



The Newsletter of St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group - The only charitable provider of expert eye care in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem; treating patients regardless of religion, ethnicity, or ability to pay

ST JOHN OF JERUSALEM EYE HOSPITAL GROUP & DISSENT PROJECTS PRESENT

WINNER

A FILM BY
CARLO NERO &
VANESSA REDGRAVE CBE

EYES OF ST JOHN

Saving Sight
Changing Lives

St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group is the only charitable provider of expert eye care in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem, treating patients regardless of ethnicity, religion or ability to pay.

ST JOHN OF JERUSALEM EYE HOSPITAL GROUP & DISSENT PROJECTS LTD. PO BOX 1000 JERUSALEM
LE TOWN JERUSALEM - VISITORS: VISITORS ONLY - VISITORS ONLY - VISITORS ONLY - VISITORS ONLY
ST JOHN OF JERUSALEM EYE HOSPITAL GROUP & DISSENT PROJECTS LTD. PO BOX 1000 JERUSALEM
ST JOHN OF JERUSALEM EYE HOSPITAL GROUP & DISSENT PROJECTS LTD. PO BOX 1000 JERUSALEM
ST JOHN OF JERUSALEM EYE HOSPITAL GROUP & DISSENT PROJECTS LTD. PO BOX 1000 JERUSALEM

www.stjohnseyehospital.org
www.dissentprojectsltd.com

Leicester Square screening, page 3

Research Programme receives prestigious EU grant

Thanks to a grant of £356,185 from the EU's 'Partnership for Peace' programme St John's new genetic research project has been established in February 2016.

The project will involve the training of St John staff in research techniques

and the establishment of a research laboratory. The main member of staff who will lead on the research is Dr Sweiti (pictured right), who has been undertaking a Fellowship in Ophthalmic Genetics and Retinal Diseases at the Hadassah Medical Center (HMC) in Israel since early 2015. This has been an

excellent opportunity for St John and the HMC to demonstrate the benefits of mutual cooperation. Dr Sweiti has been a shining example of such cooperation by making a concerted effort to attend Hebrew classes so he can better communicate with staff and patients alike. This is



one illustration of many ways in which this joint venture has proven that cooperation beats division. Both are organisations demonstrating the
Continued on page 14 →

Thoughts from our CEO



In Jerusalem we have made a great deal of progress in the last few months.

Much of our outdated and unreliable infrastructure has been repaired or replaced. We shall be replacing all the hopelessly faulty ancient piping in the Hospital, which was leaking very badly, as well as improving our disability access. We now have a pre-assessment clinic and a totally separate paediatric area. The new coffee shop and staff dining room as well as new reception area- all with David Roberts murals (pictured above right)- are all working well.

The security situation remains tense in and around Jerusalem as well as throughout the West Bank. This has a

serious bearing on our patients' ability to attend our services and for our staff continuing their good work, as they are constantly hindered by security checks and last minute permit removals. However, in spite of this, morale remains high and we are powering forward with our various projects. We are especially excited about the imminent official openings of our new clinics in both Gaza and Hebron, which should take place in early June and September respectively.

The Palestinian Authority referrals department have been sending patients to us from government hospitals on a more regular basis. Our relationship with the Coordinator of Government Activities in the Territories has also been improved, which will allow us to navigate Israeli bureaucracy more smoothly when sending patients out of Gaza or arranging entry there.

Most encouragingly our links with local partners ranging from Hadassah Medical Center, the Caritas Baby Hospital and the Holy Family Hospital, run by the Sovereign Military Order of Malta, have



strengthened considerably. This is especially exciting with regards to Hadassah with whom we have been awarded an EU Partnership for Peace grant which we shall use to conduct research into genetic disorders. This is the first significant research undertaken by the Hospital in over 20 years.

Our site in the Old City at Muristan is now being rebuilt as a clinic (giving almost complete continuity of use as a medical facility dating back to 700AD) and there will be a wonderful garden area beside it with frescoes by Jill Hooper and a possible life-size bronze olive tree by Mark Correth.

