Museum which will encourage visitors to the Old City (3.5 million a year) to gain awareness of the work of SJEHG.

Our **Mobile Outreach Programme** delivers essential eye care to some of the most remote and impoverished communities in the West Bank, and serves a population of 2.9 million people. The team coordinates permits needed for patients with complex eye issues to be referred to one of our hospitals or clinics. Our **Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Programme** screens

and treats this condition common among patients in the West Bank. In 2016, we also seconded some of our nurses to work with UNRWA in Jordan where they have implemented the Screening Programme in refugee camps supporting Palestinian and Syrian refugees.

## Case Study: Yazan

Yazan almost lost his eyesight from injuries sustained from playing in the rubble of his house – rubble caused by the 2014 conflict in Gaza.

After an emergency operation at a local general hospital, Yazan's eye remained almost fully closed, offering him very limited vision. His parents decided they must take him to seek treatment elsewhere – and naturally the first choice for eye care was St John.

Yazan and his father travelled to our Gaza Hospital to seek a second opinion. Although our Gaza Hospital offers a number of ophthalmic surgeries (and continues to expand its services as more of our doctors are trained in subspecialties), Yazan's injury was so severe that he was recommended to travel to our flagship Jerusalem Hospital for surgery.

But this in itself caused a problem. Yazan's father was denied permission to escort his son to the West Bank and his mother was housebound and breastfeeding their newborn baby. How do you seek treatment elsewhere when you are not allowed to leave the area you live in?

It fell to little Yazan's grandmother, with the help of St John social services, to travel with him to Jerusalem. Two operations at St John saved Yazan's sight in the damaged eye. His grandmother is very thankful to have found our services:



*Yazan in our Jerusalem Hospital before his surgery*

*'I thank God when I think about how things were and how things are now. There is nothing like being able to see. Vision... what's more than that?'*

Yazan is one of the 42,700 children we screened or treated at St John Eye Hospital in 2016. He is featured in an online video story which you can watch at [www.stjohnseyehospital.org/yazans-story](http://www.stjohnseyehospital.org/yazans-story)

In a society as turbulent as the oPt, children living without sight are robbed of an independent future. With your help we can ensure that every child in the oPt suffering from preventable blindness can enjoy a future with sight.



**Our People** - SJEHG employs **240** people in total, of whom

**146** are medical staff, including **24** doctors and **94** nurses.\*



We invest in training our local staff. In doing so, we are contributing to the Palestinian economy.

The **Medical Residency Programme** invests in Palestinian doctors and enhances their ability to provide essential sight-saving skills for the Palestinian population. There is nowhere other than our Jerusalem Hospital that offers such comprehensive training for Palestinian ophthalmologists in the oPt. Over the past 10 years, in line with our vision of providing a sustainable service of excellence to the

people we serve, Palestinian ophthalmologists have continuously received specialist training. SJEHG now has Palestinian specialists in every field of ophthalmology, except complex oncology. In the past, these services would have been provided by visiting expatriate specialists. These visits were often staggered or ad hoc which could lead to long delays in patients receiving urgent care - especially in times of conflict. Our specialists can now treat eye problems across the board, meaning our patients can be treated to an expert level as soon as possible.

Once qualified, our doctors

can specialise in a particular area of ophthalmology by undertaking a fellowship in our Jerusalem Hospital or elsewhere. Our Joint Teaching Programme, in partnership with the Israeli Hadassah Medical Center, is where many of our doctors undertake their training. This partnership allows our doctors to access teaching that is not available to them in the oPt; as well as encouraging constructive relationships between Israelis and Palestinians. SJEHG won the The Gandhi Foundation International Peace Award 2012 in recognition of our medical peace-building. In February 2016, our Peace in Sight (Genetic Research

Programme) was set up in collaboration with Hadassah Medical Center and funded primarily by the EU Partnership for Peace Programme. As well as setting an example of working cooperatively through humanitarian work, this research unit will help us improve our treatment of genetic eye diseases in the oPt and wider region and increase our profile as a leading centre for ophthalmic care and research.

