

Issue 37 Spring 2018

# search

For supporters of The Institute of Cancer Research, London



Using the immune system to beat cancer  
Focus on: ovarian cancer  
Supporting the next generation of cancer researchers

# Our mission is to make the discoveries that defeat cancer.

Written and produced by The Institute of Cancer Research, London  
© March 2018. The Institute of Cancer Research. All rights reserved.

## Contact us:

The Institute of Cancer Research

123 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 3RP

T 020 7153 5387

E [supportercare@icr.ac.uk](mailto:supportercare@icr.ac.uk)

W [icr.ac.uk](http://icr.ac.uk)

 [facebook.com/theinstituteofcancerresearch](https://www.facebook.com/theinstituteofcancerresearch)

 [@ICR\\_London](https://twitter.com/ICR_London)

The Institute of Cancer Research: Royal Cancer Hospital.

Registered Office: 123 Old Brompton Road, London SW7 3RP. Not for profit. Company Limited by Guarantee.

Registered in England No. 534147. VAT Registration No. 849 0581 02.

# Editorial

We are delighted to share the news with you that the ICR has been awarded the highly prestigious Queen's Anniversary Prize for our world-leading research. These awards are considered to be the UK's greatest honour given to an institution, rather than an individual.



The prize acknowledges our outstanding contribution to the discovery of new cancer drugs. It is also a testament to the strength and depth of our research, which has helped to make a real difference to patients' lives – and which wouldn't be possible without the support of our donors.

On pages 12–14, you can read about how our scientists are making advances in the exciting and developing field of immunotherapy, and translating this research into new treatment options for patients.

You'll meet some new researchers as well as seeing a few familiar faces again. See pages 16-17 for the latest from four of our PhD students, who have all been generously supported by philanthropy.

Our life-saving progress in cancer research wouldn't be possible without the generous donations we receive from individuals and organisations all over the world. Thank you so much for helping us make the discoveries that defeat cancer.

I do hope you enjoy this issue of *Search*.

Thank you.

**Lara Jukes**

Director of Development

The Institute of Cancer Research, London

- 04 Research news
- 06 Fundraising news
- 08 Staff profile:  
Dr Jyoti Choudhary
- 09 Staff profile:  
Professor Emma Hall
- 10 Focus on:  
ovarian cancer
- 12 Immunotherapy:  
using the immune  
system to beat cancer
- 15 ICR awarded Queen's  
Anniversary Prize
- 16 Funding the next  
generation of cancer  
researchers
- 18 Supporter profile:  
Jo Tridgell
- 19 Events calendar

## Lab-grown replica tumours could help personalise drug treatments

Research led by Dr Nicola Valeri has found that testing cancer drugs on miniature replicas of a patient's tumour could tell doctors in advance which treatments will work.

The new technique involves growing 'mini tumours' from biopsy samples. It could help end reliance on trial and error in selecting treatments for patients where genetic tests do not predict a response.

The research was carried out in bowel, stomach and other digestive system cancers, and predicted whether a drug would work between 88 per cent and 100 per cent of the time.

## Former ICR researcher Professor Jacques Miller awarded major science prize



Winners of the Japan Prize

**Professor Jacques Miller, who made his first major discoveries as a PhD student at the ICR, has been awarded the prestigious Japan Prize for his work to understand the immune system.**

Professor Miller identified two different types of immune cell – a discovery that laid the groundwork for much of modern immunology and many immune-based therapies.

His characterisation of these cells into T and B cells was underpinned by his work at the ICR, where he discovered the function of the thymus during his PhD research.

The Japan Prize is one of the most prestigious international prizes in science and technology after the Nobel Prize. Professor Miller will share the prize with Professor Max Cooper, an American immunologist who independently discovered the functions of the two types of cell.

They will each receive their prizes at an award ceremony on 18 April 2018 in Tokyo.

## Big data predicts risk of radiotherapy side-effects

**Analysing ‘big data’ from trials of prostate cancer treatments can predict the risk that men will suffer side-effects from radiotherapy, ICR researchers report. Their study could help personalise the delivery of radiotherapy for prostate cancer.**

A team including Dr Navita Somaiah and Professor Emma Hall applied big data analytics to information from more than 700 men given radiotherapy to treat their prostate cancer. The data covered medical history, genetics, radiotherapy dose and reported side-effects.

