



**St John**

# 125 years

**St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital**

Annual Review 2007

125th Anniversary





**St. John Eye Hospital** is a centre of excellence providing ophthalmic care of high quality and relevance to the people of the Holy Land irrespective of race, creed, social class and ability to pay.

# Introduction

**Improving Sight,  
Changing Lives**



From left to right: Hanan Jaouni, HRH The Duchess of Gloucester, Ribhieh Abu Hlayel, Mary-Claire Al Haj, Margaret Dibsby, at the opening of the Women and Childrens Ward, December 2007.



*Lord Vestey DL*  
Chairman

*Mr Anthony Chignell*  
Order Hospitaller

*Mr Rod Bull*  
Chief Executive

**2007 was an exceptional 125th anniversary year for St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital that culminated in a very special Royal visit when The Grand Prior and HRH, The Duchess of Gloucester visited the Hospital.**

We further extended our charitable activities in response to the needs around us. Our achievements have been made despite working within an increasingly difficult political environment. We owe thanks to all the Hospital staff for their continued dedication and hard work. Over 83,300 patients were treated, an increase of over 13,000 from the previous year. Clinical activity has increased greatly, in part due to the opening of two satellite clinics, Hebron in the South and Anabta in the North. Our satellite clinic in Gaza continues to operate despite the escalating humanitarian crisis there and our two Mobile Outreach Programmes go from strength to strength. Our Teaching and Training Programme for Doctors and Nurses continues to develop as we strive to provide the best education possible to the next generation of locally based medical practitioners. To this effect our international visitor/volunteer programme continues to bring new expertise into the Hospital. The year also saw improvements to our Jerusalem based Hospital as major renovation of key work areas was undertaken.

None of our achievements could be done without the continuous and loyal support from members of St John, our external donors, supporters and Trusts & Foundations – we wish to extend a personal heartfelt thank you to all who help us in our charitable endeavours.



St John

# The Icon

## Celebrating The Icon And Its 12 Month Journey



The Grand Prior, HRH The Duke of Gloucester and The Lord Vestey, Chairman of the Board of Trustees at the launch of the International Patient Relief Appeal.

An Icon was created, carved out of Jerusalem stone that was symbolic of the Hospital's charitable work and a call for funding support of our charitable endeavours. The Icon went on a year-long international journey across the St John world. Its journey started on 11 January 2007 at St John's Gate, London, when it was handed over from Lord Vestey to The Grand Prior in a symbolic gesture at the start of the journey.

*"The need of those we serve at the moment in Jerusalem, the West Bank and Gaza is very great and so, at the time of celebration of our 125th anniversary, we have launched our International Patient Relief Appeal. This Icon is a symbol of our Appeal."* **Lord Vestey**

The Icon visited two locations of great significance in the history of the Order, the Crusader fortress of Acre in the Holy Land and Malta. In Malta the Deputy Lord Prior, Sir Norman Lloyd-Edwards and Order Hospitaller, Anthony Chignell, visited the convent of the Ursuline Sisters in Valletta where the relics of the Founder of the Order, the Blessed Gerard, are preserved. This special visit was kindly arranged by the President of the Sovereign Military Order of St John, HE Dr J Cremona, who accompanied the visit along with members of St John Ambulance, Malta.

Many celebratory events, led by the Chairman of the Board, The Lord Vestey, marked this special year. The Grand Prior, Lord Prior, Vice Lord Prior, Secretary-General and the Board of Trustees, have been particularly supportive of the Hospital and generous with their time during the year, for which we are very grateful.



At the Service of Celebration, Jerusalem, May 2007

During the weekend of 26 May, over 300 overseas guests and 200 staff and members of the local community joined together in Jerusalem to celebrate our anniversary. There was a special service at The Cathedral Church of St George The Martyr, Jerusalem which was followed by an Investiture of 50 Postulants.

The Grand Prior, HRH The Duke of Gloucester, accompanied by The Lord Vestey, and the Hospital CEO visited St John Ambulance, Hong Kong, where they were presented with a cheque for £81,380 towards The International Patient Relief Appeal. This was the first time that such an event has taken place, linking a St John Association directly with the Hospital.