Our highly-regarded **Sir Stephen Miller School of Nursing** offers up to ten places on the Specialist Ophthalmic Nursing Course every year and is accredited

by the University of West London. Many local nurses who undertake the course become SJEHG employees. Over the past 20 years we have trained over 200 nurses, some of whom have gone on to become our Nursing Director, Theatre Coordinator, Muristan Coordinator, Mobile Outreach Coordinator and Sir Stephen Miller Nursing School Senior Lecturer.

We have also launched our **Gaza Nurse Training Programme**, which runs every two years. By providing education opportunities in Gaza we are creating opportunities for those who are the most affected by

movement restrictions, as well as ensuring we have a well-staffed medical team providing care for our Gazan patients.

By developing our infrastructure and continuing our training, we are enabling our satellite hospitals and clinics to increase the level of service available locally, which reduces the numbers of Palestinians having to negotiate the complex permit systems to receive treatment.

\*Staff numbers as at 31 December 2016.

## Case Study: **Dr Iyad Habil**

*"Politics do not matter when it comes to medicine."*

Dr Iyad Habil is our Cornea Specialist based at our flagship Jerusalem Hospital.

All of his training in ophthalmology was achieved through our Medical Residency and Joint Teaching Programmes. From political activist to top ophthalmic surgeon Dr Iyad has an interesting story to tell, and at its heart is SJEHG.

"I was born and grew up on the Gaza Strip, my family are Palestinian refugees. I was seventeen during the first Intifada, 1987. I became involved in activism and ended up in jail for six months. When I got out I wanted the opportunity to really help people, so I decided to study medicine, and later I chose ophthalmology as it is a field that can really make a difference.

I obtained my medical degree in Moscow and then I continued my career in Jerusalem, with St John Eye Hospital. A lot of my training took place under the Joint Training Programme that SJEHG has with the Hadassah Medical Center (the Israeli University Hospital). In my training I had to deal with patients from both the Israeli and Palestinian sides. Politics do not matter when it comes to medicine.

I love my job. An average day for me begins with giving a lecture or seminar with the

resident doctors. Then I go to clinic where I will provide diagnosis and treatment, and talk to the patients through their treatments. Twice a week my days are spent in the theatre where I perform either cataract surgeries or corneal transplantation when donated corneas are available. The technology these days is incredible – on a good day I will perform over ten cataract surgeries. That is ten patients walking away that day with better vision.

There have been so many incredible patient stories throughout the years but there is one that I will always remember. A seventy-year-old female patient with a history of glaucoma in both eyes presented to the hospital with extremely poor vision. She couldn't see anything except the wave of a hand in front of the eye, she was unable to walk alone and could no longer recognise the faces of her loved ones.

Her eyes were in a bad state - an examination showed controlled intraocular pressure and small

non-dilating pupils due to papillary membranes and white cataracts. I performed cataract surgery with intraocular lens implantation in both eyes. The surgery was extremely challenging due to the nature of her condition, and I was incredibly relieved when it was completed with no further surgical complications.

The effort was all worthwhile when I met with her again for her follow-up. The first thing she said to me was 'now I can see the doctor who gave me sight!'

It was a very emotional moment and it taught me to never give up, no matter how difficult the case may be.

I am so thankful to St John, for my own personal training but also on behalf of the wider community. If St John did not exist there would be many more blind people in the oPt, and many less ophthalmologists."

**Dr Iyad Habil is not yet sponsored. If you would like to support Dr Iyad or any of our other staff members please get in touch.**



Dr Iyad Habil treating a patient in our Jerusalem Hospital

## Partnerships

SJEHG enjoys partnerships with a variety of organisations which offer joint services alongside vital funding.

We have a rich history with the Sovereign Military Order of Malta (SMOM) and our partnership continues to this day. SJEHG offers a programme to screen premature babies in the Caritas Baby Hospital and the Holy Family Hospital both of which are run by SMOM. Our new Muristan Clinic is operating in partnership with SMOM.

Our Joint Teaching Programme and our Peace in Sight (Genetic



Children playing in our Jerusalem Hospital cloisters

Association (SOA) was established by SJEHG Trustee David Verity. This organisation aims to strengthen ties between SJEHG and medical, nursing and allied professional colleagues associated with St John Priors Moorfields Eye Hospital, London.

