

HIGHLIGHTS  
2015/16

EVERY  
ONE OF  
US UNITED  
TO BEAT  
CANCER  
SOONER



CANCER  
RESEARCH  
UK

Every day we're making progress.  
Today 2 in 4 people survive cancer.  
Our ambition is to accelerate this  
progress and see 3 in 4 patients  
surviving cancer by 2034.



**WE'RE DETERMINED TO SEE  
MORE PEOPLE SURVIVING CANCER.**

By the time you've read this,  
we'll be closer to achieving that goal.

## ABOUT US

Cancer Research UK is the world's leading cancer charity dedicated to saving lives through research. Our vision is to bring forward the day when all cancers are cured.

One in two people will be diagnosed with cancer at some point in their lives. Right now, half of those people will survive.

**Our ambition is to accelerate our progress and see three-quarters of people surviving the disease by 2034.**

Our scientists, doctors and nurses are working to save more lives and create more tomorrows for people in the UK and across the world. Every day, they're making progress towards preventing more cancers, diagnosing the disease earlier, and developing new treatments.

Thanks to you, we've helped double cancer survival in the last 40 years. But there's still so much to be done.

While survival for some cancers has improved dramatically, others, like lung, pancreatic and oesophageal cancers and brain tumours, are still very hard to treat. We need to change that – and we've already increased the amount we're spending on these cancers as part of our strategy.

We're also working to diagnose more cancers earlier, and to find better ways to tackle rare cancers and those affecting children and young adults.

None of this would be possible without our dedicated volunteers and generous supporters.

**Together we will beat cancer sooner.**



## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Cancer rates are rising. But thanks to research, survival is increasing too. Every day our scientists are making advances towards beating the disease.

Cancer Research UK celebrated its seventh Nobel Prize in 2015 – awarded to Dr Tomas Lindahl for his research to understand the inner workings of cells, which has paved the way for vital cancer treatments.

In October, we launched our Grand Challenge awards which aim to tackle some of the biggest questions in cancer research.

Our scientists are using immunotherapy treatment to harness the power of the immune system to fight cancer. We continue to increase our research investment and are making good



WE'RE MAKING GOOD PROGRESS  
IN TACKLING HARD-TO-TREAT  
CANCERS

progress in tackling hard-to-treat cancers like lung and pancreatic.

Our work to find new ways to diagnose cancer sooner and make sure doctors have the resources they need to carry out these tests continues. And through our new prevention strategy, we're raising awareness of cancer risk factors, such as obesity, alcohol and ultraviolet light.

We're thrilled the Francis Crick Institute opens in late 2016. Leading scientists from around the world will be working collaboratively to turn innovative lab research into benefits for patients faster.

We are enormously grateful to every one of our remarkable supporters, volunteers, scientists, doctors and nurses, who ensure that research happening right now will help us beat cancer sooner. Thank you all.

Handwritten signatures of Michael Pragnell and Sir Harpal S Kumar in black ink.

**Michael Pragnell**  
Chairman  
25 May 2016

**Sir Harpal S Kumar**  
Chief Executive

## A MESSAGE FROM OUR CANCER PREVENTION CHAMPION

More than 4 in 10 cancers could be prevented, largely through lifestyle changes.

Tobacco causes over 60,000 new cases of cancer in the UK every year. Smoking not only causes lung cancer, it can also increase your risk of developing 13 other types of cancer, including breast cancer. Obesity causes around 18,000 cases of cancer each year, while drinking alcohol and too much exposure to ultraviolet light can also increase your cancer risk.

Cancer Research UK supports innovative cancer prevention projects which gather information about the best ways to prevent cancer and encourage people to make healthier choices.

This year we funded 14 collaborative projects tackling prevention and early diagnosis, which could develop into important larger studies and save more lives.

To understand how government policies can help prevent cancer, we set up the Cancer Research UK Policy Research Centre for Cancer Prevention, which is increasing public



# 60,000

TOBACCO CAUSES OVER 60,000  
CASES OF CANCER IN THE UK  
EACH YEAR

understanding of the links between alcohol, obesity and cancer.

