

## **REPORT OF THE ALPHA OMEGA LONDON CHARITABLE TRUST 2023 - 2024**

Sadly, this has been a year like no other. We wish friends, family and colleagues in Israel well under difficult circumstances and sincerely hope that we shall see the release of all hostages and an end to the conflict soonest. In light of these challenges, the Trustees have needed to meet regularly over the past 12 months and have supported dental students on campus as well as challenges of anti-semitism amongst colleagues. Funds have also been directed toward the delivery of emergency patient care where possible. It has been refreshing to see how Alpha Omega's charitable foundations have worked so effectively across the globe with one project encouraging contributions toward the purchase of an ambulance for Magen David Adom. Let us all hope that we shall hear more positive news soonest.

In recent years, we have supported the Tel Aviv Dental School in their purchase of a cone beam scanner for patients of the School and those referred from further afield. The scanner is now embedded as an integral part of undergraduate and postgraduate education with allied research in periodontology, endodontics, oral medicine, oral surgery and biomechanics. Future research into the application of artificial intelligence in maxillofacial radiology is being explored. We have also supported the Oral Pathology Laboratory with the purchase of an incubator. The Trustees have reached out to the Dean, Professor Rachel Sarig, to explore new projects.

After many years of collaboration with the Hadassah School of Dental Medicine, the Trust is delighted to be working with the Dean, Professor Avi Zini. In recent years, we have assisted with the purchase of sterilisation cassettes and contributed toward the establishment of a Digital Laboratory to support dental education and patient care which was opened in September 2023. Dedication of the Student's Study Centre within the Institute of Biomedical and Oral Research at the Hadassah School of Dental Medicine has needed to be delayed due to the conflict. Also at Hadassah, the Ino Sciaky Prize for Oral Medicine was this year awarded to two recipients who needed to interrupt and return to their training following service in the IDF. Dr Ido Fayer and Dr Daniel Yagudaev both received a Certificate and £250.

Following extensive discussions with Professor Eli Machtei, Head of the Graduate Dental School at the Rambam Medical Centre in Haifa, and more recently Professor Dror Aizenbud, the Trust have provided £3,910 to part fund the purchase of an endodontic microscope required to support postgraduate training and specialist care in endodontics.

The Alpha Omega London Charitable Trust has also supported the following projects over the past year:

Beit Issie	Intra-oral scanner	£3,000
Dental Volunteers of Israel	Various: new chair (part), compressors (part), worktops	£5,680
Magen David Adom	Various: blood service centre refurb and ambulance (part)	£7,088
Natan	Mobile emergency dental cart	£3,949
Norwood	Oral health for residential patients with special needs	£4,809

The Trust continues to offer awards to support the education and research of undergraduate students and postgraduate specialist trainees. A single request of £673 for conference support and presentation was granted.

Royalties from the latest edition of the '*Tooth Wear*' book, edited by Professor Andrew Eder and Dr Maurice Faigenblum and published by the BJD and Springer Nature, will continue to be split between the BDA Benevolent Fund and the Alpha Omega Charitable Trust. Since publication of this latest edition in 2022, the Trust has received £340.

The Trustees are progressing a review of the Trust deeds and related documentation to ensure that the Trust remains compliant with regard to latest guidance and legislation. This governance review should be complete later this year.

Following a superb programme delivered by the Alpha Omega London Dental Society and with the support of Henry Schein and other colleagues in the dental trade, the Trust has received £16,400 in support of its charitable activities despite significant global challenges over the past 12 months.

Special thanks are extended to Dr Jayne Cooper as Chair of Council, together with all the Council members, for yet another excellent clinical programme this year and for all their efforts on behalf of our members despite the challenges above. Finally, I wish to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of our Trustees and the many friends and colleagues who give so freely of their time on behalf of the Alpha Omega London Dental Society and Charitable Trust.

**Professor Andrew Eder (Chair of Trustees)**  
**Dr Jayne Cooper (Chair, AO London)**  
**Dr Mervyn Druian (Trustee & Past AO President)**  
**Dr Stephen Handelsman (Trustee & Secretary)**

**Dr Aron Marcus (Trustee)**  
**Dr Eddie Scher (Trustee)**  
**Dr David Selouk (Treasurer)**  
**Dr John Wolffe (Trustee & Past AO President)**