

Annual Report to the Board of Trustees of St John Eye Hospital Group.

12th January 2021

In 2020 The St John Ophthalmic Association ('SOA') was active with physical meetings until mid-March, and with virtual meetings and activities thereafter.

By agreement with Mr Peter Khoury, the accounts of the 'virtual ledger' of the SOA will be provided in parallel with the main hospital accounts on each occasion that they are issued.

(1) Physical meetings

1.1 The 2nd SOA-Middle East Ophthalmology Symposium. January 13th 2020, Jerusalem

A half-day clinical congress was held shortly after the Israeli Ophthalmic Congress in Eilat. 45 clinicians attended, including SJEHG doctors, regional colleagues, and others from Canada, Germany and Britain. 12 talks were given, and the meeting sponsored by Allergan and Arabco, whose support was much appreciated. *The report is available [HERE](#), and programme [HERE](#)*

1.2 Inaugural Meeting of iYouth, Young Professionals for SJEHG. February 21st 202, Dublin

iYouth is formed of professionals from all disciplines under the age of 35 years, and now has an executive body, with an ophthalmic adviser. Their Patron is Prof O'Higgins Norman, and the opening was also supported by the Prior of England & The Islands. *The report is available [HERE](#)*

1.3 The 3rd Annual SOA-Europe Meeting. March 10th 2020, London

Hosted at the Gate in Clerkenwell by the Prior of England and the Islands, this meeting was supported by 65 guests, including members of the TEC. It was opened by the Lord Prior, and followed by 6 presentations relating to the work of St John, and programs that support this work. *Report [HERE](#)*

(2) Virtual meetings

2.1 SOA-Digital: update meeting. 30th August 2020, by 'Zoom'

An update meeting was held between the UK and the Americas on the progress of SOA-Digital.

2.2 SOA-USA: 3rd annual meeting, & the start of St John Ophthalmic Case Series ('SOCS')

21st November 2020, by 'Zoom'

The SOA's first formal virtual scientific meeting was hosted by the Hospitaller of the Priory of St John in the USA, and attended by over 40 colleagues from the Americas and Europe. The meeting was addressed by our Host, our Chair of the Board, our CEO, and the Hospitaller. Most importantly, the meeting included presentations from our own SJEHG Trainees – one from Jerusalem, one from Gaza.

(3) Other activity achieved in 2020

3.1 www.SOA.global has been upgraded

3.2 We have created a **Research & Publications Page** for SJEHG. *Please see [HERE](#)*

3.3 The **Staff Profile Page** continues to develop. *Please see [HERE](#)*

3.4 We have appointed an Honorary Digital Direct, Dr Sri Gore. *Please see [HERE](#)*

3.5 Financial support given for SJEHG research, and the MD's salary during lock-down

3.6 Engagement with UK Donors, enabling SOA-sponsorship of 2 SJEHG Training Fellowships.

(4) 2021 – Projected activity:

4.1 Roll-out of SOA international Membership (by donation to our training programme)

4.2 Release of our [MasterClass](#) Series to Societies across the world, similarly by donation.

4.3 April 23rd: The 1st SOA-Scotland Meeting, with the Scottish Priory, Edinburgh. (Likely to be deferred). Costs to be met by ticket sales.

4.4 March: **The 2nd SOA-Asia Pacific Meeting** (Virtual)

4.5 May: **The 1st SOA-Canada Meeting** (Virtual)