We're delighted that a tax on high sugar drinks was included in the 2016 Budget. It's a vital step towards preventing more people developing obesity-related cancers, like bowel and kidney cancers, in the future.

Thank you for your support. The more we can do to prevent cancer, the bigger the contribution we can make to improving the health of people across the UK, and all over the world.

Handwritten signature of Professor Linda Bauld in black ink.

**Professor Linda Bauld**  
Cancer Research UK  
Cancer Prevention Champion  
25 May 2016

#### THE CHALLENGE

We can't beat cancer on our own. It's only through collaborating with our partners, volunteers, patients and many others, that our researchers will beat cancer sooner.



WE'RE  
**COLLABORATING**  
TO BEAT CANCER

# CAN ASPIRIN PREVENT COMMON CANCERS RETURNING?

Professor Ruth Langley and her team are recruiting patients to a trial called Add-Aspirin. It's the world's largest clinical trial looking at aspirin, investigating how it might prevent certain types of cancer from returning. The drug could offer a cheap and simple way to stop cancers coming back, which might, ultimately, help more people survive.

'There's research suggesting aspirin could delay or stop some early-stage cancers returning, but there's been no trial to give clear proof,' says Ruth.

Funded by Cancer Research UK and the National Institute for Health Research, Add-Aspirin aims to recruit 11,000 patients in the UK and India who have recently had, or are having, treatment for bowel, breast, oesophageal (food pipe), prostate or stomach cancer.

'Add-Aspirin will evaluate two doses of aspirin in five types of tumour, so we will know more about who might benefit from it.'

The researchers are also trying to find out how aspirin might prevent some cancers returning. 'We think it could make the platelet cells in your blood less sticky, making it harder for cancer cells to spread.'

When cancer comes back after treatment, it's harder to treat, and a person's chance of dying from it increases. But if this trial shows taking aspirin after cancer treatment is beneficial, it could potentially save thousands more lives.



For more information on cancer clinical trials visit [cruk.org/trials](https://www.cruk.org/trials)

## ASPIRIN IS NOT SUITABLE FOR EVERYONE

It can have serious side effects. It's important to talk to your doctor before taking aspirin.



### KATE'S STORY

Kate Marlar, 53, is on the Add-Aspirin trial. She lives in Surrey with her husband Dickie and their dog, Tilly.

'I was in the shower when I felt a lump next to my right armpit in May 2015. I went to see my GP a few days later and she sent me for a referral. I was diagnosed with breast cancer at the beginning of June.

I was upset but immediately decided I was going to see the positive side of the diagnosis as it didn't seem to have spread. The hardest part was telling my father.

After surgery to remove the lump, I started eight cycles of chemo, then had four weeks of daily radiotherapy and now I'm on the Add-Aspirin trial.

I thought being on the trial would be a good way to keep in contact with the hospital and give back, as I've benefited from cancer research.

The thought of my cancer coming back is horrendous. It's a possibility, and as my mother and aunt died of pancreatic cancer there's that extra worry.

I hope for a long, healthy life. Being part of this clinical trial is one way of helping other people in the future.'

Surrey Wednesday 7.30pm

# RIISING TO A GRAND CHALLENGE

Cancer poses some difficult questions. We have a visionary way to find answers...

Right now, we're working on our Grand Challenge. We gathered the world's brightest scientific minds to discuss some of the most complex challenges in cancer research today. Together with patients, they identified seven of the biggest questions that need answering to beat cancer sooner.

The awards are the most ambitious cancer research grants in the world. We're calling on scientists from different disciplines, across the globe, to work together with UK-based researchers and come up with game-changing research to help answer the seven questions.

Launched in October 2015, we plan to present at least five awards over the next five years – that's an incredible £100 million to fund revolutionary thinking in cancer research.