States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) deserves a special mention as in 2015 and 2016 it significantly helped us by facilitating importation of building materials into Gaza. This was integral in successfully opening our new Gaza Hospital in 2016, the first significant build completed there since 2014.

The World Health Organization (WHO) is considered the national health technical advisor, supporting the health sector in Palestine including the services operated by SJEHG. We are also considered the main referral centre for ophthalmic conditions for the Palestinian Ministry of Health.

The London-based St John Guild, St John Ophthalmic Association and the Jerusalem-based Friends of St John Society are technically organised as sub-committees of the Fundraising Committee and accordingly fit into our governance structure.



Staff nurse Ali Asfour preparing to assist with a cataract surgery

Research Programme) would not be possible without the collaboration with other ophthalmic centres of excellence, most notably the Hadassah Medical Center (Israel), Moorfields Eye Hospital (United Kingdom) and the Aravind Institute (India).

In 2016, our St John Ophthalmic

There are a number of other development organisations in the oPt who operate in partnership with SJEHG to offer our sight-saving services, most notably The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), Medical Aid for Palestinians and The United



## Muristan - Restoring our historic site in the Old City of Jerusalem

Our new Muristan Clinic and Peace Garden are a symbol of the Order of St John's history as the site is where our story began over a thousand years ago.

We are extremely proud to have made a visible return to this revered site in 2016.

Mark Coreth, the world-renowned sculptor who designed our iconic Tree of Hope, which takes centre stage in our new Peace Garden, explains its significance:

"The Muristan is situated almost in the bullseye of the Old City of Jerusalem where the four Quarters meet and will include the newly opened eye clinic, which will serve people of all nations and all religions. The area has a long medical history from about 700 AD. The Order of St John takes its name from the Church of St John situated just a few metres to the south. The clinic and garden are very close to the Holy Sepulchre,

the Al Aqsa Mosque, the Dome of the Rock and the Western Wall of the Temple. In other words it is in the very centre of the religious world."

### Muristan Clinic

SJEHG has recently fully restored the Muristan to be a working walk-in clinic, in collaboration with the Welfare Association's Old City of Jerusalem Revitalization Programme - Taawon. The Clinic will be operated in partnership with the Sovereign Military Order of Malta. It is expected to see approximately 5,500 patients a year. Complex cases will be referred to SJEHG's flagship hospital in East Jerusalem, where patients will receive advanced care. The clinic will provide easy access to eye care (where early detection is key in saving sight) to the Old City's thousands of inhabitants.

The Clinic opened its doors on International World Sight Day - October 13th 2016. We are very excited to see where this new venture will take us, none of us



*The Muristan Tree of Hope and Peace Garden offering a symbol of hope in the centre of the Old City*

more so than local resident of the Old City Marlene Katanasho, who has been promoted from Staff Nurse in our Jerusalem Hospital to manage the Muristan Clinic. She has said of the new venture:

"I come from the Old City, so I am now helping to treat my friends and neighbours. People living here so appreciate having the clinic so close to their homes, shops and schools and many have complimented me on the beautiful transformation the building has undergone in the past year."

### Muristan Peace Garden

The wonderful consequence of the Muristan Clinic renovation is the creation of the opportunity to encourage international visitors to the Old City of Jerusalem (3.5 million a year) to gain awareness of the work of the Eye Hospital and the Order of St John generally. What is

missing from the Old City is a space to escape the masses, in an area where 700,000 people live in one square kilometre. Our new Peace Garden and Museum will hopefully offer some peace and tranquillity in the midst of the tumult, whilst also serving as a means to educate unsuspecting tourists on the great work and history of St John.

The garden also includes a new bronze sculpture – The Tree of Hope - by Mark Coreth, which is an olive tree with a canopy of swifts, migrating birds which are native to the Old City. In his own words, Mark describes the tree as 'a symbol of hope for a region that desperately needs it', and we are hoping that these swifts will go on to become a symbol of SJEHG worldwide. Three swifts have been placed on SJEHG premises across the oPt as a symbol of the hope our services offer to the people of Palestine, and

the three faiths that hold this area in such high significance. Mark Coreth has also produced miniature swift sculptures, available for purchase at [www.stjohnseyehospital.org](http://www.stjohnseyehospital.org), creating funds to be directed back into our sight-saving work.