Using state-of-the-art artificial intelligence, the research team was able to highlight which information might predict sensitivity to the side-effects of prostate radiotherapy.

With further validation, this information could be used to create personalised treatment plans for men with prostate cancer.



Dr Navita Somaiah

## Study splits incurable childhood brain tumours into 10 new diseases

**Scientists led by the ICR’s Professor Chris Jones have found that deadly childhood brain tumours are actually 10 different diseases that should each be diagnosed and treated based on their specific genetic faults.**

The study is the world’s largest of these aggressive childhood brain cancers, and

should lead to more accurate diagnostic tests to ensure each child receives the best possible treatment.

It also has important implications for treatment, since personalising care for each type of brain tumour is likely to be much more effective than grouping them all together as one.

## Christmas appeal raises £70,000 to help fund a studentship

We were delighted with the response to our Christmas appeal, after your generous support brought in £70,000 in donations.

Thank you to everyone who gave us money to help fund a studentship in Professor Emma Hall's team, so we can advance personalised prostate cancer treatment.

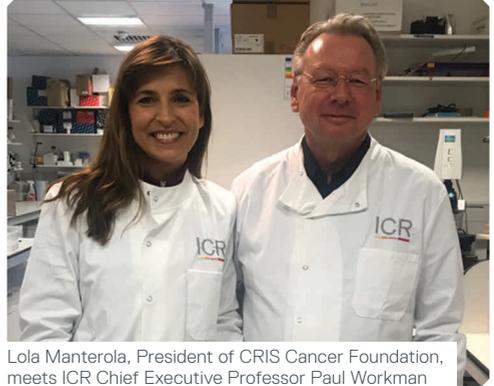
Your generosity means that we have now raised enough to fund two years of training for a talented new student – and we're hoping that further support from our donors will help cover the full four years of their study.

Professor Hall's student will analyse long-term data from men who have received prostate cancer treatment and are being followed up over many years.

By exploring the different ways the disease progresses, the student will develop statistical models to help clinicians predict a patient's prognosis and adjust treatment accordingly.

You can still donate to the appeal at [icr.ac.uk/student](http://icr.ac.uk/student) – and we look forward to introducing you to our new student in 2019.

## The CRIS Cancer Foundation funds new immunotherapy team



Lola Manterola, President of CRIS Cancer Foundation, meets ICR Chief Executive Professor Paul Workman

**The ICR is to recruit a brand new team to expand our research into immunotherapies – after we received an extremely generous £1.3 million donation from the CRIS Cancer Foundation.**

CRIS has already generously supported the ICR's research over the last few years, with a focus on haemato-oncology and childhood cancer.

Cancer immunotherapy – involving treatments that harness the body's own immune system to destroy tumours – is currently one of the most exciting areas of progress in cancer research. We are delighted that CRIS has chosen to continue its support of the ICR in this highly promising area of research.

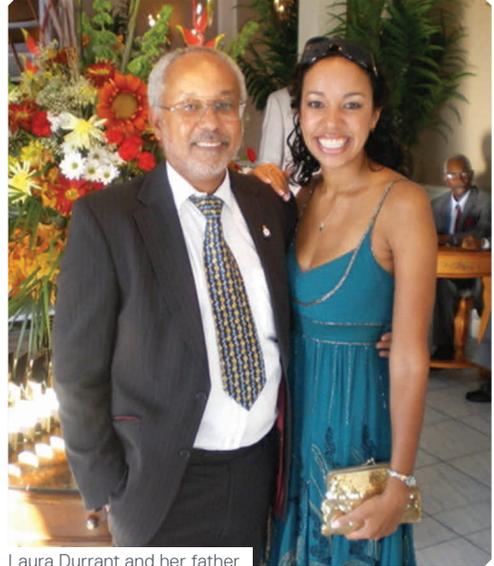
You can read more about our work in immunotherapy on pages 12–14. And stay tuned for an introduction to the new team in future editions of *Search*.

## Lawyers team up for new half marathon race

This month sees the very first London Landmarks Half Marathon taking place through the streets of the capital, and past some of its most iconic sights.