## THE SEVEN QUESTIONS

- 1 Can we develop a job to prevent cancer?
- 2 Can we eradicate cancers caused by the Epstein-Barr virus?
- 3 Can we prevent cancer by studying the 'scars' in DNA?
- 4 Can we spot potentially lethal cancers that need treating and non-lethal ones that don't?
- 5 Can we make a 'Google Street View' for cancer?
- 6 Can we target the cancer 'super-controller' MYC?
- 7 Can we kill cancer cells in patients using new 'smart drugs'?



Find out more about these questions  
[cruk.org/grand-challenge-series](http://cruk.org/grand-challenge-series)

## MARGARET'S STORY

Margaret Grayson, 66, from Belfast, is a Grand Challenge patient panel member.

'I've never taken part in a clinical trial. But since having breast cancer in 2004, I've realised that every bit of my treatment was determined by research. So I wanted to do something to say "Thank you" to all the patients who have taken part in trials.

Patients have an integral part to play in reviewing the Grand Challenge applications. The experience I offer comes from living with cancer. Having us involved means patients are listened to.

As patient panel members, we're looking at where each Grand Challenge could lead. Ultimately, the science needs to benefit patients, either quickly, or years down the line.

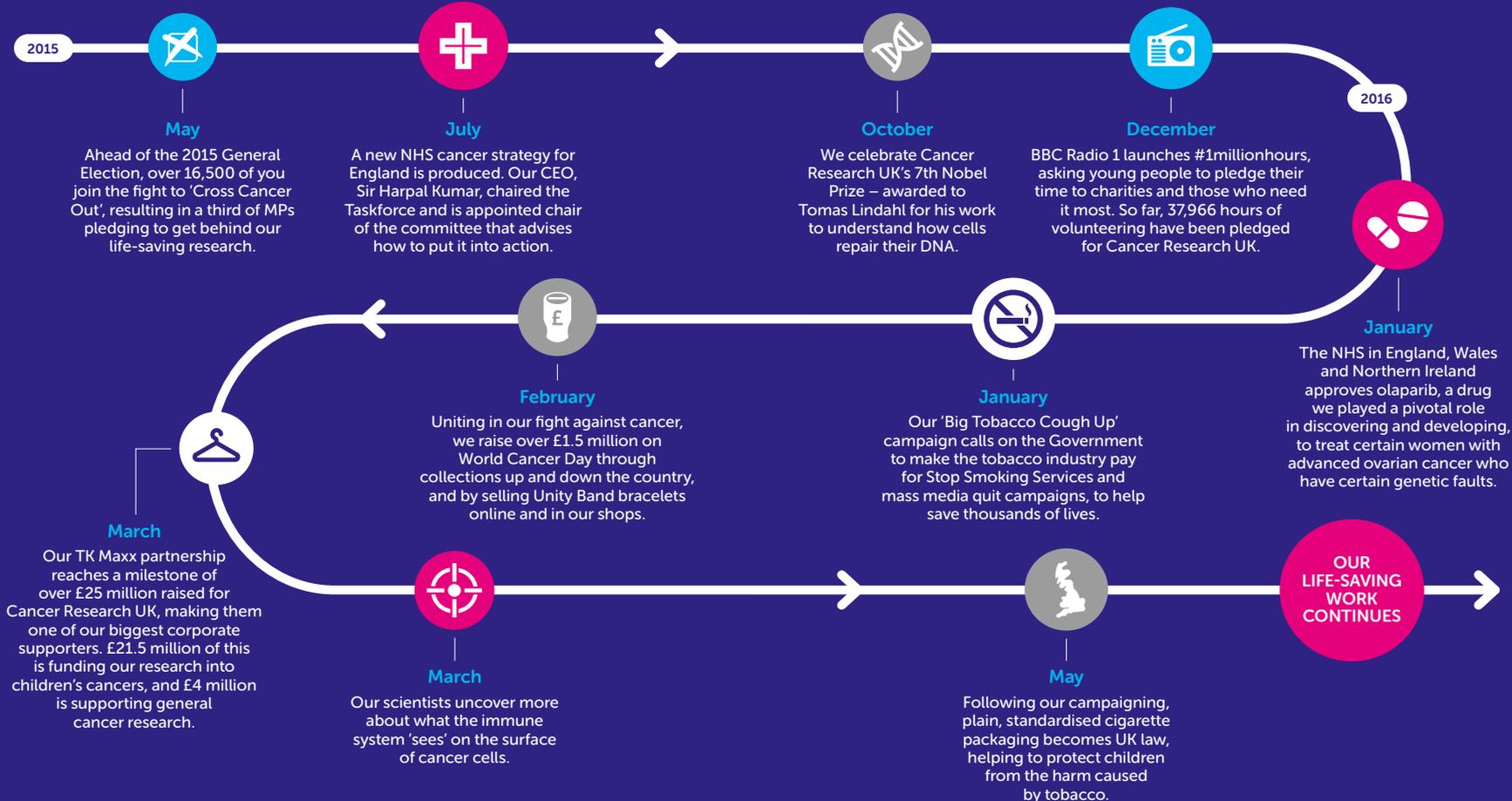
The awards are hugely ambitious and innovative. They are bringing together the best minds from different disciplines to work in new ways to beat cancer. It's a privilege to be part of it.'