Dr Michael Dan, who together with his wife Dr Amira Dan, provided lead funding for the project, succinctly summarises the sentiments behind our new venture:

"The opportunity to rebuild a thousand year-old medical clinic in Jerusalem, on its original site, according to the original vision of its founders, is a rare privilege indeed.

For over a thousand years, the Order of St John has cared for the sick and the poor, with sensitivity and with compassion, without regard to ethnicity, religion, or political ideology. These are eternal

human values that can be found in every great religion of the world, and also in modern secular society. The rebuilding of this clinic, according to these principles, using literally the same stones as a thousand years ago, bears witness to the indestructible nature of human compassion.

Health and peace go hand in hand, which is why we have a Peace Garden right next door to this Eye Clinic. When we close the gaps in what are called the social determinants of health (income, education, employment, social status, and poverty), we build a foundation for peace. When we bring the best eye care in the world to the people of Jerusalem who might not otherwise have access to an eye clinic, we build peace in this city of peace. And when we bring peace to Jerusalem we bring peace to the entire world."



*New Muristan Museum opened to the public in November 2016*

St John Family  
around the World

The Pories of the Order of St John and St John national offices have a phenomenal impact on the work of SJEHG.

In 2016, the St John Family made up almost 50% of the overall voluntary income for the year with an incredible **£2,886,000** in donations. A special thank you must be made to the Priory of the USA which made up 61% of our St John Family funding in 2016. Without this support we would struggle to continue our vital sight-saving work in the oPt.



Dr Humam with one of his patients

**United States:** Funded two years support (2017-2018) for one of our Mobile Outreach vans. Part-funded our Medical Residency Programme, Nursing Training, Gaza Hospital costs, various vital equipment and surgery costs as well as general unrestricted funding across our services where it is most needed.

St John Family  
Funding 2016:

	£000	\$000
USA	1,761	2,395
England	407	554
Canada	242	329
Australia	145	197
New Zealand	139	189
Scotland	112	152
Wales	40	54
Malaysia	21	29
Sweden	19	26
Total	2,886	3,925

**Canada:** Sponsored the salary of our Paediatric and Neuro-Ophthalmology Specialist. Canadian Dr Michael Dan and his wife Dr Amira Dan provided the lead funding for the Muristan Peace Garden Project.

**Scotland:** Sponsored the salary of our Medical Director.

**Wales:** Sponsored the salary of our onsite seamstress and also provided unrestricted funding across our services where it is most needed.

**England:** Sponsored the salaries of 21 individual Staff Nurses – including our Muristan Coordinator, our Theatre Coordinator, and our Medical Technician.

**Johanniter Alpen (Sweden):** Provided an unrestricted grant to support our services where it is most needed.

**Malaysia:** Provided an unrestricted grant to support our services where it is most needed.

**New Zealand:** Sponsored the salaries of two staff nurses and also provided unrestricted funding across our services where it is most needed.

**Australia:** Sponsored the Sir Stephen Miller School of Nursing Lecturer and Coordinator and our Mobile Outreach Programme Coordinator. Other Australian Groups (WA and NSW) sponsored the salaries of three staff nurses.

Dr Humam Rishmawi is our Consultant Paediatric and Neuro-Ophthalmology Specialist.

His journey in ophthalmology started at St John Eye Hospital in 1993 as a Medical Resident. His loyalty to the work and mission of St John propelled him to pursue a specialisation in paediatrics that would better equip him to serve his people as about 40% of

the population of the oPt are children and they make up over one third of our cases.

Dr Humam is a wonderful example of the impact that the support of the different Pories of the Order of St John has on the work of the eye hospital in the Holy Land. His early training in the UK was sponsored by the Priory of Wales and his subspecialty fellowship later on, in strabismus and neuro-ophthalmology, was sponsored

by the Priory of Scotland. In 2015, the Priory of the United States sponsored Dr Humam to attend the Annual American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) meeting, the premier ophthalmology meeting in the world which he has said was “one of the highlights of his career.” Having developed these skills, it would have been a shame if he could not have used them to serve a very vulnerable segment of the population. Therefore, having the sponsorship of the Priory of

Canada for his salary is vital to continuing his important area of our work – paediatric care. In 2016, a total of 42,000 attendances were under 18 years of age and many of these children were seen by Dr Humam. He also heads up the ophthalmic residency training programme in the group, is the lead examiner for the Palestinian Board Exam in Ophthalmology and is a member of the Arab Board, which was instrumental in arranging for us to be surveyed

(successfully) for accreditation of our residency training programme, by their team.