Joining 10,000 runners is a group of lawyers from different firms who have teamed up to take on the challenge. They wanted to rally behind team member Laura Durrant from RBS Legal, whose parents have different treatable but incurable cancers, and take part in aid of the ICR.

Laura says: "With my parents, we are seeing first hand the importance of medical research to keep our loved ones alive and healthier for longer. For some of the team this is their first half marathon and finishing is the main objective – and for others it will be a competitive race to the front! But we are all determined to raise as much money as possible for such a brilliant cause."



Laura Durrant and her father

We wish all our London Landmarks runners the very best of luck on 25 March.

## Record-breaking year for fundraising

**Our successful Christmas appeal follows on from a record-breaking year for our fundraising team. In our financial year 2016-17, our supporters donated a fantastic £16 million to help fund our vital research.**

This included a record £5.5 million from gifts left to us in Wills. We also received the largest ever donation from an individual, a gift of £3.7 million, which will support the work of the Division of Breast Cancer

Research at the ICR, led by Professor Andrew Tutt.

We are so grateful to all the individuals and organisations that give so generously to fund our research. Cancer patients across the world are benefiting right now from advances in therapies made in our labs – and you make this possible. We hope you will remain with us on this journey to defeat cancer in the years ahead.

# Profile:

## Dr Jyoti Choudhary

---

Dr Jyoti Choudhary has brought essential new expertise to the ICR to help in our efforts to understand the incredible complexity of cancer. She recently joined the ICR as an expert in proteomics – the study of entire sets of proteins produced by cells.

Proteins are the essential molecules that make up our cells and carry out biological processes – such as generating energy, and repairing and sustaining us.

Dr Choudhary, who joined the ICR last year from the Wellcome Sanger Institute in Cambridge, says the ultimate goal of her research is to understand the wiring of biological processes – how they are all connected and regulated.

All of the proteins in a cell talk to one another, so if you remove a protein or change its abundance in a cell, many of the other proteins will also be altered. That's what happens in cancer, which rewires the behaviour of proteins in cells.

She says: "We already have a good knowledge of how some proteins function in a cell. We can

measure how much of each protein there is, where it is, what other proteins it interacts with and if it is subjected to chemical changes.

"We want to understand the social networks of proteins. We need to increase our knowledge of their behaviours and relationships in order to understand how cancer subverts them.

"And most drugs act on proteins – so understanding their contribution to disease will allow us to select the molecules and processes to target in cancer cells."

Dr Choudhary will use a state-of-the-art machine called an Orbitrap Fusion Lumos Tribrid mass spectrometer to take our research on cancer's protein communication networks to a new level. Her group develops experimental and computational tools to analyse proteins using mass spectrometry.

"My journey so far in proteomics has been very exciting," says Dr Choudhary. "Some things that seemed impossible a few years ago we now do every day."

### Name

Dr Jyoti Choudhary

### Joined the ICR

August 2017

### Specialist subject

The proteins cancer uses to grow, spread and evolve

### Interests

Dr Choudhary enjoys swimming and batik art



# Profile:

## Professor Emma Hall

---

Professor Emma Hall is a leading figure in cancer clinical trials in the UK. As Deputy Director of our Clinical Trials and Statistics Unit, her expertise is in setting up large trials to run effectively, and in collecting and analysing the huge amounts of data needed to work out if a new treatment taken by patients on a trial is working.

Clinical trials test new treatments or treatment strategies, usually comparing one sort of treatment against another to see which is the best. They need to be run very efficiently by experts like Professor Hall, sometimes in hundreds or thousands of patients, with rigorous statistical analysis, to establish a new treatment in routine use.

Professor Hall has been involved in trials that have led to changes to clinical practice in the UK and elsewhere, including the CHHiP trial. This prostate cancer trial showed that using modern radiotherapy, patients can safely have fewer doses of treatment, sparing them trips to hospital while also helping to reduce their rates of side-effects.

Professor Hall is now working on a range of trials, including some of innovative new treatments. These include combined immunotherapy and radiotherapy in lung cancer, proton beam therapy in head and neck cancer, and trials using the MR Linac – which *Search* readers might recall from previous issues is a pioneering new type of radiotherapy machine.