Angel Building Thursday 1.45pm



# OUR HIGHLIGHTS





Limehouse Wednesday 2.15pm

## FINDING KINDER WAYS TO TREAT CHILDREN WITH BRAIN TUMOURS

Professor Richard Gilbertson is an expert in children's brain tumours and the Director of the Cancer Research UK Cambridge Cancer Centre. Here, Richard tells us about his research.

'As a medical student, I got to know the family of a child with medulloblastoma, a type of brain tumour. When I asked what treatments were available, the consultant said, "There aren't any. All we can do now is let her die in peace." That made me so angry. It motivated me to start working on medulloblastoma.

Right now, treatments for brain tumours can be extremely damaging to a child's development. What we need is to give children just enough treatment to cure, but not damage them.

My team and I are looking at how we can know in advance exactly how minimal treatment can be.

We've been studying the cancer cells of children successfully treated for medulloblastoma, and now understand why these children are cured. This understanding provides doctors with roadmaps they can follow to successfully treat the cancer and cause minimal damage to the brain.

I firmly believe we'll cure brain tumours. I'm not saying it'll be easy, but I believe cures are in sight.'



For more on our research into children's cancers, go to [cruk.org/childrens-research](https://www.cruk.org/childrens-research)



### ZOFEYA'S STORY

Aged four, Zofeya Dorgu was diagnosed with a brain tumour. Now seven, she lives with her parents Noemi and Matthew and brother Malacai, 10, in Bedfordshire. Noemi shares the family's story.

'I assumed if someone has cancer you'd notice something was wrong. But Zofeya was eating and sleeping fine, and was her usual cheerful self. Then a few months before she was diagnosed, her balance and coordination became affected, so we took her to the GP and later to A&E, where they did a scan.

Hearing Zofeya had a brain tumour, I'd compare it to a tsunami. When it's your child you'd do anything to be in their place.

The day of her operation was the hardest of our lives. We had to wait eight and a half hours to find out if she'd be okay.

Zofeya has officially been in remission since November 2014, but some things won't ever be "back to normal".

We don't know what all the side effects might be, as some are long-term. We were told to expect learning disabilities and there's a high risk of her developing another type of cancer in the future.

We need more cures for brain tumours. And we need kinder treatments, without the damaging side effects. That would be incredible.'



Find out more about our brain tumour research [cruk.org/brain-tumours](https://www.cruk.org/brain-tumours)

To support brain tumour research, go to [cruk.org/donate-brain-tumour](https://www.cruk.org/donate-brain-tumour)

#### THE CHALLENGE

We can't beat cancer  
without your generosity.  
Our life-saving work  
relies on the money  
you give us. Thank you.



WE'RE **FIGHTING**  
CANCER EVERY  
DAY – FOR YOU,  
WITH YOU,  
THANKS TO YOU

# THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING WORLD-LEADING RESEARCH

Dr Richard Adams, 46, an oncologist and cancer researcher, was diagnosed with testicular cancer in 2013. Richard lives in Cardiff with his wife, Ness, and their three children, Henry, 13, Alex, 10, and Nick, 8.