Our Mobile Outreach Programme has been flourishing since the addition of an extra van

at the beginning of last year, made possible with generous new funding from the Jersey Overseas Aid Commission. With funding from the US Priority we shall also purchase a 4x4 which will be able to access more remote areas of the West Bank in addition to providing greater safety and security in higher risk areas. In a similar vein to our Mobile Outreach Project, we shall also begin a project in partnership with UNRWA to establish a Diabetic Screening Programme in northern Jordan, with refugees from Syria, drawing on our own considerable experience in this field. This is the first time we shall have projected our services into a neighbouring country.

Brigadier Tom
Ogilvie-Graham



Director, Carlo Nero and our Chairman, Nicholas Woolf



Moorfields' consultant, David Verity with actress and producer Vanessa Redgrave, CBE

'Eyes of St John' - Screening and Awards

On Tuesday 12th January St John had great pleasure in hosting a screening of our new 'Eyes of St John' documentary, followed by a Q&A with actress and producer of the film Vanessa Redgrave, director Carlo Nero, Moorfields Eye Hospital consultant David Verity and our Chairman Nicholas Woolf.

efforts made every day, across the Israeli-Palestinian divide, by St John staff who provide vital eye care in a region of the world where blindness is ten times higher than in the West.

The screening was a great success as the film was played to an almost sold out crowd at the Prince Charles Cinema near Leicester Square. It began with an

the highlight was the Q&A, where members of the audience posed a range of questions to our panel and a lively and stimulating discussion began in earnest on many different subjects pertaining to the film and its creation. Questions were as wide ranging as the reasons for including a particular shot to an analysis of the future plans and projects of

touring worldwide at film festivals and private screenings. There will also be a special screening held in April for our legacy pledgers, regular givers, and other active supporters whom we are remain very grateful towards. If you have left us a legacy in your Will please let us know, so we can invite you to this and other exclusive events. The film will then be made publically available later in 2016 to ensure news of our work reaches as many people as possible.

If you would like to host your own private screening, which would be a great way to support our work, please do get in touch with Diana Safieh at diana.safieh@stjohnseyehospital.org or on 020 7553 6969.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our guests for supporting our event, our panel members for their participation, Mr Boustany for his performance and the Prince Charles Cinema for kindly providing their venue free of charge.



Wissam Boustany giving a moving performance before the screening

The film has also won the prestigious Award of Excellence as well as two humanitarian awards, from The Best Shorts Film Competition. 'Eyes of St John' highlights the tireless

introduction by director Carlo Nero, followed by an extremely moving piece from Arab flautist Wissam Boustany (pictured below) whose music was used in the documentary. However,

the charity - and all were answered expertly and passionately by our panel members.

Following on from our screening, 'Eyes of St John' is currently

Reflections from our Nursing Director

Ahmad Ma'ali

Ahmad Ma'ali joined St John in 1990 as a student nurse.

He has completed numerous qualifications at Greenwich University, Moorfields Eye Hospital, and Bolton Institute, and is currently working on his PhD.

In 2000, he became Director of the Sir Stephen Miller School of Nursing, a post he held for nine years until he became the first Palestinian Nursing Director at St John. Ahmad is kindly sponsored by the Guild, and all proceeds from their events go towards his role.

He is a shining example of the career prospects that those currently undertaking our medical training can expect to achieve. Here are his words on his experiences working with St John:

"Over the past twenty years I have witnessed many major developments in the nursing department at St John. These developments have been largely driven by advancements in medical technology, superior



Ahmad Ma'ali at a recent Staff Awards Ceremony in Jerusalem

education and the need to manage resources more efficiently.

Prior to this era, many of the senior nurses were expatriate with few qualified and registered Palestinian nurses. Building the capacity of local Palestinian nurses has been the overarching aim of St John's strategy for more than 25 years. As a result, many of our local Palestinian nurses underwent further and higher education at both local and British universities.

We are very proud of the fact that 15% of our nursing staff hold Masters Degrees in Nursing or related fields. Such advancement has positively impacted the quality of patient care and enhanced nursing professionalism.