Throughout the year the Icon travelled to most Pories across the St John world and was welcomed in countries as far afield as Australia, the USA, South Africa, Wales and New Zealand.

The Icon's journey concluded in December with the visit to the Hospital of the Grand Prior and HRH The Duchess of Gloucester. We were honoured that Their Royal Highnesses were also able to join us for our annual Christmas Carol Service. The Royal visit was a fantastic success and a wonderful end to the journey of the Icon.



# Our Achievements

## Eye Hospital Jerusalem



Rod Bull, CEO and HRH The Duke of Gloucester, with a plaque commemorating the visit of TRH The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester in December 2007

Our main hospital continued its busy schedule of clinical activities as over 38,000 outpatients were seen and 2,400 major operations undertaken. The Hospital benefited from the additional support of 23 international volunteer medical and surgical specialists. They managed complex cases and other aspects of sub speciality care and also, importantly, passed on their invaluable skills to staff at the Hospital.

Thanks to funds donated we were able to carry out major renovation work in 2007 which resulted in improvements to the Nursing Home, Women and Children Ward, Doctors Apartments and the renewal of two main Hospital staircases.

### Our Visitors

*"I have always thought of the work of the Eye Hospital as reflecting the values of the Order, and as relevant now as at the inception of the Hospital 125 years ago. My recent visit to Jerusalem has reinforced that view, and I was particularly impressed by the enthusiasm, dedication and professionalism of all those working for the Hospital under difficult circumstances. HRH The Duke of Gloucester.*

The year was made all the more special by the Royal visit, when The Grand Prior and HRH The Duchess of Gloucester, in December, visited the Hospital and our satellite clinic in Anabta. During their visit The Duchess of Gloucester officially re-opened our newly refurbished Children and Female Ward and unveiled a plaque commemorating the visit. The refurbishment was made possible due to the generosity of the Priory of the USA.

The Hospital proudly welcomed a number of other prestigious visitors and supporters. Memorable visitors included the USA Under Secretary of State, Nicholas Burns, the Rt Hon David Blunkett MP, the Japanese Ambassador, Yoshinori Katori and the UK Foreign Secretary, the Rt Hon Mrs Margaret Beckett MP. We wish to thank the British Consul-General, Richard Makepeace, and his staff for arranging this visit when Mrs Beckett formally opened our newly renovated Male Ward, work on which was completed in late 2006. The renovation was made possible following donations received from the British Government, the Pontifical Mission and a number of individual donors. We also wish to thank the Japanese Ambassador and the Japanese Government for confirming their commitment by donating US\$79,000 for the purchase of a state-of-the-art digital fundus photography system.

## Teaching & Training



Top: From left to right, Lecturer Practitioner Ahmad Ma'ali with students Hussein Sous, Rima Zaben,



Above: Abdallah Kuta; age 7 from Gaza and Dr Keren Haas.

We continue to build a sustainable and highly professional pool of skilled local eye care practitioners by providing teaching and training for locally based doctors and nurses.

In 2007 the Hospital funded four Resident Doctors on their four year training programme and two Trainees, placed at the Israeli Hadassah Hospital. Our Training Programme is fully recognised by the Jordanian and Palestinian Councils of Ophthalmology and our benchmark is equivalent to that approved by the UK Royal College of Ophthalmologists.

*"I wish every person I treat will go home and be an ambassador for peace and co-existence"* **Dr Keren Haas**

Dr Keren Haas from Ashdod, Israel, joined St John, part-time, bringing necessary expertise in Vitreo-Retinal surgery (VR). Dr Haas is another excellent example of the Palestinian – Israeli co-operation at our Hospital.

A review of nursing was undertaken by senior staff from Moorfields Eye Hospital, London, and gave guidance for the future direction of nursing at the Hospital. Training Ophthalmic Nurses is the priority of the Sir Stephen Miller School of Nursing whose post-graduate Specialist Ophthalmic Nursing course is recognised by Thames Valley University in the UK. The School is also responsible for training Nurse Practitioners and Nursing Staff professional development.

## Research

Behet's disease is a chronic condition due to disturbances in the body's immune system. Funding from The Ridley Foundation enabled the continuation of the study into this disease. The study includes creating a patient registry and collecting DNA samples for sequencing. An academic collaboration is in place with Hadassah Hospital, Jerusalem and St. Thomas' Hospital, London.