'I noticed a swelling in my right testicle in March 2013 so I went to a radiology colleague in the cancer centre where I work to request an ultrasound. It showed a tumour.

I immediately wondered about the impact my treatment would have on my family. It's interesting how your mind focuses on other people. Until you're given a cancer diagnosis, you have no idea how you're going to respond to it.

Ness was very supportive. We told the children: "Dad's got an illness called 'cancer' and has to have some treatment". They took it very well and I did well for cuddles.

I had an operation to remove the tumour, one round of chemotherapy and three weeks of radiotherapy. The treatment made me nauseous and I was off work for 12 weeks. Thankfully, my scans have been fine since treatment finished.

I spend more time with my family now. And at work, I'm more aware of the anxiety patients are feeling.

I am proud of the work Cancer Research UK does which has helped me and my patients.

People who support the charity make that research happen and deserve our respect and thanks. So thank you from me, my family and many more like us.'



Discover ways you can get involved  
[cruk.org/support-us](https://cruk.org/support-us)

'THE WORK  
CANCER RESEARCH UK  
DOES HAS HELPED ME  
AND MY PATIENTS.'

DR RICHARD ADAMS

Cardiff Sunday 2.45pm



# HOW WE SPEND YOUR MONEY

Research is cancer's ultimate enemy. With your support, we're working to prevent cancer, diagnose it earlier and make treatments more effective.

This year we spent a total of £658 million on our work and fundraising activities.

## WHAT WE SPENT ON RESEARCH, POLICY AND INFORMATION

We spent **£470 million** on all of our charitable activities:

- **£404 million** towards research. Some projects will run over several years and the money is set aside now because we have committed to supporting these long-term projects.
- **£38 million** spent on our policy and information activities including our work with GPs, our Cancer Awareness Roadshow and our campaigning.
- **£28 million** spent on the construction of the Francis Crick Institute.

## WHAT WE SPENT ON FUNDRAISING AND TRADING ACTIVITIES

**£107 million** on engaging new supporters, developing new ways to raise money, and marketing.

**£81 million** on trading, which includes running our shop network and delivering events like Race for Life. Our shops are a more expensive way of fundraising but they help us maintain our high profile throughout the UK.



For more detail visit [cruk.org/our-finances](http://cruk.org/our-finances)



80p of every £1 donated is used to beat cancer. The remaining 20p goes towards raising vital funds for the future.

## WHAT WE SPENT ON RESEARCH INTO DIFFERENT CANCERS IN 2015/16



## OUR YEAR IN NUMBERS

Every step we make towards  
beating cancer relies on you.  
It's been an incredible year...



500,000

Our Cancer Awareness Roadshow reached a milestone of 500,000 visitors, helping them to reduce their risk of cancer and spot it early.



16,000

Over 16,000 of you signed our 'Big Tobacco Cough Up' petition to make tobacco companies pay for the damage their tobacco products cause.



11,000

Our specialist nurses answered almost 11,000 queries about cancer, supporting people when they need help and advice.



40,000

Around 40,000 volunteers gave 7 million hours of their time.



6,000

We received over 6,000 gifts left to us in Wills by our generous supporters, helping us to fund future research.



25,000

More than 25,000 patients join our clinical trials each year, helping us develop new treatments.



1 million

More than 1 million donors gave us regular gifts.



4,000

You funded over 4,000 scientists, doctors and nurses across the UK.



200

Together we're fighting over 200 different types of cancer, including the one that matters most to you.

INSPIRING TRANSFORMING SKYDIVING  
UNDERSTANDING TACKLING KNITTING  
DEVELOPING SWIMMING ENGAGING  
LOBBYING EDUCATING INFLUENCING  
COMMUNICATING LIVING **RIGHT NOW**

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Find out more online at  
[cruk.org/our-successes](http://cruk.org/our-successes)

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