His work affects not only the children treated, but also has a positive socio-economic impact on their families and eventually the oPt in general.

From Medical Resident in 1993 to an integral member of our team in 2016, Dr Humam’s journey is one that has been shared by all St John Pories in some way or another. Even

those who did not directly fund his training or salary will have funded a piece of equipment used, or an operation which he performed.

**This is just one individual amongst thousands that are directly impacted by the support of St John Pories and national offices worldwide each year at SJEHG. We would like to take this opportunity to thank and celebrate the St John Family for their continued support.**

## Regular Giver Ambassador

Patricia Mantoura



London-based Palestinian, Patricia Mantoura is a life-long supporter of SJEHG.

In her own words Patricia describes her involvement with our work.

"My family is from Jerusalem and I have fond memories of St John Eye Hospital from my childhood. My grandfather was a doctor in Jerusalem and closely associated with the Hospital, and I am very short-sighted and attended the Hospital for check-ups.

Having such terrible vision has taught me the importance of eyesight, and I have experienced first-hand the impact that good eye care can have on one's life. St John is a charity that does amazing work, particularly for those who are unable to otherwise access treatment.

Sadly my family left Palestine after the Six-Day War in 1967. I have only been able to return for a couple of very short

visits, and thus could not see first-hand the amazing developments that have taken place at St John in the last few decades.

Instead, I focus my efforts on raising funds for the hospital from here in the UK. I particularly enjoy attending the regular London fundraisers where I have met so many people with equal enthusiasm for the cause. The Christmas Gift of Sight Fair in particular is such a wonderful way to give back to the Holy Land during the festive season.

Another way I keep involved is through my Regular Giving

donations. I know that without funding the charity would not be able to continue its vital services. It feels great to give back to a charity which has changed countless lives – including my own."

Regular Giving makes up the backbone of our funding, ensuring we have a regular flow of income year round, ready to invest where it is most needed. If you would like to set up a regular donation please contact our office on +44 (0)20 7253 2582 or go online - [www.stjohnseyehospital.org/support-us](http://www.stjohnseyehospital.org/support-us)



*Hadeel, a four-year old ptosis patient, recovers from her surgery in our Jerusalem Hospital's Paediatric Clinic, December 2016. Ptosis, often known as a 'lazy eye', can cause low vision and social stigmatisation if left untreated. With her successful recovery from treatment, Hadeel now looks forward to a future unhindered by these issues.*

## Plans for 2017



### Finance

- The Brexit effect has hit SJEHG hard, due to the devaluation of the Pound Sterling and the weakened exchange rate with the Shekel in which we pay for most of our costs. Consequently we will, more than ever, focus on raising vital funds for our sight-saving work in countries unaffected by Brexit.



### Clinical Capacity

- The establishment of a corneal laser refractive surgery suite in our Jerusalem Hospital allowing us to perform laser eye surgery. This will be offered on a non-charitable basis, the profits of which will be fed back in to our Patient Relief Fund and other charitable services
- Corneal transplant services will be brought to Gaza.
- Muristan Clinic operating for its first full year.



### Outreach

- Our very successful West Bank Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Programme will be taken to refugee camps in the Gaza Strip.



### Research

- It is intended that articles based on our new Research Unit's study into genetic eye conditions will be published in recognised journals.



