

International Disaster and Emergency Aid with Long term Support

Accounts for the Year Ended 31st March 2016

Trustees' Annual Report

Governing Document IDEALS is a Charitable Trust created by a Declaration of Trust dated 1 February 2000

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Other Names Charity is known by IDEALS

Registered Charity No. 1080144

Address 36 Priestfields
Rochester
Kent, ME1 3AG

Trustees

Mr Simon Oliver (Founding Trustee)
Mr John Beavis MB, FRCS, DMCC (Chairman)
Dr Andrew Ferguson MRCP MFPHM MPH DTMH
Mr Robert Marshall Andrews QC
Dr Eamon McCoy MD, FRCA
Mr Oliver McTernan
Sir Terence English KBE, PPRCS(Eng)
Mr Graeme Groom MA FRCS
Ms Sarah Phillips BSc MB FRCS
Ms Pamela Zinkin FRCP FRCPCH
Jerome Curran MA (Oxon)

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Finance Controller Mr Leon

Date

Bankers

NatWest

40 High Street

Rochester

Kent, ME1 1LR

Accountants

Barnes Roffe LLP

Chartered Accountants

Charles Lake House, Claire
Causeway, Crossways Business
Park, Dartford, Kent, DA2 6QA

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Trustee Selection

The Trust requires a minimum of three trustees and every trustee shall be appointed for a term of five years by a resolution at a special meeting. Trustees are selected for their ability to make an effective contribution to the charity in terms of skill and experience. The target number of Trustees is not fixed and additional Trustees may be appointed after identifying attributes that complement those of the existing board.

Management

IDEALS has no paid employees and is run by the Trustees under the guidance of the Chairman, John Beavis, with the help of the vice Chairman Trustee, Dr Andrew Ferguson. The charity is reliant upon the time, skill and resources donated by its Trustees and other supporters, for which it is extremely grateful. The Trustees receive no remuneration or other benefits.

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Relationship with Other Parties and Organisations

IDEALS has worked since 2003 with the Primary Trauma Care Foundation in promoting the Foundation's method of Primary Trauma Care training in Pakistan and Gaza. IDEALS has also established a working relationship with Community Appraisal and Motivation Programme (a registered Charity in Pakistan, who have been responsible for delivering medical and humanitarian aid projects on behalf of IDEALS.

In addition, we continue to develop excellent cooperation with the organisation Medical Aid for Palestinians (MAP) which, as its name signifies, is devoted to the medical assistance for Palestinians wherever they are. This organisation was vital for the PTC activities in Gaza but, as we extend our work in the area, it has been very important to work with MAP in order to obtain advice and for logistic support.

A continued cooperation with, and grants from, The Tropical Health and Education Trust (THET), have continued with expansion into a second major set of projects in Gaza related to training Accident Emergency personnel, Theatre Staff, Physiotherapists and Occupational Therapists in the care of injured patients.

The work in Gaza since 2014 has been of many sorts which has resulted in cooperation with the Norwegian Government organisation; Norwegian Aid Committee, (NORWAC), for surgical care of war injured patients and more recently Public Health England and Mercy Malaysia with attention to problems of water quality control. The Activities of IDEALS with their Surgical partner NORWAC and with MAP has resulted in a changing pattern of activity in Theatres which will be described subsequently.

OBJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

Objects

To relieve poverty, distress and suffering in any part of the world (including starvation, sickness or any physical disability or affliction) primarily arising from public calamity (including famine, earthquake, pestilence, war and civil disturbance) in particular by the provision of, or assistance in the provision of humanitarian long term rehabilitation and recovery programmes.

Summary of Main Activities in Relation to these Objects

In planning activities, the Trustees have kept in mind the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit. IDEALS main activities include the provision of medical resources and the

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training and encouragement of local medical professionals to provide the benefit of a more effective response to the consequences of disasters and emergencies, especially in remote, rural and disadvantaged areas; ultimately with the aim to improve the chances of survival and recovery, for any member of the local communities. The activities include specific medical, economic or humanitarian projects to assist individuals and/or communities to rebuild their lives after a major catastrophe.

