



**St John of Jerusalem  
Eye Hospital Group**



# **Knights Templar Newsletter**

June 2023 | Issue 6 | St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group Newsletter

## *Welcome to your June Newsletter*

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**We are so grateful for the support you have shown to us – particularly those of you who have undertaken fundraising initiatives and supported us with donations.**

**We always keen to know what you are up to with your fundraising and answer any questions you may have; you can contact us on: [Info@stjohnehospital.org](mailto:Info@stjohnehospital.org)**

## *Inside This Newsletter*

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## Hospital Update

Since January 2023, there has been a noticeable escalation in the level of violence in Jerusalem, the West Bank and to a lesser extent in Gaza. As a result, some 100 Palestinians and 19 Israelis were killed in the past few months alone.

Sadly, due to increased security risks, we were forced to cancel some outreach visits over the past few months. The escalation was fueled by Israeli police raiding the Aqsa Mosque during Ramadan. The Israeli Army struck targets for Hamas in both Gaza and southern Lebanon after dozens of rockets were fired into Israeli Territory. Although this exchange of fire was short-lived and resulted in no serious casualties, the situation on the ground remains tense.

In terms of Hospital Group activity, we are generally on target in almost all clinical settings and are projected to achieve our planned annual clinical activities for 2023. Between January and March this year, we conducted almost 35,000 patient visits, which is a 3% rise compared to the same period of 2022. As for major surgeries, almost 1,700 surgeries were performed at the Group which is almost 10% more than the same period of 2022.



In terms of training at the Hospital Group, fifteen students have successfully completed our Ophthalmic Nurse assistant training, a six-month course based in Gaza. This short course is sponsored by Love Must Act Foundation and delivered by our Nurse Manager, Fadi Ejleh, and the Head of the School of Nursing, Nasrallah Khalilia.

Students on our one-year, hands-on Post Graduate Ophthalmic Nursing Diploma commenced their training in September 2022 in Jerusalem, and will complete the course at the end of May 2023.

Photo left: Fadi Ejleh delivering a lecture to students in Gaza.

We opened the doors to our Kufor Aqab clinic on a full-time basis in October 2022 and so far, in the first quarter of 2023, 1,450 patients have been seen at the clinic and 365 of these patients were referred to the main Hospital for further diagnostic procedures and surgery. Based on these figures, the clinic is on target to treat 6,000 to 7,000 patients by the end of the year. Due to the increased demand for subspeciality services, we will commence pediatric/orthoptic clinics once every fortnight at the Kufor Aqab clinic.

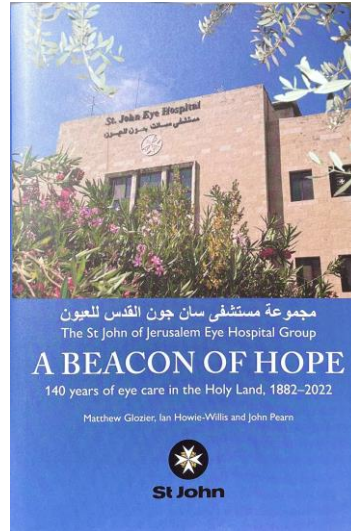


## Historical Photos of the Hospital

These interesting photos were taken during the build and early development of the St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital from when it was established in 1882.

If you are interested in the history of the Eye Hospital and would like to find out more, we have an excellent book called 'A Beacon of Hope: 140 years of eye care in the Holy Land', written by Matthew Glozier, Ian Howie-Willis, and John Pearn. This book tells the story of the Hospital and its staff over the past 140 years of its unique existence and is available to purchase (RRP £36) via sending a cheque to the office or online here:

[St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group Shop \(stjohneyehospital.org\)](http://StJohnofJerusalemEyeHospitalGroupShop.stjohneyehospital.org)



## Fundraising Corner

### Recipes Required!

Lyn Hunter, Hospitaller for Cheshire County Priory Group, is compiling a recipe book to sell in aid of St John Eye Hospital and is on the lookout for contributions. If you would like to be involved and contribute a recipe, please contact Lyn on [Lyn.Hunter@sja.org.uk](mailto:Lyn.Hunter@sja.org.uk).



### SJEHG Shopping List Scheme

Rev'd Niall Johnston, the Deputy Great Almoner and Provincial Prelate of London, has worked with the Jerusalem team to create a fantastic initiative in order to raise much needed funds for St John Eye Hospital Group. Niall has put together a 'shopping list' of items currently needed at our hospitals, which includes anything from patient blankets to benches for the Muristan Garden. Our most recent supporters of the shopping list scheme are the Bard of Avon Preceptory, Niall's mother Preceptory, who have sponsored a garden bench in recognition of their 150 years celebration. If you would like to find out more about our Shopping List Scheme, please contact Niall at: [masonic@nialljohnston.org](mailto:masonic@nialljohnston.org).