### Muristan

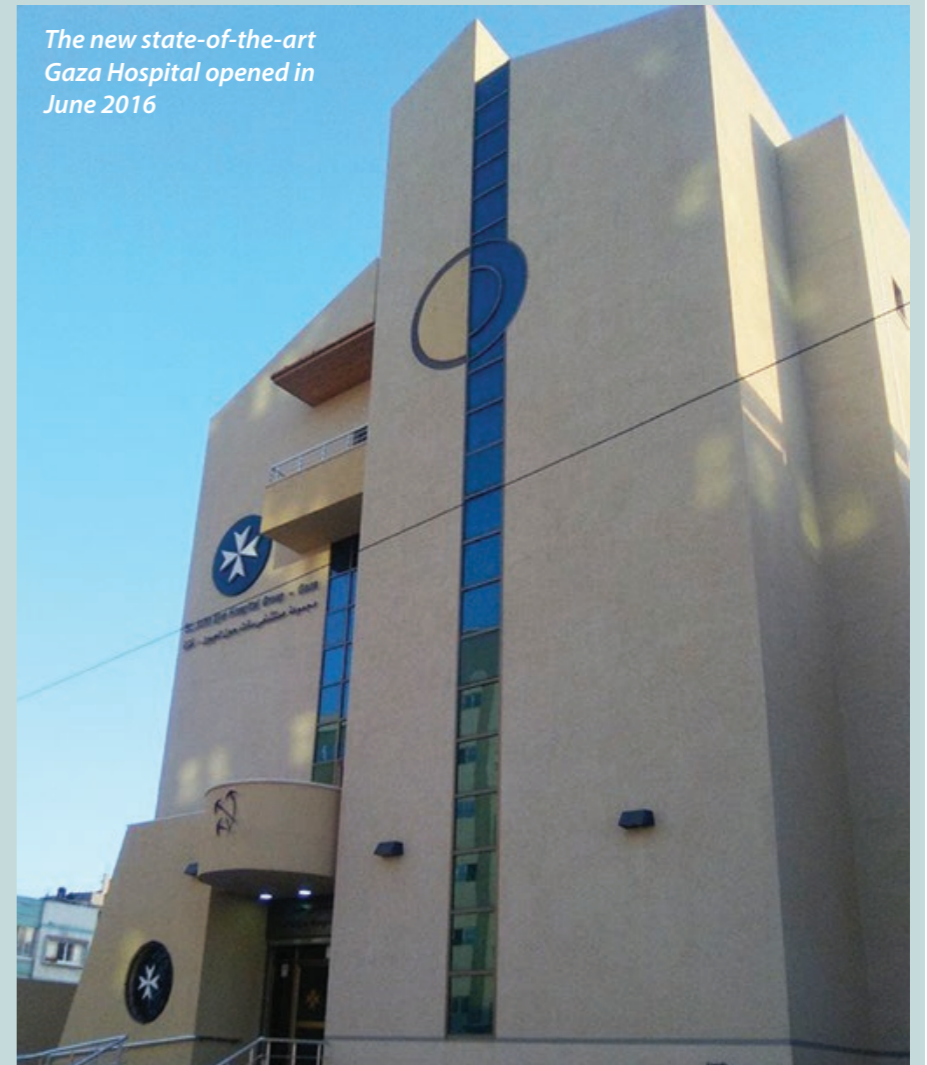
- Complete the renovation of the Garden of Peace in order to maximise its potential.



### Personal Training and Development

- One doctor will complete his training for a Fellowship in Glaucoma at the Aravind Institute in India, enabling our Gaza Hospital to begin providing treatment for the most complicated glaucoma cases.
- One doctor will graduate, two will continue and two will begin their training on our Medical Residency Programme.
- Seven nurses will graduate from the Sir Stephen Miller School of Nursing.

*The new state-of-the-art Gaza Hospital opened in June 2016*



# Thank you

Our vital work is reliant on voluntary income from charitable donations

Without our donors, we could not continue saving sight and changing lives. The patients and staff at SJEHG greatly appreciate the support of everyone who has given or helped in some way in 2016.

The St John Pories from around the world have once again delivered much valued assistance to SJEHG. We thank the **Pories of Australia, Canada, England, New Zealand, Scotland, the USA and Wales** for their continuing support. We are pleased to receive the support of our Patron Lord Vestey. We are grateful to the Guild, the Friends of St John Society, the Alliance of the Orders of St John, St John Associations and the St John Fellowship for their on-going and crucial support.

