

THE TWJ FOUNDATION

THE FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE TWJ FOUNDATION

Introduction

The TWJ Foundation offers annual overseas Major Fellowship grants to ENT Specialty Registrars on numbered otorhinolaryngology (ear, nose & throat) training programmes in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland who have passed the Intercollegiate FRCS examination. These TWJ Fellowships are available for six months to one year in overseas or UK university ENT departments, to specifically supplement the otological (ear) training of the Fellows. In this way the Foundation has supported advanced otological training for a large proportion of currently practising otologists in the British Isles. Clinical Fellowships are currently available in Auckland (New Zealand), Halifax (Canada), Cambridge (UK) and Vancouver (Canada), and an occasional Research Fellowship has been established in Toronto (Canada).

The Foundation also offers annual Short Fellowship grants for Consultant Otolaryngologists working within the NHS with a special interest in otology to visit the 'Clinique Jean Causse' clinic in Béziers, France; the 'Radboud University Medical Centre' in Nijmegen, The Netherlands; and the 'European Institute for ORL, Sint-Augustinus' in Antwerp, Belgium. In addition, it sometimes makes available conference, educational, thesis and other small grants. It also funds the Pat Jobson Prize, which is awarded annually by the British Association of Audiological Physicians, from the Michael Cook Tinnitus Fund.

Background

The TWJ Foundation was founded in 1974 by Mr Pat Jobson and Mr David Wright in memory of Thomas Wickham-Jones to benefit otology and audiology within the NHS by the promotion of education and research. The Foundation currently has eight Trustees, two of whom are members of the Wickham-Jones family, one of whom represents the Higgs Charitable Trust and four of whom are members of the ENT UK.

The Foundation has a capital value of £774,004 of which £12,525 is restricted. In the last financial year, investment income was £28,854 and combined expenses and governance costs were £6,593.

Trustees

The Trustees who served during the year were as follows:-

David A Wright MS FRCS (President) - retired as a Trustee 6th December 2021

C Martin Bailey BSc FRCS FRCSEd (Executive Chairman)

Patrick Humphris MA

David Jobson MRCOG

Shakeel R Saeed MD FRCS

Mark Wickham-Jones MA PhD

Christopher Aldren MA FRCS

Musheer Hussain MSc FRCS FRCP

Tom Wickham-Jones PhD

Principal Address

The principal address of the Charity is:

The TWJ Foundation

ENT UK Office

The Royal College of Surgeons of England

39-43 Lincoln's Inn Fields

London

WC2A 3PE

THE TWJ FOUNDATION

THE FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE TWJ FOUNDATION (continued)

Legal and Administration

Bankers:

NatWest, 151 High Street, Guildford GU1 3AH.

Management and Governance Arrangements

The Trustees annually review the risks that the Trust faces. The investments are considered and rates of return reviewed. The administration of the TWJ Foundation is based at the offices of ENT UK, the national speciality association for otorhinolaryngology, located at the Royal College of Surgeons of England in London. This arrangement has provided useful synergies as well as reduced administrative costs.

Procedures and Policy for Grant Making and Risk Management

The Trustees aim to award at least one major fellowship per year plus smaller grants to enable individuals to attend specific courses. All candidates are required to provide a full CV together with a reference from their Head of Department and/or Training Programme Director. In addition, all candidates must have passed the Intercollegiate FRCS examination by the time the Fellowship commences and must provide a logbook of their operative experience, including that gained in any postings overseas. All CVs, references and qualifications are checked and confirmed. For smaller donations the Trustees will ensure that the course or research work will be beneficial to the candidate's work. All the centres providing the training and research are known to the Trustees: and the Trustees are in regular contact with the host departments. All beneficiaries are required to write a report of their experiences.

Achievements and Performance of the Trust

The value of the Foundation's investments has improved during the past financial year as stock markets have recovered from the initial effect of the coronavirus pandemic. The Trustees are enormously grateful to David Wright and the Jobson Foundation, which transferred all its remaining capital assets to the TWJ Foundation in January 2021 (£54,508 in M&G Charifund units). A relatively high level of cash reserves means that the TWJ Foundation remains in a sound financial position, and has been able to continue developing its Major Fellowships.