Grant Making Policy

Identification of beneficiaries or projects will depend on direct information from fieldwork by the medical trustees, Sir Terence English, Mr John Beavis, Mr Graeme Groom, Dr Eamon McCoy, Dr Andrew Ferguson and Sarah Phillips. We are particularly helped by the expertise of the Medical Adviser, in this work who is able to apply a “broad brush” experience and consider the integration of all the specialities with the needs of the communities. In addition, the views of all trustees and other reputable informants will lead to a formal assessment of candidates or projects for aid.

IDEALS PROJECTS

During the year 2015 to 2016 IDEALS has, once again, expanded while continuing with its previous activities. Sadly, some, of this expansion of work, which was founded in part on previous projects, has been as a result of the persistent wars in the Middle East.

Limb Reconstruction Fellowships at Kings College Hospital (THET 1)

The last Limb Reconstruction Fellow left King's College Hospital in the summer of 2014 as stated in the last Annual Report. Connection between Gaza and Kings Orthopaedic/Plastic Surgery was maintained by frequent visits which continued into, and it is planned, beyond, the reporting year 2015 to 2016.

A major part of the work has been the very fruitful cooperation with NORWAC whose surgical teams alternate with IDEALS teams and cooperate fully on the management of individual patients in the overall training and extension of the Limb Reconstruction activities. The success is measured by the statement of one of the senior surgeons that whereas *“At the beginning of the project the local Gaza surgeons assisted the visiting surgeons in theatre the reverse is now*

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true with visitors assisting the local surgeons". This means that a primary objective of the work to "hand over" the skills to the local staff and set up a Gaza based limb reconstruction Unit is now occurring. The appointment of a Limb Reconstruction Coordinator, for this work who is supported by MAP and NORWAC, has been extremely important and has significantly reduced demands on the clinical staff within the new service at Shifa hospital.

In addition to NORWAC cooperation with the Limb Reconstruction Project MAP has extended its assistance with the appointment of a Director, Ms Sara Halimah, to locally supervise this work, and other, developmental activities. A full Skype video-conference connection is maintained with King's College Hospital, (KCH), and Gaza when conversations take place about once a week. Since their inception 21 video conferences have been undertaken as at mid-April 2016. The conferences are enormously assisted and supported by the local MAP representatives and the staff from Al Shifa Hospital in Gaza City. Patients are discussed as are problems of an administrative nature with the latest one being the difficulty of UK visas being issued for the students of all specialities to visit KCH from Gaza. Some success for this is "possibly pending" and much of it has depended on the excellent cooperation engendered by the skype conferences.

A major visit occurred in December 2015 when representatives of IDEALS visited Gaza. The staff included three Orthopaedic Surgeons, a Plastic Surgeon, a Consultant in A/E and Intensive Care; a Specialist Nurse in Emergency Medicine; One Limb Reconstruction Nurse and a Limb Reconstruction Physiotherapist. They all came from either Kings College Hospital or from the Royal London Hospital. The team were joined by the Chairman and Chief Executive of MAP and the report was of considerable achievement with the development of local skills to allow independent work by the Gaza staff. The attendance of the Accident and Emergency Staff and was supported by a grant from THET independent of the one for purely Limb Reconstruction. This has been designated THET2 project.

IDEALS Trustees Mr Graeme Groom and Miss Sarah Phillips were present on most of the visits. The IDEALS team has been privileged to work closely with other surgeons including Mr Naveen Cavale Consultant Plastic Surgeon from KCH and other contributors were Plastic Surgeons, Ms Yvette Godwin and Mr Tim Goodacre along with Orthopaedic Surgeons, Mr Jon Compson and Mr Matthew Barry. The combined work of these individuals has been extraordinarily impressive to observe, particularly when it is realised that each visit is arduous to accomplish and expedite and is fitted in to busy NHS working programmes.

A visit in late January to February 2016 included Orthopaedic Surgeons Graeme Groom and Jon Compson from KCH and Tim Hardwicke, Plastic Surgeon from Oxford. The combined work

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of these specialists allowed the local team to clinically, decide upon and undertake a full range of reconstructive surgical activities as well as review past patients.

