

# COMMUNITY

## Camden schools 'Ask a Nobel scientist'

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### ABOUT THE CRICK

The Francis Crick Institute (formerly UKCMRI), is a new medical research institute being built at Brill Place, Somers Town.

It's named after one of the UK's greatest scientists, who co-discovered the structure of DNA.

The Institute is a partnership between the Medical Research Council, Cancer Research UK, the Wellcome Trust, UCL (University College London), Imperial College London and King's College London.

Discoveries made in the laboratories will speed up the development of treatments for major diseases such as cancer, heart disease and stroke.

The Francis Crick Institute will bring new jobs, community facilities and other benefits to Somers Town.



Above left: students vote on whether or not they'd like to be a scientist. Right: Alok Jha and Sir Tim Hunt.

More than 120 Camden school students joined some of the UK's leading scientists and *The Guardian's* Alok Jha for an afternoon of debate and discussion at the Wellcome Trust on 7th March, to launch National Science and Engineering Week.

Nobel Prize winner Sir Tim Hunt, and Dr Julie Cooper from Cancer Research UK's London Research Institute (LRI), were quizzed by sixth form students on subjects ranging from whether viruses can be used to attack cancer cells, to the possibility of using DNA from woolly mammoths to bring the species back to life. "It would be very, very difficult," Tim said.

Some excellent questions came from students at Maria Fidelis and South Camden Community School, including: "What inspired you to study genetics?" and "Why can't the immune system deal with cancer cells in the same way it deals with other diseases?"

"It was great fun and much more interactive than I expected," one student said. "Are you going to do it again?"

### SCHOOLS PLANS TAKE SHAPE

'Ask a Nobel scientist' is the first of many education and community events that the Crick will support.

During the summer term, up to twenty children from Richard Cobden Primary School will visit the National Institute for Medical Research (one of the Crick's founding institutes) in Mill Hill, north London, where they will meet scientists, experience life in the laboratory, and have a go at a range of hands-on science activities.

The Crick will work closely with local schools so they can take advantage of its education programme. In January, Frank Dobson, MP for Holborn and St Pancras, chaired an education working group, bringing together headteachers from seven Somers Town schools, as well as representatives from Camden Council and key science education providers such as the Science Learning Centre.

The group discussed what they would like the Crick to offer and how schools

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could make best use of the new Institute. Tim Coulson, Assistant Director of Achievement at Camden Council said: "We're off to a great start, and we're looking forward to developing our relationship with the Institute."

Further information is available on our Facebook page, 'The Francis Crick Institute', and you can now follow us on twitter, @thecrick.

## STAY IN TOUCH

The Francis Crick Institute's education programme will offer Camden students unique opportunities to meet and interact with some of the world's top researchers.

Email [Lex.Grosvenor@crick.ac.uk](mailto:Lex.Grosvenor@crick.ac.uk) for more information and to be added to our Educators database.



## CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICESHIPS AND JOBS ON THE CRICK SITE

If you live in Camden, are aged 18-24, and want to work in the construction industry, you might be interested in Laing O'Rourke's two-year apprenticeship scheme.

To find out more call the King's Cross Construction Skills Centre (KCCSC) on 020 7974 5161.

KCCSC also handle recruitment for other jobs on The Crick construction site. Give KCCSC a call for information on any jobs available now.

## Residents help shape Living Centre plans

Three local residents have joined the group helping to set up the Living Centre, the community centre that will be based in the Crick when it opens in 2015.

Sarah Cawthra, Sujoy Roy and Helen Cadiou, who all live close to the Institute site on Brill Place, believe local people should be involved in shaping plans for the Living Centre, to ensure it offers the services people want.

"The Living Centre will be a valuable resource and it is important that local residents are involved. This is a great opportunity to improve community facilities," said Sujoy.

"I feel that creating something for the community which is inclusive is an exciting – and rewarding – possibility," Sarah added.

Helen Cadiou moved to Somers Town 17 years ago, when the British Library was being built:

"I remember pushing the children's buggy past the building site. A few years later, the Eurostar terminal building opened. The Crick Institute building is now well underway. These gargantuan buildings are not only re-shaping our landscape but also our communities."

The Crick Institute is a unique opportunity to enhance research in Europe, and the local community needs to be part of that.

"Residents and community associations need to engage with the Institute so it benefits the community," she said.

Sarah, Sujoy and Helen will now join the rest of the Living Centre working group in looking at how best to consult local residents on the Living Centre and how it should be run.

You can find out more about the Living Centre at [www.crick.ac.uk/community/local-community/living-centre](http://www.crick.ac.uk/community/local-community/living-centre).

## Making Somers Town and St Pancras safer

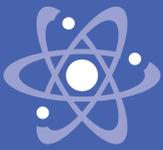


Community safety has been given a boost with the appointment of two Safer Neighbourhood police officers for the St Pancras and Somers Town ward, funded by the Crick.

"At this exciting time of regeneration in the Somers Town and St Pancras ward, two extra Police Officers have been dedicated to the area," a Camden Police spokeswoman said.

"Their role will develop as the area grows, allowing them to adapt to the needs of the community. They will be supporting the existing Safer Neighbourhoods team with managing crime and anti-social behaviour."

The Crick gave £360,000 to help fund the officers for three years as part of a community benefits package for the area worth almost £10 million.



## RESEARCH FOCUS



### The wonder of science for Paul Nurse

Paul Nurse, the Director of the Francis Crick Institute and President of the Royal Society, has spoken of his love for science and why it matters. Paul was speaking during BBC 1's Richard Dimbleby lecture which is given each year in honour of the BBC's pioneering journalist.