Thanks to a grant from The Linbury Trust, a major Epidemiological Study will be undertaken in 2008. It is more than 25 years since a research project of this scale has been undertaken at the Hospital. There has been a substantial increase in the Palestinian population and no national blind register exists in the region. The Hospital's Director of Medical Education, Nick Sargent, who is in charge of this project said

*"The findings of this research will help focus the Eye Hospital tremendously in planning our humanitarian services, and will also enable the effective monitoring of all our current eye care programmes."* **Nick Sargent**



## Satellite And Mobile Outreach Clinics



Top: One of our Outreach vans

Above: The Anabta Clinic

As internal travel restrictions and poverty make it difficult for the majority of our patients to reach us, our Satellite and Mobile Outreach Clinics become more and more important in our aim, in line with the WHO "Vision 2020: The Right to Sight" initiative - to abolish preventable blindness by 2020.

We reach those who cannot access adequate eye care including those with restricted mobility, the people of Gaza, refugees, people in remote villages and the Bedouin population.

We have now added an additional Satellite Clinic, in Anabta in the North of the West Bank, to our existing Satellite Clinics in Hebron and Gaza. Our two Mobile Outreach Clinics continued to operate most successfully. The Alliance Orders of St John, in partnership with Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe, secured EU funding through ECHO (European Commission for Humanitarian Aid), who have sponsored "Outreach 2" since 2004.

The Anabta Clinic was opened in May 2007 and its focus is the screening and treatment of Diabetic Eye Disease with Paediatric eye care also a high priority. Regular visits are made by the Orthoptist and Paediatric specialist. Other specialists from the Hospital, including expatriates, also visit regularly.

Our Gaza Clinic saw 17,000 patients, an increase of 3,500 from the previous year and in Hebron we treated 14,000 patients, an increase of 3,000 compared to 2006. Hebron also increased the number of major operations performed by over 50% from the previous year. Our Outreach teams treated 10,000 people in 2007.

# Thanks

## Our supporters helped us raise £2.888m

Our supporters helped us raise £2.888m to enable us to continue our vital work. We would like to take this opportunity to say a big thank you to everyone who has helped us make a difference to the lives of people in the West Bank, Gaza Strip and East Jerusalem.

None of the ongoing and development activities of our charity would be achievable without the generosity and commitment provided by the St John Family and from donations received from all of our other supporters including individuals, companies and charitable trusts.

We are extremely fortunate to count amongst our hard working supporters our Priors throughout the world. Our friends at The Guild, chaired by Mrs Laretta Ridley, organised a wonderful fundraising dinner event that was attended by approximately 400 people. The Alliance Orders of St John, linked Associations and the St John Fellowship continued

their hard work on behalf of the Hospital. We would also like to thank The Friends of East Jerusalem Hospitals and the Knights Templar for their continuing support.

Funding from Trusts and Foundations continued to be a vital source of support. Major donors in 2007 included, amongst others, The Linbury Trust, Bible Lands, The Clothworkers Foundation, Altijir Trust, The Christenblindenoff Mission (CBM), Pontifical Mission, Belgian Technical Co-operation, The Femto Trust, Care International, Edward Cadbury Charitable Trust, St John The Baptist Foundation, The Swire Charitable Trust, The Japanese Embassy, The European Commission through ECHO/Johanniter, The GNC Trust, The Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation, The East Grinstead Medical Research Trust, The Eranda Foundation, The Sobell Foundation, The Kennedy Leigh Charitable Trust, Stanley Thomas Johnson Foundation, Karim Rida Said Foundation and The Peres Center For Peace.

To mark our 125th Anniversary, renowned artist, Elisabeth Harden, wife of Former Warden, Alec Harden, created a watercolour image of our Hospital Cloisters. She generously donated the beautiful image for our use as the Christmas Card for 2007.



# Finance

## Sources of Funds (£4.453m)

## Uses of Funds (£4.477m)



**29%** Hospital Income  
**25%** Priority Funding  
**40%** Grants, Trusts, Donations and Gifts  
**6%** Investment Income

**60%** Patient Care Jerusalem  
**17%** Outreach Program (mobile & static)  
**4%** Teaching and Training Funds  
**8%** Cost of Generating Funds  
**11%** Governance Costs (Management /Admin)

As can be seen in the charts above, funding amounted to £4.453m and expenditure £4.477m, resulting in a net operating deficit of £24,000. Year-on-year the Hospital relies on voluntary income as a major provider of funds.