Quality control, infection prevention and health and safety are all largely driven by senior nurses at the hospital.

The diverse needs of our patients have encouraged nurses to specialise in various fields, including orthoptics, diabetes, theatre nursing, infection prevention and medical diagnostics. With the cooperation of our School of Nursing, we are now able to meet our demand for highly specialised and skilled nurses.

Advancement in medical technologies has meant that eye care is largely provided on a day care basis, which has reduced cost and avoided disrupting the daily lives of patients. This, however, has presented nurses with diverse patient needs that require prompt and timely

care that is provided in both a high quality and safe manner. This prompted the creation of day care, pre-assessment and admission units which are mainly managed by senior nursing staff.

As a charitable hospital with limited resources, the prime goal of the department has been to examine the efficiency of resources being used to meet the increasing demands and needs of patients. This has been made possible owing to the dedication and commitment of the nursing staff.

As the Nursing Director, it has been both a privilege and a challenge to steer some of these developments that have impacted the quality of care as well as enhancing patients' satisfaction."

Our School of Nursing has many new nurses, starting out just like Ahmad did all those years ago, who do not yet have sponsorship. The cost to sponsor one of our student nurses for a year is just £6,400. Please get in touch if you would like more information.

Blast from the Past

Then & Now



Children line up for an Outreach Clinic, Bedouin village, 1980s



Children line up for an Outreach Clinic near Jericho thirty years later

Case study: Zeina

Zeina* is a three year old girl from Tulkarem. An energetic and clever girl, she enjoys playing and learning just as any toddler should.

At two months her mother noticed an abnormal reflection in her eye and took her for a checkup as soon as she was able. Zeina was seen at our satellite clinic in Anabta. She was diagnosed with minimal congenital cataracts in both of her eyes, which if left untreated would have affected her vision and may have led to blindness.

Things could have been very different for Zeina. Her mother has relatives with similar issues which had been left untreated and led to great difficulties in their lives. As a result she was very concerned for her baby. Thankfully due to our services, the condition was treated swiftly. She was referred to our Jerusalem Hospital for surgery. She received her first operation for her right eye one month after her first appointment, and a second operation for her left eye four months later. The surgery was a great



success and Zeina can now see almost perfectly. She continues to come to the Anabta clinic for regular four month check-ups, and has made great progress.

Her mother is very thankful for the treatment her daughter received in Anabta and Jerusalem. She was especially grateful that the conveniently located

Anabta Clinic exists as it is much easier for her to bring her daughter in for check-ups. When quizzed on her daughter's interests she laughed and held up her own smart phone - 'Only this!' she said. Zeina is truly a child of the modern world, and thanks to the state of the art treatment she received at St John, we are sure she has a bright future ahead of her.

Donating to St John will help children just like Zeina gain access to vital eye care, allowing them the futures they deserve. If you would like to make a donation, please get in touch.

*Name has been changed to protect child's identity.

St John New Zealand

A shining example of what St John can achieve, by Siobhan Shaw

In November, I had the honour of visiting New Zealand on behalf of SJEHG. It gave me the opportunity to thank them for their longstanding support and to help spread the word about our cause.

To our detriment, no one from St John had visited in a long while, a situation which had to be rectified considering the generosity and passion they have for our work.

After a very long flight I arrived in Auckland, St John New Zealand's National Headquarters. I was shown around and saw for myself the fantastic work they are doing there. As well as being the primary provider of the ambulance service, St John finds the time to carry out community projects which all have a huge impact. My personal favourite was their Friends of the Emergency Department Programme, where kind volunteers provide help to families of patients. Fetching a cup of tea or sitting down and having a chat may not seem like much, but it makes a substantial difference for

these families as well as lessening the load of the busy medical staff.

On top of all the fantastic work St John New Zealand does every day, they give us over £100,000 every year. I was so pleased to have the opportunity to meet some of the Hospitaller and Fellowships groups who raise funds for SJEHG. It was heart-warming to see how hard these groups work and how passionate they were about our sight-saving cause, despite being so far away. After Auckland I was on to Wellington, where I was lucky enough to be able to attend their Investiture, which honoured many amazing St John volunteers and workers. I was also joined by my CEO, Tom Ogilvie-Graham, who gave the keynote speech at the Investiture.