### Further Major Donors 2016:

Australian Representative Office - Ramallah  
The Estate of Mrs Sheila M Bell  
Dr & Mrs Anthony N Bethell  
Attalla Contracting Company  
The Ben May Charitable Trust  
The Big Heart Foundation: Salam Ya Seghar  
The Estate of Gwyneth Rosemary Botting  
The Brillig Charitable Trust  
The British Humane Association  
The Bryan Guinness Charitable Trust  
The Cadogan Charity  
CHK Charities Limited  
Children of Peace  
CBM  
Christian Foundation of the West  
The Clothworkers' Foundation  
Mr Mark Coreth  
Consulate General of Sweden  
The Estate of Mrs Jaqueline Alice Cummins  
Dr Michael and Dr Amira Dan  
The David & Ruth Lewis Family Charitable Trust  
The Dr Mortimer and Theresa Sackler Foundation  
The Edwina Mountbatten & Leonora Children's Foundation  
Mrs Alan Elliot  
The Eranda Rothschild Foundation  
The European Union: EU Peace Building Initiative  
The Evan Cornish Foundation  
Fred Hollows Foundation  
Mrs Caroline Gavin  
The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)  
The GNC Trust

The Gosling Foundation Limited  
Help Age International (HAI)  
The Hugh Symons Charitable Trust  
Jersey Overseas Aid (JOA)  
The John Swire 1989 Charitable Trust  
Johanniterhjalpen  
The Kadoorie Charitable Foundation  
Mrs Julietta Khoury  
The Knights Templar  
Sir Ian Gainsford (In Memory of Professor Anthony Mellows)  
Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) UK  
The MBC Heritage of Islam Trust  
The New Zealand Embassy in Anakra  
Ms Denise Magauran  
Mrs Elizabeth Mellows (In Memory of her husband Professor Anthony Mellows)  
Mr Guy Morton  
Dame Mary Perkins  
Old City of Jerusalem Revitalization Programme - Taawon  
The PF Charitable Trust  
The Park House Charitable Trust  
The Pilkington Charities Fund  
Foundation Pro Victimis  
The Representative Office of Austria  
The Representative Office of Czech Republic to the Palestinian Authority  
The Secretariat of the Alliance of the Orders of St John  
The Sobell Foundation  
Source of Hope Foundation  
The Sovereign Military Order of Malta (SMOM)  
Mr Michael D Swan  
The Tamari Foundation

The Thriplow Charitable Trust  
The Estate of Pauline M Tullett  
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)  
Community Resilience and Development Programme (CRDP)  
The United States Agency for International Development (USAID)

USAID American Schools and Hospitals Abroad (ASHA)  
USAID Child Blindness Programme (CBP)  
The Valentine Charitable Trust  
Welfare Association (Taawon)  
Mr & Mrs Robert Wilson (In Memory of Olivia Marie Wilson Scott)



*Hannah, daughter of a refugee from Gaza, received successful treatment for her squint at St John after treatment elsewhere worsened her condition and left the family out of pocket*

We would also like to thank the many diplomats who have taken the time to visit SJEHG this year. These included:

Marci Pius - Australian Representative  
Donald Blome – United States Consul General  
Dorothy Shea - United States Deputy Consul General  
Pedro Abreu - Portuguese Representative  
Veronique Hulmann - Head of Swiss Cooperation  
Bruno Jans - Belgian Representative  
Vincenzo Racalbutto - Head of Italian Cooperation  
Rafael Matos – Consul General of Spain  
Jose Luis Gonzalez – Deputy Consul General of Spain  
Eduardo Algara – Deputy Consul General of Spain  
David Quarrey - British Ambassador  
Jonathen Kamin – Acting Head of Mission, USAID  
Prikko-Liisa Kyostila - Representative of Finland

Alexandra Bukowska-McCabe - Head of Representative Office of Poland  
Ann Sofie-Nilsson - Consul General of Sweden  
Jonathan Conlon - Representative of Ireland  
Ralph Tarraf - EU Representative  
Justin Simpson - Ambassador, Sovereign Military Order Of Malta  
Dominique de La Rochefoucauld – Grand Hospitaller, Sovereign Military Order Of Malta  
Dr. Gerald Rockenschaub – World Health Organization, Director General  
Andrea Nassi - Austrian Representative Office  
Dr. Michael Desser - Ambassador, Austrian Embassy in Amman



## **St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group**



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If you would like to support St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group or would like more information, please contact us:

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