**Name**

Professor Emma Hall

**Joined the ICR**

April 1999

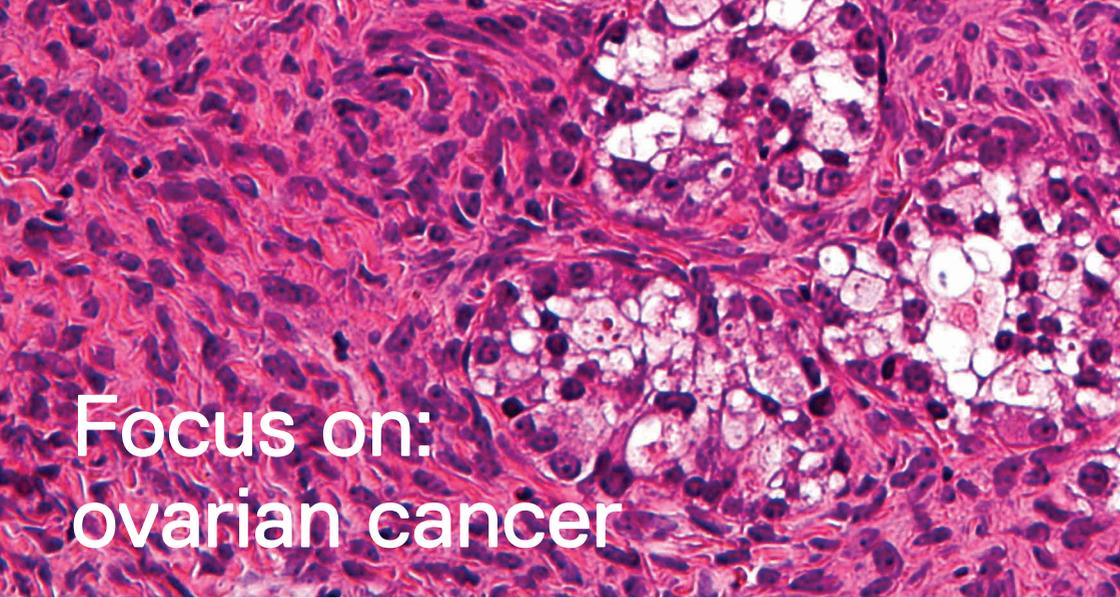
**Specialist subject**

Medical statistics, with a particular interest in clinical trials that aim to improve the treatment of urological, and head and neck cancers

**Interests**

Professor Hall plays netball in her spare time and also enjoys hill walking

Professor Hall says: “The favourite part of my job is working with lots of people from different disciplines. We are all contributing expertise towards the common goal of designing or delivering a clinical trial that has the potential to change clinical practice, and I take huge pride in the fact that we have managed to achieve our goal of making a real impact on patients’ lives.”



# Focus on: ovarian cancer

---

Over the last few decades, our research into ovarian cancer – one of the most common cancers affecting women in the UK – has led to discoveries which have had a major impact on its treatment. Today, this research is giving women with ovarian cancer more time with their loved ones and a better quality of life.

Here are just some of our discoveries.

## Chemotherapy creators

In the 1950s, we became the first in Europe to discover and develop chemotherapeutic agents. Since then, we have helped create kinder chemotherapies that are still effective, but have milder side-effects.

For example, we discovered the chemotherapy drug carboplatin, which is a mainstay of standard treatment for ovarian cancer today.

## PARP inhibitors

Our research underpinned the development of a class of targeted drugs called PARP inhibitors, which we have shown are particularly effective at treating cancers with mutations to the BRCA genes – including ovarian cancer.

Scientists at the ICR including Professors Alan Ashworth, Andrew Tutt and Chris Lord have played a major role in the science underpinning the discovery and development of these drugs – and in particular one called olaparib. This drug is now available on the NHS to treat advanced, chemotherapy-resistant ovarian cancer in women who inherit mutations in one of the BRCA genes.

## Better genetic testing

Two so-called BRCA genes – or breast cancer genes – were discovered in the 1990s. Our researchers found *BRCA2*, which represented a very significant step forward in our understanding of breast cancer. Mutations to the BRCA genes have since been linked to other cancers, including ovarian cancer.