To date a large amount of Surgical equipment has been imported to Gaza – usually carried by the IDEALS team on their visits. Initially this was purchased from the DfID grant to MAP after the 2014 hostilities but further assistance has come from MAP directly and from THET as part of THET2 project (see below). The equipment has been checked and recorded at KCH prior to departure. Observation of the re-usable equipment showed problems of erosion and this has been associated with the use of sterilising water with a high salt and mineral content. IDEALS and MAP supported the visit of Professor Nigel Silman from Public Health England to assess the water purity and offer advice on purification processes. This is primarily for potable drinking water but has its application to operating theatre methods. It is hoped that changes in equipment washing and sterilising will eliminate this problem.

One of the interesting numerical figures is that the number of patients electing to be treated outside Gaza for their complex limb wounds was very high in 2014 but now, with referrals coming from Médecins sans Frontières, there are none electing **not** to be treated in Gaza. A relationship has now been established with Médecins sans Frontières for patients who need an opinion and possible surgery on complex fractures to be sent to the Gaza Limb Reconstruction Unit.

The IDEALS Chairman can report to the Charity Commission that this project has been very successful and reveals the strengths of combining with other organisations, in a non-competitive way, to achieve well planned goals in treating complex problems of both a surgical and logistic nature.

THET 2 PROJECT

The second project is designated THET2 and is for the training both locally and at KCH of Gaza personnel to advance the quality of practice in the management of trauma, with a particular focus on the newly established limb reconstruction service, and the succeeding care of patients.

This training has been based on the methods used at KCH, which is a Major Trauma Centre for South East England. The grant is designed to involve the training of Casualty Medical Specialists, Plastic Surgery Specialist, Casualty Nursing Staff, Physiotherapists, Occupational

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Therapists and Operating Theatre Staff in matters related to the immediate and long term care of injured patients. The project ran from April 2015 and the first year report is included as an addendum to this Annual Report to the Charity Commission.

The biggest problem and disappointment has been the failure to obtain visas from the UK Government. As stated in the first year report on THET2 *"This has been despite intensive efforts and close coordination with UK consulate offices in Gaza, Jerusalem and Amman. Whilst we plan to continue efforts until there is insufficient time left to complete the training fellowships, we have also prepared a contingency plan for additional training activities within Gaza"*.

It can be stated that this set back, probably associated with the general increase in Middle East conflict and its overspill into Europe, is being tackled very vigorously and on visits to Gaza the enthusiasm of the participants remains undiminished.

THET has been very cooperative and understanding by allowing the time for the initial Limb Reconstruction Team Training to be extended because of the intrusion from border closure and now sees that the continuing uncertainty in the Middle East also affects the THET 2 project by preventing UK visas for Gaza trainees to be given and thus reach their training at KCH.

Without the close and highly professional cooperation of all the partners in this project it might well have been impossible and would certainly been less efficient.

Public Health in Gaza

As stated in the last submission to the Charity Commission, *IDEALS is always concerned about the effects of war on the general medical problems and society. IDEALS continued to recognise it has a role to play in the Public Health of Gaza.*

Water Problems in Gaza

It is essential that water testing apparatus is obtained because it is already recognised that there has been, and will continue to be, deterioration in the water quality in Gaza. A large grant from the charity Mercy Malaysia to IDEALS has resulted in this testing facility being established and the recent visit by Professor Silman to assess this problem has been extremely valuable. Residents suffer deliberate water outages due to electricity shut down and loss of flow, receiving running water for only six to eight hours at a time: 25% of households on a daily basis, 40% every other day, 20% once every three days, and the remaining 15% (in Gaza City, Rafah and Jabaliya) only one day out of four. A Palestinian Authority document reveals that while 180

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million cubic metres (mcm) of water is taken from the aquifers each year only 50 to 60 mcm is replaced by fresh water from Israel.

At a recent symposium at the Royal Society of Medicine Professor Silman described the problems of Gaza water supply being dependent on aquifers contaminated by sea water and inevitable, heavy metals along with other sea borne inorganic contaminants. It must be remembered that the sewage disposal system also suffers from restricted pumping facilities and electrical failures and polluted sea water enters the aquifers causing increasing bacterial contamination. This geochemical effect, combined with a high population density, leads to an estimate that this water contamination will make the area unsustainable for the large population by 2020. Drinking water is largely imported in bottles but the quality of this is variable and very expensive for the average Gaza family.