Whilst I was there I had the chance to pop out and catch the All Blacks victory parade – an amazing experience, if a little bittersweet. New Zealand had only won the Rugby World Cup on the day I left and there was a buzzing, excited atmosphere everywhere



I went. Perhaps there will be a similar atmosphere somewhere in Britain one day (although probably not any time soon).

I then moved onto Christchurch, where I met Penguin and Cadet groups. As well as learning first aid skills, these youth programmes encourage children to have more confidence and to be leaders. I was very impressed by all the groups I met and I hoped they found my talks about eye problems in the occupied Palestinian territories to be interesting! I was also thrilled to be able to attend the Canterbury show, and to see Judith Hoban (St John New Zealand's Hospitaller) and her family's sheep do so well. It was truly an unforgettable experience. On a personal note, I was very heartened by

the strong sense of community in an area which is still recovering from the devastating earthquake of 2011.

Throughout my New Zealand journey I met many wonderful people who all exemplified what it means to be part of St John. I would like to thank Ian and Beryl Dunn and Judith Hoban for hosting me during my visit, as well as everyone at St John for all their help and hospitality. There are far too many people to name individually, but needless to say everyone I met was so kind.

If I were ever to find myself lost and alone in any country in the world, I would choose New Zealand. I'm looking forward to returning one day, and giving the country the time and attention it deserves.



Professor Anthony Mellows, OBE, TD

Obituary

It is with great regret that we announce the passing of Professor Anthony Mellows OBE, TD, former Lord Prior, on Sunday 10th January.

Professor Mellows was educated at King's College, London, where he took degrees in law, philosophy, and divinity and was a Fellow from 1980. Professor Mellows had a life time career as an academic lawyer, and spent much of his career as a Professor of Law in the University of London. He wrote books in the fields of trusts, succession and taxation. He was at various times Dean of the Faculty of Laws at King's College London and Dean of the Faculty of Laws of the University. On his retirement the University conferred on him the title of Emeritus Professor.

Professor Mellows also had a concurrent lifetime career as a practicing lawyer. He was for many years the senior partner of, and then a consultant to, a law firm in the Inns of Court. He retired in 2004.

Professor Mellows became a member of the Order

of St John in 1980 and immediately became a member of its then governing bodies, its Council and Chapter-General. He was made a Great Officer of the Order in 1991, first as Chancellor, between 1991 and 1999; then as Deputy Lord Prior between 1999 and 2005; and as Vice-Lord Prior between 2005 and 2008. He became Lord Prior between 2008 and 2014; the maximum six year term that one can serve.

His role as Lord Prior involved extensive overseas travel, often visiting Priories and branches of the Order. He visited our Hospital in Jerusalem over 25 times with his wife Elizabeth, who survives him. It was evident the Hospital held a special place in their heart and their visits are remembered fondly by all. He was also involved in leading the world-wide governing body of the Order and setting its strategic direction - he presided over the modernisation of much of the structure and financial organisation of the Order. He holds the Grand Cross of the



Order, and for earlier work with the Order of St John in conjunction with the Red Cross, the British Red Cross Badge of Honour for Distinguished Service. Elizabeth has also been very actively involved in the work of the Order, with a particular interest in the Eye Hospital, and for her work was made Dame in 1999.

Professor Mellows was also involved in

numerous other charitable activities. He served in the Intelligence Corps (Territorial Army) from 1959 to 1971, reaching Captain's rank and was a holder of the Territorial Efficiency Decoration, which he received in 1969. He was a director of companies connected with East Anglian farming interests, and was chairman of the London Law Trust from 1968 until his death. He was a Trustee of the Lambeth



Professor Mellows giving an Employee of the Month award to our senior theatre nurse, Rajai Abu Sneh, at our Staff Awards Ceremony in Jerusalem, 2013

Fund from 1995 to 2011, and of the Lambeth Trust from then until 2014. He was awarded an OBE for services to the Church of England in 2003, for his work with the Archbishops' Millennium Advisory Group.