This work and other, later studies laid the foundation for testing for mutations to the BRCA genes, which is now recommended as standard for many women treated for ovarian cancer on the NHS.

### Liquid biopsies

The ICR is an international leader in the development of 'liquid biopsies' – blood tests that detect traces of cancer circulating round the body and tell researchers how a cancer is changing. Researchers including Professor Nick Turner have led studies showing these liquid biopsies can detect changes more quickly, simply and less invasively than standard tests like traditional biopsies and scans.

One recent study, led by our researchers in collaboration with colleagues at The Royal Marsden and The Memorial Sloan Kettering Centre in New York, showed a new liquid biopsy can detect changes to mutated BRCA genes in ovarian cancers – as an early warning that they are becoming drug resistant.

### Promising new drug

Dr Uday Banerji is leading a team that is developing a new, targeted drug for ovarian cancer that works in a different way to any other existing drug, and was discovered at the ICR.

Initial results from the first trial of this experimental drug – called BTG945 – made a big impact at one of the world's biggest cancer conferences last year, showing that the drug was not only safe but had highly promising signs of effectiveness. It's rare for a drug to show such positive results at this early stage.

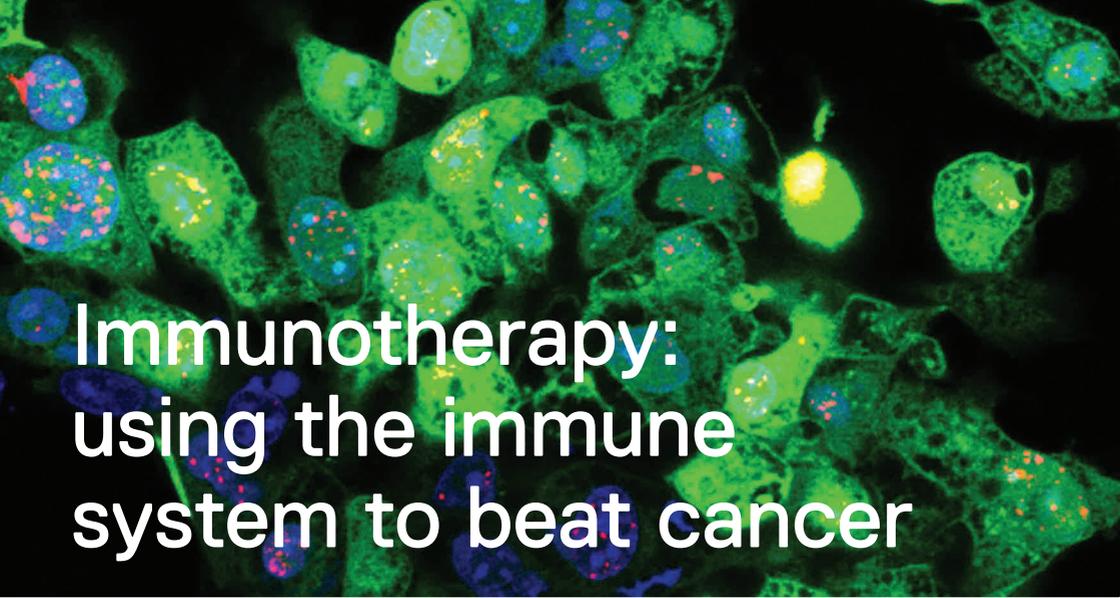


We discovered carboplatin, now a standard treatment for ovarian cancer



Dr Uday Banerji's team is developing a new, targeted drug for ovarian cancer

These are just some of the exciting discoveries we have made to benefit women with ovarian cancer. For more information about our research, visit [icr.ac.uk](http://icr.ac.uk)



# Immunotherapy: using the immune system to beat cancer

---

**Immunotherapy is the latest revolution in cancer treatment. Bold claims have been made about its potential – but should you believe the headlines? And how does it work?**

It's been hard to avoid news about immunotherapy over the past couple of years, as breakthrough major trials have established this new type of cancer therapy as a genuinely revolutionary new treatment.

These therapies use the body's own immune system – our in-built arsenal of cells and molecules that fight infection and disease – as a weapon against cancer.

Several of these immunotherapies have shown spectacular responses, in some cases apparently even curing patients with advanced and normally lethal cancer.