In 2007, voluntary income of £2.888m, constituted 65% of incoming resources; while £1.305m (29%) of total incoming resources came from the Hospital's charitable activities. The remaining 6% of incoming resources related to income from investments. £1.095m of the voluntary income was donated by the Priors of the Order of St John.

During 2007 expenditure, in the furtherance of our charitable activities, amounted to £3.616m, representing 81% of total resources expended. These costs included managing the Hospital in Jerusalem; two mobile outreach clinics; three static clinics in Gaza and the West Bank in addition to the continuation of active teaching and training for Doctors, Nurses and providing patient care. The cost of generating funds represented 8% of total expenditure, with governance costs at 11%.

# Board

## & Chief Executive information



**The Lord Vestey**  
 The Lord Vestey is the Chairman of the Hospital Board. He is former Lord Prior of the Order of St John. He is Chairman of The Vestey Group and Master of the Horse.



**Philip Hardaker FCA**  
 Mr Philip Hardaker joined the Board in Spring 2006 with special responsibility for Finance. A Chartered Accountant, he is a former partner with KPMG in the UK who for a period acted as Regional Executive for KPMG International in the Middle East and South Asia.



**John Talbot FRCS, FRCOphth**  
 Mr John Talbot is the Clinical Advisor to the Board. He is a Consultant Ophthalmologist, based in Sheffield. He sits on various committees for the Royal College of Ophthalmologists.



**Antoine Mattar FCA, CTA**  
 Mr Antoine Mattar is the Deputy Chairman of the Board and assists the Chairman with Fundraising. He is currently Non-Executive Director of Consolidated Contractors (CCC), prior to this he was a Partner with Arthur Andersen



**Richard Makepeace**  
 Mr Richard Makepeace is the British Consul General in Jerusalem, running the diplomatic mission responsible for UK relations with the Palestinians, and a former Ambassador in the Sudan and the United Arab Emirates.



**Alistair Wood MBE**  
 Mr Alistair Wood MBE is Private Secretary to TRH The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester. Prior to this appointment he was a governance and rule of law advisor for the United Kingdom Government, and has advised on several development programmes in Africa, as well as in South Asia.



**Anthony Chignell FRCS, FRCOphth**  
 Mr Anthony Chignell has been the Order Hospitaller since 2002 and will step down in 2008. He is a former Consultant Ophthalmologist at St. Thomas's Hospital, London.



**E. Laird Mortimer III**  
 Mr. E. Laird Mortimer, III is founder and former President of the Periodical Corporation. He currently serves as President of the Barnabas Foundation, and Hospitaller for the Priory in the United States.



**Roslyn Emblin**  
 Miss Roslyn Emblin, former Director of Nursing for Morfields Eye Hospital. She was the Nursing Advisor to the board. Retired June 2007.



**Harold Climenhaga M.D., F.R.C.S.C**  
 Dr Harold Climenhaga is a Canadian Ophthalmologist, an Associate Clinical Professor at the University of Alberta and spent over a year working at St John Eye Hospital, following his ophthalmic training. He is former Priory Hospitaller for the Priory of Canada.



**Nicholas Ridley**  
 Mr Nicholas Ridley has special responsibility for Property, Insurance and Audit matters on the Board. He is a former Chairman of St John Council for Lincolnshire. He is Chairman of a commercial property investment company and Chairman of the Ridley Foundation.



**Rod Bull**  
 Mr Rod Bull has 30 years healthcare managerial experience, many years of which have been in the charitable sector in the UK, Singapore and Pakistan. He took up post in Jerusalem in September 2006.



**Robert Ehinger Krehl**  
 Mr Robert Ehinger Krehl is Secretary General of the Alliance Orders of St John. He is partner of Ehinger & Cie in Basel,



**Michael Stewart**  
 Mr Michael Stewart is Legal Advisor on the Board. He is a Solicitor and Arbitrator and is practising in a London firm.



**St John**

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or set up a regular donation.  
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