Lord Vestey, the Patron of SJEHG, remembers Professor Mellows fondly:

"No one has done more for St John over the last forty years than Professor Tony Mellows. He and his wife were great supporters of our Hospital. During the time that I was Lord Prior and especially when I was Chairman of the Hospital Board his legal brain helped

to solve some of the very tricky political problems which occurred during the difficult times that we went through. He will be much missed by many of us"

Nicholas Woolf, the Chairman of SJEHG, added:

"Tony was a lifelong friend of the Eye Hospital, he and his wife visited the Hospital many times. It occupied a big part of his life, and he was a big part of ours. He will be missed."

A memorial service will be held at the Temple Church in London EC4Y 7BB (off Fleet Street) on Friday, 15th April 2016 at 3 o'clock. All those who knew and worked with Professor Mellow will be most welcome. Unfortunately because of numbers and security, admission has to be by ticket only but you can obtain a ticket by applying to the Chancery, at St John's Gate, by telephone: 020 7324 4084 or by email: NHQ-Chancery@sja.org.uk.

Employees of the month

2015: October

● **Baha Qawasmi**
(Theatre Nurse)

Sponsored by St John Cambridgeshire

Baha was nominated for his thorough knowledge of theatre protocols and his input in developing them. He is also highly motivated and flexible in his day to day work.

November

● **Firas Burghal,**
(Kitchen Worker)

Firas was nominated for the initiative he has shown in his duties as well as his reliability, and the polite manner in which he carries out his work.

December

● **Omaymah Saleh**
(Nurse) **Sponsored by St John Guernsey & Isle of Man**

Omaymah was nominated as she has shown true diligence to her work by communicating extremely

effectively with both patients and colleagues, as well as keeping herself well educated on the most current nursing practices.

2016: January

● **Fadi Elijah**
(Nurse) Fadi is very dedicated and committed nurse. He is a team player and all his colleagues like him. He is always assertive, shows initiative and is willing to develop.

February

● **Loudie Shaheen**
(HR Clerk) Loudie is very confidential and loyal to her colleagues, necessary attributes as a HR clerk. She acts on her own initiative and handles pressure very well. She is friendly and well-liked by her colleagues.

If you would like to sponsor any of these individuals please get in touch.

Events 2015



This is a selection of fundraising events held for SJEHG in 2015. If you hold an event in aid of our work please share your pictures and stories with us.

Clockwise from above: *Eyes of St John Screening at Twickenham Studios, September; Sight for Life Dinner, Losely Park, June; Patron's Reception at Leighton House, November; Gift of Sight Fair, November; Fundraising Dinner in Jerusalem, April. Centre: Afternoon Tea at the Somerset St John Ambulance HQ, July.*



Case Study: Walid Shaqura

Walid Tawfik Shaqura has recently joined St John as the new Administration Manager for our Gaza Hospital.

A full time administration position became necessary in Gaza as we are preparing to move to our newly built hospital, with almost double the capacity of our previous facility. Walid could not be better qualified for the role, having previously worked for the Palestinian National Authority as the Director of International Cooperation and having more than 30 years' experience of the Palestinian health system.

Walid has already begun to make an impact on the hospital, working closely with the team in Gaza to establish a more organised and dynamic hospital. Patient flow has been reformed and new financial control measures have been put in place, in cooperation with our senior accountant in Jerusalem. Helping the people of his home city gain access to affordable eye care was a main motivation for Walid when taking on this position,



and he is inspired by the patients he meets on a day to day basis. Speaking of a recent case, he said:

"One heart-breaking case that struck me was an old women aged 62 who was booked for phacoemulsification surgery [to treat cataracts]. She arrived to the clinic with the intention of cancelling her surgery because she had no money to cover it. I was so sad to see such a case and I am sure there are many people that are in the same situation. We were thankfully able to cover all costs of

her treatment, and she went on to have her surgery. The case was significantly important to me since it demonstrated to me the importance of our donations to help the deprived people in Gaza."