Trials led by our researchers in malignant melanoma and head and neck cancer have resulted in new immunotherapies being made available on the NHS.

## **Different experiences**

But it's clear that these treatments only work in some people, and the side-effects can vary.

Jolene Dyke is 30, and is receiving immunotherapy for her advanced melanoma skin cancer. Her blog, Melanoma Jo, aims to help others by sharing her story.

"It's been a really positive experience for me moving on to immunotherapy," Jo says of receiving a drug called pembrolizumab.

"My treatment is now an injection in hospital every three weeks, and the side-effects are much less severe than with previous treatments.

"Fatigue is the main side-effect I have now – but I have just started a full-time job which I wouldn't have been able to do on my other treatments."

## **How does it work?**

One of the reasons immunotherapy has such potential is that rather than the treatments doing all the hard work themselves, they instead tap into the exciting power of our immune system.

Cancer can be seen as an adversary of our immune system, explains Professor Alan Melcher, Professor of Translational Immunology at the ICR, whose work involves discovering and developing new immunotherapies.

He says: “Our immune systems are constantly policing our bodies for threats – and millions of years of evolution have made them very good at it. Immunotherapy is about harnessing its power, encouraging it to attack cancer.”

Pembrolizumab and a similar drug called nivolumab are examples of a type of immunotherapy called checkpoint inhibitors. These block a natural immune signal that usually stops the immune system attacking the body’s own cells.

Professor Kevin Harrington, Professor of Biological Cancer Therapies at the ICR and Honorary Consultant at our hospital partner, The Royal Marsden, has led major trials of both drugs in head and neck cancer, and has been working for many years on various types of immunotherapy.

“As yet we’re just really scratching the surface in terms of the drugs that we have available,” explains Professor Harrington.

“In the next decade and beyond I think we’ll see a whole range of new types of drugs coming to the party – and that we will confidently be expecting to cure more patients of their cancers.”

### Using viruses to our advantage

Professors Melcher and Harrington also both have substantial research interests in one of the most pioneering forms of immunotherapy – which uses viruses to infect and kill cancer cells, and to spark the immune system into action against the remaining tumour cells.



Jolene Dyke is receiving immunotherapy treatment for melanoma

Professor Melcher says: “The concept of ‘waking up’ the immune system to harness its power is the same with viral immunotherapy.

“But we first modify a virus – we’ve used different types, from measles to cough and cold viruses – to attack and unmask cancer cells and allow the body’s immune system to attack the tumour.”

The ICR is a world leader in viral immunotherapy – having been active in the field for many years by designing new potential treatments in the laboratory.

We have also worked with The Royal Marsden to lead clinical research including the UK arm of a definitive, world-first trial that proved the effectiveness of a viral immunotherapy called T-Vec in advanced melanoma.

“There is increasing excitement over the use of viral treatments like T-VEC for cancer, because they can target cancer cells specifically,” says Professor Harrington.

“This means they tend to have fewer side-effects than traditional chemotherapy or some of the other new immunotherapies.”

## What's next in immunotherapy?

Immunotherapy research has led to exciting results – but, as with other new step changes in treatment, the challenge now is in following up the early promise to make these treatments work better, for more people.

We know already that they don't work for everyone. Some recent studies by ICR scientists including Dr Anguraj Sadanandam and Dr Yinyin Yuan have started to shed light on some of the reasons why.

It looks like for some cancers, having immune cells already engaged with or present within the fabric of the tumour might be a big advantage when it comes to response to immunotherapies – and we are developing new tests that could, in the future, identify patients most likely to benefit from them.

We also know we need more new, innovative immunotherapies that work for more people, and in new cancers.

## A new wave of treatments

As Head of our Division of Cancer Therapeutics, Professor Raj Chopra is responsible for the discovery of a broad range of new drugs at the ICR, including leading our efforts to find new immunotherapies. He plans for the ICR to play a big role in creating a new wave of immunotherapies.

Professor Chopra explains: "We will aim to focus our immunotherapy research on studies of how tumours interact with the cells of our immune systems. These studies could allow us to create new drugs that manipulate the immune system at the molecular level – or even target molecules in the environment around a tumour to enhance the immune response."