### What can my donations to SJEHG do?

- £7.00 / US\$ 8.50 could fund an initial eye consultation.
- £25.00 / US\$ 30 could provide eye drops (which are typically the main treatment for conditions such as glaucoma).
- £70.00 / US\$ 85 could pay for diabetic-related eye treatments.
- £250.00 / US\$ 300 could pay for cataract treatment for one person.
- £250.00 / US\$ 300 could provide an operation to correct a child's squint.
- £500.00 / US\$ 600 could fund urgent eye surgery.



## 2023 Challenge Events

Want to do a sponsored physical event to fundraise for us? Maybe you'd like to raise £250 to correct a child's squint but don't know how? How about joining one of our challenge events?

This year, we are putting on four challenge events for you to choose from! These events are sponsored runs and take place throughout 2023. If you would like to get involved, you can sign up via our website here:

<https://www.stjohnehospital.org/fundraise-for-us/>

Any questions, please contact: [Info@stjohnehospital.org](mailto:Info@stjohnehospital.org)

### How we'll support you:

- FREE running vest!
- Training Plan.
- Support emails and lots of running tips.
- Souvenir Certificate.



### 9<sup>th</sup> July – ASICS London 10K

Entry fee: £25

Suggested Sponsorship: £250

Join thousands of runners taking part in this atmospheric 10Km fun run! You'll run past some of central London's top landmarks including, St James' Palace, Westminster Bridge and Big Ben to the sound of live bands, DJs and cheers.

This flat route is perfect for beginners as well as regular runners aiming for a PB! Whatever your ability, sign up to raise £250 which can pay for life-changing a cataract treatment for one person.

[Run For Charity - Event Registration Page](#)



## 2023 Challenge Events



### 8<sup>th</sup> October – Royal Parks Half Marathon

Entry fee: £35

Suggested Sponsorship: £300

Why not join us for one of the most scenic half marathons in London? The legendary Royal Parks Half Marathon takes participants on closed roads around four of the capital's Royal Parks – Hyde Park, Green Park, St James' Park and Kensington Gardens.

Sign up now to help us raise vital funds for our amazing charity!

[Run For Charity - Event Registration Page](#)



If you'd like to organise your own event or need any assistance with fundraising, please let us know and we'd love to help you! You can contact the London Fundraising Office by emails: [Info@stjohneyehospital.org](mailto:Info@stjohneyehospital.org).

## Regular Giving

Would you like to support us regularly? A monthly donation is the most effective way to support our work. Just £7 a month would fund an initial eye consultation for one person.

Regular gifts allow us to plan our work – donating this way enables us to know how much income we'll likely have in the future. It also allows you to plan your giving and every time you hear about our work, you'll know how important your contribution was.

If you are interested in finding out more, please email:

[Info@stjohneyehospital.org](mailto:Info@stjohneyehospital.org)



## Ways to support us...

If you would like to make a one-off donation or set up a direct debit, you can do so by visiting our website at: [www.stjohneyehospital.org](http://www.stjohneyehospital.org).

To stay in touch and keep up to date, you can subscribe to our Jerusalem Scene newsletter via our website or by calling the office on

0207 553 6963 or emailing [Info@stjohneyehospital.org](mailto:Info@stjohneyehospital.org).

**If you would like to fundraise for us, please get in touch! We have many fundraising resources available to download from our website, including how-to guides, posters, and leaflets.**

Here at St John Eye Hospital Group, we rely on donations to help support our vital work. The funds you raise help support us in a variety of ways from helping us purchase blankets for patients to carrying out sight-saving surgeries.

### Fundraising Ideas:

- Bake Sale
- Dress down day
- Sponsored activity
- Donations instead of presents for your birthday
- Quiz
- Open house/ garden
- Sponsored walk
- Golf day



If you are organising a fundraiser, please do let us know as we would love to send some resources to help. Below is a list of items we have available.

Resources Available (loan basis):

- Pop up banners
- Collection boxes
- Collection buckets
- Tabards



\*Please note, if you would like to borrow any resources on a loan basis, we would need at least one month's notice from the event date and we would need to receive the items back within two weeks of the event taking place.

Resources Available (to keep):

- Leaflets
- Jerusalem Scene
- Posters



## Merchandise

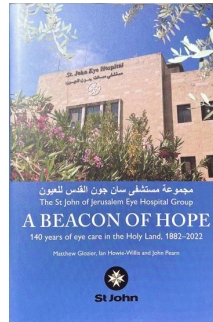
We have a variety of merchandise available to buy through our website here:

[St John of Jerusalem Eye Hospital Group Shop \(stjohnehospital.org\)](http://stjohnehospital.org)

You can also send a cheque with a note of the items you'd like to purchase to our office address.



**St John Eye Hospital  
Silk Tie**  
£25



**'A Beacon of Hope: 140  
years of eye care in the Holy  
Land: 1882 -2022' Paperback**  
£36



**SJEHG Pen**  
£5



**Swift Tree Cards (pack  
of 5, blank inside)**  
£5



**Cream Tote Bag**  
£3.50



**'Treasures' by Tom Foakes**  
£50



**Unisex SJEH Tshirt  
(White) S/M/L available**  
£15



**Unisex SJEH Tshirt  
(Gold) S/M/L available**  
£15



**Lapel Pin Badge**  
£5