In the lecture, Paul explained his passion for science, how he fell in love with science as a child and how it recently saved his life.

Paul, who's 63, described how shortly before Christmas he went for a routine health check-up "that turned out to be far from routine". He was diagnosed with serious heart disease and in January had a quadruple heart bypass: "Thanks to the skill of my NHS doctors... and to the science which underpinned my treatment, I am still alive."

Paul explained how he fell in love with science when as a nine year-old boy he watched a star that was speeding across the London sky. It was Sputnik Two, the second man made satellite to orbit the earth: "The natural world is fascinating, and is even more so if you are prepared to observe, to experiment, to think, and to try and understand. That is what scientists do, and there is a little bit of the scientist in all of us, especially when we are children."

He talked about the practical benefits of science – generating knowledge that when properly used leads to applications through technologies and engineering for the public good.

He told his audience at the Royal College of Physicians in Camden: "We need more science in Government, the boardroom, and public services, we need more funding for science, we need greater engagement with the public and a society comfortable with science, we need to convey the wonder of science, and what it contributes to our civilization."

He added that he hoped the Crick would not just be a place for scientific experiments: "I want to create a cultural and economic hot house of scientific ideas and applications, to make exciting discoveries improving our health and driving our economy."

### Life skills project increases confidence and independence

Funding from the Crick has given young people from Hampden Youth Club the chance to take part in a Life Skills project, designed to improve their confidence and help them become more independent.

The ten young people learned cooking skills from a qualified chef; about their "stop and search" rights from the Metropolitan Police; how to manage money; and about sexual health, drugs and alcohol abuse.

The group also went on a weekend residential course at Hindleap Warren Outdoor Education Centre in Sussex, where they took part in team building activities including climbing.

The project was the idea of youth workers Jamie King and Shofi Mohammed:

"We wanted to give young people skills and knowledge they can take into their future, to help them develop a sense of responsibility and increase their independence.

"Now the young people will run their own sessions, so they can pass on what they've learned to their friends, families and others in the local community," they said.



### IMPROVEMENTS TO LOCAL HOMES ALMOST COMPLETE

Work to improve homes on the Ossulston Estate with funding of £1.7 million from the Crick is almost complete.

"The Crick's contribution has already been put to good use and has funded a range of internal works to homes on the Ossulston Estate," said Camden Council's Head of Commissioning and Quality Assurance, Gavin Haynes.

"The works were scoped using independent condition surveys and included new kitchens and bathrooms, electrical and heating works, asbestos surveys, asbestos removal and fire doors. The work was tailored for each property to make sure investment was targeted at those homes in the greatest need."

For more information about the work, contact Camden's Asset Management team at [AssetTeam@camden.gov.uk](mailto:AssetTeam@camden.gov.uk).



# CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



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Laing O'Rourke has now been on site for almost ten months. In that time they have removed over 230,000 tonnes of soil (much of it going to Essex, where it will be used to help restore a bird sanctuary), and laid the concrete piles that help hold the structure together.

Using a "top down" method of construction means Laing O'Rourke can work above and below ground at the same time. Part of the concrete mid basement floor has now been laid; a large hole in the middle allows diggers and other equipment to go down beneath the mid basement level and start work on the deep basement.

Elsewhere on the site Laing O'Rourke continues to pour concrete to form other parts of the building. The completed Institute will consist of concrete walls, floors and columns, to give an extremely stable and vibration-free building.

There are currently 125 skilled workers and apprentices on site, including carpenters, steel fixers, plant operators and concrete placers. See page 2 for more information about jobs on the Crick site.



## OUTLINE TIMETABLE

### Early Summer 2011

Building work started.

### Spring 2013

External work completed, internal fit-out starts.

### Spring 2015

Internal works completed.

The building is ready for use and staff move in.

**Construction questions? Call the construction hotline free on 0808 165 0180, or email [projectinfo@laingorourke.com](mailto:projectinfo@laingorourke.com)**

## GET IN TOUCH

If you have any questions, please contact us.

**Email:** [info@crick.ac.uk](mailto:info@crick.ac.uk)

**Web:** [www.crick.ac.uk](http://www.crick.ac.uk)

**Phone:** 0800 028 6731

**Twitter:** @thecrick

**Post:** The Francis Crick Institute  
Gibbs Building  
215 Euston Road  
London, NW1 2BE

**Visit:** The Crick Visitor Centre  
Ossulston Street  
(opposite Hadstock House), NW1 1HG

Staff will be on hand to answer your questions and you will be able to see the latest designs and plans for the building.

## OPENING TIMES

Thursdays: 14.00-18.30

We can also open the Visitor Centre for groups on request. Please contact us to arrange a visit.

This newsletter tells you about The Francis Crick Institute and its plans to build a medical research centre on Brill Place, Somers Town. If you would like a copy in Bengali, please send your name and address to The Francis Crick Institute, Gibbs Building, 215 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BE or email [info@crick.ac.uk](mailto:info@crick.ac.uk).

এই সংবাদপত্রিকাটি আপনাদের দ্য ফ্রান্সিস ক্রিক ইন্সটিটিউট এবং ব্রিল প্লেস, সমারস টাউনে তাদের দ্বারা একটি মেডিকাল গবেষণা কেন্দ্র তৈরি করার পরিকল্পনার বিষয়ে আপনাকে জানায়। যদি আপনি বাংলায় একটি অনুলিপি চান, অনুগ্রহ করে The Francis Crick Institute, Gibbs Building, 215 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BE ঠিকানায় বা [info@crick.ac.uk](mailto:info@crick.ac.uk)-তে ইমেইল করে আপনার নাম আর ঠিকানা পাঠান।