The Trustees of the TWJ Foundation were pleased to award two Major Fellowship for 2020, both of which were able to go ahead despite COVID-19 travel restrictions. However, Short Fellowships had to be deferred because the associated courses were cancelled on account of the pandemic. Specialist Registrars and Consultants have undertaken periods of training in centres of excellence abroad as follows:

Major Fellowships 2020

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada - Mr Gaurav Chawdhary - £25,000

Auckland, New Zealand - Ms Louise McMurrin - £25,000

Both Fellows were able to take up their posts, with 14 days' quarantine on arrival.

Short Fellowships 2020

Deferred because all linked courses were cancelled on account of the coronavirus pandemic

THE TWJ FOUNDATION

THE FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE TWJ FOUNDATION (continued)

For 2021 overseas Fellowships and grants have so far been awarded as follows:

Major Fellowships 2021

Vancouver, Canada - Mr Robert Grounds - £25,000

Cambridge, UK - Mr Jameel Muzaffar - £25,000

Short Fellowships 2021

Vancouver, Canada - Mr Waseem Ahmed - £5,000

All other Short Fellowships were again deferred because the linked courses were cancelled on account of the coronavirus pandemic.

Theses Grant 2021 - Mr Haroon Saeed - £7,500

For 2022 overseas Fellowships have so far been awarded as follows:

Major Fellowships 2022

Auckland, New Zealand - Ms Carol Xie - £25,000

Short Fellowships 2022

Nijmegen Course Ms Hala Kanona - £1,000 (deferred from 2021)

Nijmegen Course - Mr Ananth Vijendren - £1,000 (deferred from 2021)

Nijmegen Course - Mr James Howard - £1,000

Nijmegen Course - Mr Hassan Mohammed - £1,000

Beziers Course - Ms Manuela Cresswell - £750 (deferred from 2021)

The 2022 Major Fellowship has not been included in the grants figure of £67,250 as it will be paid for from donations in 2021/22.

The Trustees have been most grateful to receive donations from the TWJ Travelling Club and a legacy from the estate of Robert Malins, as well as the transfer of assets from the Jobson Foundation mentioned above.

Future Plans

The Trustees have maintained cooperative links with the Graham Fraser Foundation, which funds an annual Cochlear Implant Fellowship to Sydney, Australia. The activities of the two Foundations are complementary, and since 2012 they have been collaborating over the interviewing and appointment of Fellows which has worked well. Cooperative links have also been forged with the Colledge Family Memorial Trust, which funds overseas Fellowships mainly in the fields of rhinology, laryngology and head & neck surgery.

Major TWJ Clinical Fellowships are well established in Auckland, New Zealand with Professor Michel Neeff; and in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada with Professor David Morris. Fellows go to Auckland every two years and to Halifax every three years.

A link with Toronto has been re-established with a new TWJ Research Fellowship in Paediatric Cochlear Implantation & Otology with opportunities for clinical observation. The first Research Fellow worked with Professors Blake Papsin and Adrian James at the Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto during the year commencing July 2019. It is hoped that this will continue on an occasional basis.

THE TWJ FOUNDATION

THE FORTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE TWJ FOUNDATION (continued)

In addition, new major TWJ Clinical Fellowships have been appointed to Vancouver, Canada with Professor Brian Westerberg; and to Cambridge, UK with Professor Manohar Bance (the Foundation's first Fellowship in the British Isles). Fellows will go to each centre every 3 years commencing in 2021.

Responsibilities of the Trustees

Law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires Trustees to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the Trust's financial activities during the year and of its financial position at the end of the year. In preparing Financial Statements giving a true and fair view, the Trustees should follow best practice and:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any departures disclosed and explained in the Financial Statements;
- Prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the Trust will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Trust and which enable them to ensure that the Financial Statements comply with applicable law, regulations and the Trust Deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved on behalf of the Trustees

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C Martin Bailey BSc FRCS FRCSEd

Date 6th December 2021