Vaccination Programme

Continuation of the excellent pre-war vaccination programme by definitely establishing solar energy supply for the refrigeration plant has progressed well and this avoids problems of unreliable main cable electrical supplies which enter Gaza from Israel. Electricity in Gaza is often cut off for periods of up to 12 hours a day and unless generators are working, refrigerator dependent medical materials, such as vaccines and plasma etc are at risk. The close living of the expanding population with poor sewage disposal and the difficulty with water supplies are indicators of the huge potential of epidemics and yet the vaccination programme has worked well.

Future Projects

The Charity retains the commitment to "Long term support" – including the areas of rehabilitation and disability support, as well as the development of primary medical services. The Trustees were determined to continue this aspect of the work as well as the extensive support for trauma care in Gaza and The West Bank. The non-trauma work involves the further establishment of Primary Health activities related to water supply and vaccination in Gaza.

In the immediate future, IDEALS intends to expand its activity in supporting the growing number of refugees from Syria mainly in camps in Lebanon. One way that is being considered is the renewal of our association with the organisation Blue Mission in Southern Lebanon, which was contracted by IDEALS to implement a very successful Primary Care Programme in 2014.

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It is important to note that the restarting of Primary Trauma Care in the West Bank in 2014, after a meeting with the Chairman of IDEALS in Ramallah, is a great success and is an example of IDEALS philosophy of "Long term support" which underpins all the charity's activities. IDEALS will monitor the PTC activity without intruding into the local medical staff activities but we will extend help in any way that is requested needed. This withdrawal from active "day to day" involvement after the project is considered well advance is the hallmark of both IDEALS and PTC

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves Policy

The policy of the charity is to keep reserves to a minimum and to ensure that all donations are assigned to beneficiaries as soon as possible.

Financial Performance

Expenditure during the year was covered by income and overall, reserve levels have increased greatly. This will greatly assist IDEALS in its future activities particularly in Lebanon.

The Charity has continued to focus on direct service delivery and is most grateful to the Trustees, and their professional colleagues who have voluntarily given their time, knowledge and expertise to provide medical training courses, inspiration and assistance with the development of medical services, in areas of the world affected by conflict or natural disasters.

During this year considerable assistance has been given from King's College Hospital for this work to continue. Such voluntary involvement forms a very important part of the work of IDEALS but no attempt can be made to quantify the financial value of it in these accounts.

The Charity continues to be run on a voluntary basis, with minimal overheads, but the Trustees have renewed the Group Travel policy during the year with particular cover for personal loss due to war or terrorism, in recognition of the dangerous territories in which IDEALS operates and the risks posed to our volunteers.

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As in previous years the Trustees are very grateful to Barnes Roffe LLP, Chartered Accountants and Ecce Media Ltd, web site specialists for their continued and most generous professional support. It is true to say that both these excellent organisations have been vital in permitting us to continue and have contributed greatly to our success. The Trustees also gratefully acknowledge all the voluntary and financial support received throughout the year which has enabled it to continue to bring relief to people whose lives have been affected by natural or man-made calamity.

We have remained fortunate in our friends and colleagues “on the ground” and must once again express our great gratitude to Dr Nasser Al Shaban, General Surgeon and Director of the Human Resources and Development Department, based at Shifa Hospital in Gaza who has supported us fully in all our activities in Gaza. We remain grateful to Mrs Fikr Shaloot, Director the MAP in Gaza, for her and her staff’s continued support and friendship in often very difficult and dangerous circumstances. We could ask for no better colleagues and we are greatly assisted with our work in Palestine by the numerous staff of the Ramallah and London offices. We must specially mention the CEO Mr Tony Laurence and the Programmes Manager Ms Sara Halimeh who is now active “on site” in Gaza.

The association with other Charities and organisations is excellent and it is again emphasised that strong of cooperation with them is recognised as imperative by the IDEALS’ Trustees.

On the completion of another full year of activities, my personal thanks are extended to my fellow Trustees and the Financial Controller Mr Leon Date for their loyalty and support.

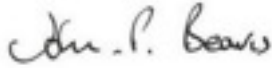
- **I declare, in my capacity as a charity trustee, that**
 - **the trustees have approved the report above; and**
 - **have authorised me to sign it on their behalf.**

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Signature:
re:



Dr John Beavis - Chairman

Date
21st April
2016