The opportunity to work for an organisation with such a great reputation is also something that Walid is excited about. Speaking of his new role with St John he said:

"St John has given me the motivation to help the people of Gaza in both their health and socioeconomic status. We also have the ability here to

widen and strengthen relations with national and international organisations working in the field. St John makes me optimistic for a better future for Gaza."

It is clear Walid is an outstanding addition to our team at St John, who is acting as a catalyst for progression and unification of the team in Gaza. Outside of work, Walid is a family man. He has four daughters and two sons, all of whom have graduated or are completing university degrees. He is also a proud grandparent to seven grandchildren, and brings the whole family together every week for a gathering. Evidently he is an effective leader and role model in his personal life, and we are sure he will bring these qualities to his new position at St John.

Walid is a new addition to St John and has not yet been sponsored. If you would like to sponsor Walid or any of our other members of staff please get in touch.

In 2015, St John Pories and Associations raised £2,244,000

Australia - £85,000 Canada - £50,000 England - £468,000 New Zealand - £113,000
Scotland - £195,000 United States - £1,318,00 Wales - £15,000

Funding Today

None of our work would be possible without our kind donors, whose generosity allows us to continue saving sight and changing lives. We would like to thank everyone who gave to us in 2015, and everyone else who has taken part in or organised any fundraising activities on our behalf.

Major Donors 2015:

The Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development
Australian Representative Office, Ramallah
Bank of Palestine
The Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation
Bishops Waltham Charity Garden Fair
The Brillig Charitable Trust
The British Humane Association
The Bryan Guinness Charitable Trust
Christian Blind Mission
The Cadogan Charity
Children of Peace
CHK Charities Limited
The Clothworkers' Foundation
Consolidated Contractors Company
The Estate of Aubrey Desmond Donald
The Edwina Mountbatten & Leonora
Children's Foundation
The Eranda Foundation
The European Union
The Evan Cornish Foundation
Fred Hollows Foundation
The Estate of Joan Frieze
Caroline Gavin
The German Federal Ministry for Economic
Cooperation and Development
Greendale Foundation
The Estate of Geoffrey Leslie Howe
The Hugh Symons Charitable Trust
Jerusalem Governorate

Johanniterhjälp
The John Swire 1989 Charitable Trust
The Kadoorie Charitable Foundation
The Karl Kahane Foundation
Julietta Khoury
The Knights Templar
The Linbury Trust
Timothy Mattar
The Maurice and Hilda Laing Charitable Trust
The MBC Heritage of Islam Trust
The Norton Rose Charitable Foundation
The OPEC Fund for International Development
Paltel
The Park House Charitable Trust
The Estate of Dorothy Peacock
The PF Charitable Trust
The Pilkington Charities Fund
Pictures on Walls
Qatar Committee
Wael Sa'di
Salam Ya Seghar
The Sobell Foundation
St John Fellowship
St John New South Wales
St John Western Australia
Tamari Foundation
UNDP - Community Resilience and
Development Programme
The United States Agency for International
Development
The Valentine Charitable Trust
Welfare Association
The Estate of Isla Williams
World Diabetes Foundation
World Health Organization

Upcoming Events

The Devil's Passion at the Crypt of St John Tuesday 29th March

until **Saturday 16th April**
In aid of St John, tickets can be purchased at <http://thedevilspassionclerkenwell.bpt.me/>

The Guild Bridge Event May TBC

Bishops Waltham Garden Fair Hampshire Sunday 1st May

English Priory Symposium Monday 9th May

Opera Soiree Wednesday June 15th

HE Mr Afif Safieh Tuesday 13th September

The Palestinian Roving Ambassador will speak on being a Christian from the Holy Land at The Brompton Oratory.

Please contact us to register your interest in any of our upcoming events.