Professor Raj Chopra is leading our efforts to find new immunotherapies

As regular readers of *Search* will know, the ICR leads the world as the academic centre with the best record of drug discovery.

It's exciting, says Professor Chopra, to be adding so much expertise in immunotherapy to our research programmes: "We aim to expand our capabilities in immunotherapy research by recruiting experts in immunology, and we hope to discover at least one new innovative immunotherapeutic drug in the next three years, alongside several others of different types."

Our researchers want to push forward new treatments that help people like Jolene, and that give them new options.

"I mean, I would rather not take it, but I have to," says Jolene. "I wouldn't be here without my current treatment. If I had got ill a few years earlier I probably wouldn't be here by now."

# ICR awarded Queen's Anniversary Prize for precision medicine discoveries

The ICR has been recognised with a highly prestigious Queen's Anniversary Prize for its world-leading research.

The Queen's Anniversary Prizes for Higher and Further Education are awards granted within the UK honours system, and are considered to be the highest honour given to an organisation, rather than an individual.

For the ICR, the award is wonderful recognition for the hard work and support of our donors, who help to make our work possible.

Professor Paul Workman, Chief Executive of the ICR, and our Head of Cancer Therapeutics Professor Raj Chopra were officially presented with the award by Their Royal Highnesses The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall in a ceremony held at Buckingham Palace.

The prize acknowledges our outstanding contribution to the discovery of new cancer drugs and our key role in pioneering precision medicine for cancer. Since 2005, the ICR has discovered 20 new targeted cancer drugs and taken nine of these into clinical trials.

Professor Paul Workman, Chief Executive of the ICR, said: "It's a huge honour to be awarded a Queen's Anniversary Prize. It recognises the incredible achievements we've made which have only been possible because of the expertise and hard work of so many people across the ICR, and the generous support of our funders, donors and collaborators.



HRH The Prince of Wales presents the Queen's Anniversary Prize to Professor Paul Workman

"Cancer affects so many people's lives and we're committed to doing research that is not only scientifically excellent but also that delivers with a strong sense of urgency real benefit for patients and their families."

# How philanthropy is supporting the next generation of cancer researchers

Educating future generations of cancer researchers is at the heart of what we do.

Every year we recruit talented students from across the world to our PhD programmes. There are currently 22 PhD students working and learning at the ICR who are being generously funded through philanthropy – from individual donors, trusts and foundations or legacy gifts.

Their experience here helps them learn from our world-leading researchers, through undertaking a specific research project and through formal training. At the same time as developing their skills, our students create new scientific knowledge and directly contribute to our mission – to make the discoveries that defeat cancer. Here we introduce four of our students.



**Chloe Simpson**

Chloe is funded by donors Justin and Lucy Bull

Chloe is studying how melanoma cancer cells grow and spread around the body, and the different pathways involved in controlling their growth and shape.

She says: "I chose to do my PhD at the ICR because it was an exciting opportunity to work with world-class scientists such as Dr Chris Bakal, my supervisor.

"The work we're doing could uncover new ways to prevent cancer cells from growing and changing shape – helping to stop the disease from progressing."

**1,800**

Number of donors who generously supported our Christmas appeal and raised enough to fund two years of a new studentship



## Jonathan Pettinger

Jonathan is funded by entrepreneur and ICR Chairman Luke Johnson

Jonathan is designing drugs to inhibit a protein called Hsp72, which plays a role in allowing cancer cells to become resistant to treatment.

He says: "I was exploring one approach to blocking Hsp72, but I ended up revealing a second, completely new line of attack. I discovered a weakness in the protein that could be exploited through a new generation of cancer treatments.

"I was later chosen to share my research at a prestigious chemistry conference in India."



## Ellen Watts

Ellen is funded by the Sir John Fisher Foundation

Ellen is designing new drugs for the childhood cancer neuroblastoma.

She says: "I've enjoyed the challenge of designing a new type of drug that targets two key cancer signals in children with high-risk forms of neuroblastoma.

In the process, I have gained experience in many aspects of cancer drug discovery, worked with a wide variety of scientists and learned many new techniques."



## Antonio Romo-Morales

Antonio is funded by a family-led charity partner

Antonio is looking for kinder, more effective treatments for children and young adults with Ewing sarcoma.