London Marathon 2016



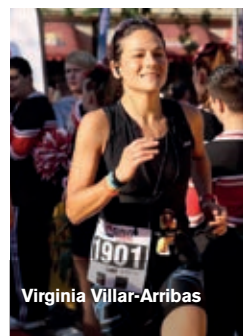
Tom Ogilvie-Graham



Martin and Ilinka Budd



Will Ogilvie-Graham



Virginia Villar-Arribas

On 24 April 2016, our CEO Brigadier Tom Ogilvie-Graham, his son Will Ogilvie-Graham and UNRWA's Virginia Villar-Arribas will be undertaking this momentous challenge in order to raise funds for our vital work.

It has always been an ambition of Tom's, as a former Paratrooper and someone who spent years living in London during his service with the Household Cavalry, to run in the London Marathon. That he can do so with

his son, who works with the Order of Malta, makes it all that more special. Undertaking the training in and around the narrow streets of the Old City and on Mount Scopus whilst managing the very busy Hospital and coping with a body that has taken the strain of 30 years of military service all add spice to the challenge! Virginia, also based in Jerusalem, is a long-time supporter of our work. Virginia works for UNRWA, a local partner supporting Palestinians in the region. She, like Tom, is fitness-

conscious and is a triathlon champion.

They will be joined by two of our supporters – Martin Budds and his wife Ilinka. This will be their first ever marathon, and surely will be a daunting experience! We are therefore so grateful that they have chosen us as their sponsored charity.

Good luck to all!

If you would like to sponsor either team you will find their fundraising pages here:

Tom Ogilvie-Graham + team:

www.virginmoneygiving.com/tomogilviegraham

Martin and Ilinka Bud:

www.virginmoneygiving.com/team/MartinandIlinka

We will also be there in person to cheer on our runners on the day if anyone would like to join our support crew. We will be on the south side of the course at the 13/22 mile mark - see you there!

Gifts from St John Shop

New



St John Blank cards:
SJEHG Coat of Arms or
St John Logo - £4.50
(107mm x 107mm)

**All prices include
postage & packaging**



4GB USB Memory
Stick - £8.00



Flashlight Pen - £5.50



Tea Towel - £5.00

To order by phone:
Please call
0207 553 6960
to pay by card

To order by post:
Complete order form
on back page

Continued from page 1:

constructive aspects of building such relationships which will encourage other Israeli and Palestinian civil organisations to do the same. This collaboration allowed us to qualify for the 'Partnership for Peace' programme as it specifically supports civil society initiatives that promote peace, tolerance and non-violence in the Middle East.

Under the new project Dr

Sweiti will be trained in both the clinical evaluation of patients with hereditary retinal diseases and in molecular genetics. The long term goal is that the Dr Sweiti will lead and further develop diagnosis and treatment of such patients in the Palestinian territories and continue to improve St John's capacity by training others. Meanwhile, a dedicated genetic laboratory will be established and equipped at St John, in cooperation

with HMC, by the end of 2017. The laboratory will perform DNA extraction and basic genetic screening that will be supervised by Dr Sweiti. In time, Dr Sweiti will have the ability to publish his own research, focused on the Palestinian population (an isolated group of individuals very seldom studied in ophthalmic medicine) in international journals, which will have a global impact on the medicinal field.

The most important beneficiaries of this project will be Palestinian patients with genetic eye diseases. The project's main aim is to provide sustainable treatment and medical solutions for those people who have had no other option in the past. This will have a significant long term impact by preventing the inherited disease from developing in the next generation through identifying and treating the genes responsible



Nurse Vernice Bannoura using our current Autoclave machine



Dr Islam Al Hashash using our Direct Ophthalmoscope

Equipment Appeal

At St John we pride ourselves on maintaining the highest level of care for our patients.

An important way of achieving this is to continue replacing our out of date equipment in the hospital. Our most vital and routinely used units are our **Direct Ophthalmoscopes**, used to examine the retina during surgical examinations and procedures. It is crucial in determining the health of the retina, optic disc, and vitreous humour and is used across all of our facilities on a regular basis.

Currently we have six direct ophthalmoscope

units which are in urgent need of replacement. In Jerusalem we urgently need to update every one of our current units, including in the main operating theatre. Anabta and Hebron are also in desperate need of replacement units. Each of the six ophthalmoscopes costs £700 to replace.

We also need to purchase an **Autoclave** unit for our new Hebron Hospital. This is extremely important for the sterilisation of equipment, ensuring that safe and hygienic practices are in place across the board. A new Autoclave will cost £21,000.

Our previous appeals have been a great success! We would like to thank Peter Goltra in particular for the much needed Surgical Microscope and the many people who came forth to cover all the Humidity Meters and accessories costs - all which have been funded in full.

Any donations towards the purchase of our current required items will be very greatly received. If you would like to make a donation, please fill in the form at the back of this newsletter or contact the office on 020 7253 2582. Thank you.

Shopping list

£10
could buy 3 bed sheets for baby cots

£25
could buy a diagnostic Corneal Topography procedure

£50
could fund Outreach education sessions in the rural West Bank

£100
could fund laser treatment for diabetic retinopathy

£200
could buy 4 phaco packs, which are used in cataract operations

£500
could cover the cost of 50 children's gowns

£1,000
could cover the costs for two children's cataract surgery

£2,000
could pay for a laser lens to be used in major operations

£15,000
could sponsor a nurse for a year

for hereditary molecular diseases in the Palestinian population.

The Peace for Sight project will therefore not only have a huge impact on the Palestinians it serves, nor just to the wider Israeli/Palestinian issue, but also to the global ophthalmic research community who will benefit from this vital investigation into genetic and retinal diseases. A win all round.



Rachel Merin giving Dr Sweiti the Professor Saul Merin Memorial Award in 2013



Order Form

Item	Cost per unit	Number of units	Total (£)
New! Blank Cards - SJEHG Coat of Arms	£4.50 pack of 10		
New! Blank Cards - St John Logo	£4.50 pack of 10		
100% Cotton Tea Towel	£5.00		
Flashlight Pen	£5.50		
4GB USB Memory Stick	£8.00		
Merchandise total			
Donation (optional)			
Total to be paid			

Donation Form

- ☐ I would like to support the work of St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group
- ☐ I would like to support the Direct Ophthalmoscope Appeal
- ☐ I would like to support the Autoclave Appeal
- ☐ I would like to support other:

I would like to donate:

£25 ☐ £50 ☐ £100 ☐ £1000 ☐ Other

Please return to: The Editor, Jerusalem Scene, St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group, 4 Charterhouse Mews, London EC1M 6BB

I will pay by Cheque/Card (delete as applicable) Cheques to be made payable to 'St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group'

Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Switch/Maestro ☐ Security Code Valid From Expiry
Card No. Issue Number (Switch/Maestro only) Date

Please fill out your details and sign here

Signed Title Name
Email
Address
Postcode Phone

☐ Please tick if you are a UK taxpayer and would like St John Eye Hospital to treat all donations you make from this date forward as Gift Aid donations, until you notify us otherwise. **(WE CAN ONLY CLAIM GIFT AID ON DONATIONS)**

☐ Please tick if you would like to receive information about Legacy or In Memory Giving

*Gift Aid Notes: I am a UK taxpayer and understand that if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current tax year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations it is my responsibility to pay any difference. I understand that other taxes, such as VAT and Council Tax, do not qualify. I understand that the charity will reclaim 25p on every £1 that I give after 6 April, 2008. I understand that the charity will reclaim 28p on every £1 that I gave up to 5 April, 2008. **Please notify the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group if you:** Want to cancel this Declaration; Change your name or home address; No longer pay sufficient tax on your income and/or capital gains. If you pay Income Tax at the higher or additional rate and want to receive the additional tax relief due to you, you must include all your Gift Aid donations on your Self-Assessment tax return or ask HM Revenue and Customs to adjust your tax code. **St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group, 4 Charterhouse Mews, London EC1M 6BB Tel +44 (0) 20 7553 6969 info@stjohnseyehospital.org Thank You very much for your support**

St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group is a company limited by guarantee, registered in England, no. 7355619. Registered by the Charity Commission for England and Wales, Charity no. 1139527