He says: "I'm exploring the role of a specific protein that drives the progression of Ewing sarcoma. Knowing that my PhD project is funded by a family touched by the disease really motivates me in my research.

"I'm confident that through our collaborative efforts, we can make a real difference for children with this disease."

To find out more about supporting a studentship and funding the future of cancer research, please contact Thomas Bland at [thomas.bland@icr.ac.uk](mailto:thomas.bland@icr.ac.uk) or on 020 8722 4200.

# Making John proud

Jo Tridgell has raised more than £50,000 for the ICR in memory of her husband John – now she is taking on the London Marathon.

John was a young, fit and active man, and a devoted father to his two daughters. He was diagnosed with breast cancer in November 2015 after feeling soreness in his chest. He was treated swiftly at The Royal Marsden, but his cancer was already advanced. Very sadly, John died in January 2017.

Following John's death, Jo launched a fundraising appeal to raise money for the ICR in his memory. With the support of family, friends and colleagues, through challenges including a fundraising auction and desert trekking in the UAE, her appeal raised more than £50,000.

Now Jo is running the London Marathon this April to raise even more for our research. She says: "Every time I struggle with my training and want to give up, I think about how hard John fought to stay alive for us. He smiled and stayed positive throughout countless painful tests and unpleasant treatments, and that keeps me going."

While undergoing treatment, John took part in several research projects, including the National Male Breast Cancer Study. Led by the ICR's Professor Anthony Swerdlow, the study is the biggest of its kind, it looks at the



John and Jo Tridgell and their two children

genetic, lifestyle and environmental factors that increase breast cancer risk in men.

By volunteering for the study, John was helping men in the future who develop breast cancer. The funds Jo has raised will allow Professor Swerdlow and his colleagues to do extra analysis to better understand male breast cancer. Seeing such a tangible benefit from the money she has raised is really important to Jo.

She explains: "I want to raise as much money as possible for the ICR's research so that we can avoid other families losing their dads, sons, brothers and husbands to this horrible disease. Hopefully the research will help answer some of our questions about why John became ill too."

To donate to Jo's fundraising page, please go to [justgiving.com/makejohnproud](https://www.justgiving.com/makejohnproud)

# Events calendar

Whether you like to run, cycle, trek or simply enjoy festive carols, we have an event for you. By joining #teamICR this year, you'll be helping us make the discoveries that defeat cancer.

## Run

### Vitality London 10,000

28 May 2018

Take to the streets of London in this 10K race, running past some of the capital's most spectacular sights.

### Great North Run

9 September 2018

Starting in Newcastle upon Tyne, this 13.1-mile route takes runners through the city and over the iconic Tyne Bridge.

## Social

### Recital for Research: an evening of spring time opera and song

22 May 2018

This recital will celebrate and support our world-leading research through glorious music.

Enjoy performances from mezzo-soprano Ann Murray, soprano Louise Kemeny, tenor Toby Spence and bass Matthew Rose.

Visit [icr.ac.uk/opera](http://icr.ac.uk/opera)

### Carols from Chelsea

4 December 2018

We invite you to join us in Christopher Wren's beautiful chapel at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, for an evening of traditional Christmas carols and readings.

## Trek

### Ben Nevis trek

22–24 June 2018

A weekend of trekking the highest peak in Britain, with stunning views of the highlands.

### Peru Inca Trail

9–18 November 2018

This trail goes over high passes with unforgettable views, through the majestic Sun Gate, and on to the fascinating ruins of Machu Picchu.

## Cycle

### London to Paris – Tour de France route

25–29 July 2018

Cycle the 300 miles from London to Paris and soak up the excitement of the final-stage action from the famous Champs-Élysées.

### Prudential RideLondon – Surrey 100

29 July 2018

Take part in this 100-mile thrilling cycle past beautiful London landmarks out to the Surrey hills.



John Darby at RideLondon

If you are already taking part in an event, get in touch and use your own place to raise funds for us. See our website for our full events calendar at [icr.ac.uk/challenge](http://icr.ac.uk/challenge) or contact the team on 020 7153 5375 or [sports@icr.ac.uk](mailto:sports@icr.ac.uk)

[www.icr.ac.uk](http://www.icr.ac.uk)