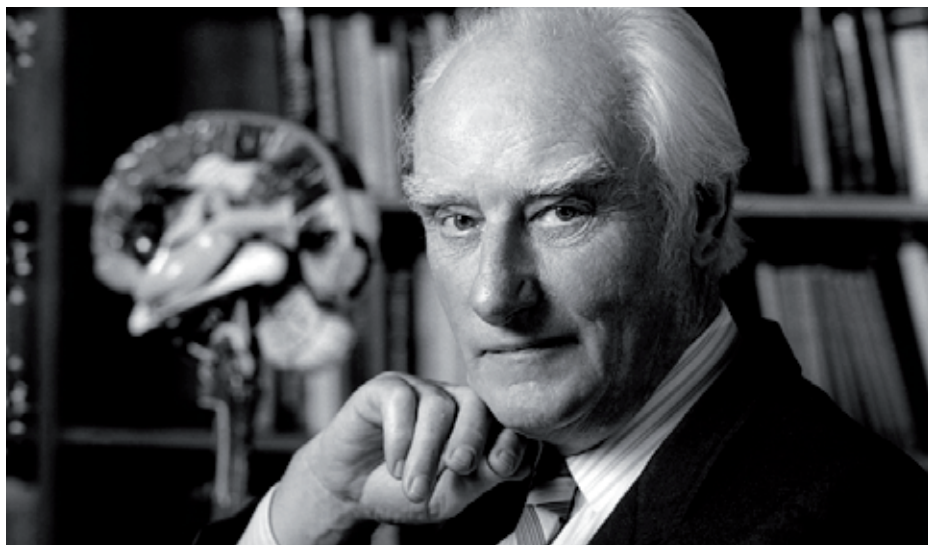


## UKCMRI becomes The Francis Crick Institute



Above: Francis Crick

UKCMRI is to change its name. From late June UKCMRI will become The Francis Crick Institute, in honour of one of the UK's greatest scientists, who co-discovered the structure of DNA.

The Director and Chief Executive of UKCMRI, Paul Nurse said: "Francis Crick was a superb British scientist. He led a revolution in biology and medicine, and was noted for his intelligence, openness to new ideas, and collaborations with scientists working in different fields of expertise. The Francis Crick Institute will also possess these qualities."

He added: "Now that construction of the Institute is beginning, we can use its permanent name. The site at Brill Place has been transformed over the past weeks in readiness for construction formally to begin."

Born in Northampton in 1916, the son of a shoe factory owner, Francis Crick studied Physics at University College London. He worked as a scientist for the Admiralty during the Second World War, then moved to the Cavendish Laboratory in Cambridge to study molecular biology.

He is best known for his work with James Watson, Maurice Wilkins, Rosalind Franklin and other scientists that led to the identification of the structure of DNA in 1953.

DNA, which stands for deoxyribonucleic acid, contains the information to make us who and what we are. This discovery proved to be of enormous importance to biomedical research – and to life and health.

Francis Crick died on 28 July 2004.



### Welcome to issue 3 of UKCMRI's newsletter

UKCMRI is building a medical research centre in Brill Place, Somers Town. As you live or work near the new centre we are sending you this newsletter to keep you up-to-date on the project.

#### ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

- UKCMRI stands for the UK Centre for Medical Research and Innovation. From late June UKCMRI will be called The Francis Crick Institute.
- The project was set up by the Medical Research Council, Cancer Research UK, the Wellcome Trust, and UCL (University 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 (UKCMRI) will bring new jobs, community facilities and other benefits to Somers Town.

#### OUTLINE TIMETABLE

**Early Summer 2011**  
Building work starts.

**Spring 2013**  
External work completed, internal fit-out starts.

**Spring 2015**  
Internal works are completed. The building is ready for use and staff move in.

# Construction work on The Francis Crick Institute begins

Building work on The Francis Crick Institute (UKCMRI) is set to start at the end of June, with the construction of the first part of the basement wall.

Over the past couple of months, the main contractor – Laing O’Rourke – has been preparing the Brill Place site and making it secure. Laing O’Rourke has also been breaking up the existing concrete so it can be recycled and used as part of the Institute’s foundations. This will cut down the number of lorries travelling to and from the site to remove waste material.

The fencing around the site is now complete and will be decorated with artwork produced by local schools, community and youth groups. Temporary site offices and facilities for Laing O’Rourke’s workers have been put up (including an on-site canteen), and a new access road has been



built, so that all vehicles coming to the Brill Place site will arrive and leave using Midland Road.

The Francis Crick Institute (UKCMRI) has also set up a **construction working group**. This meets monthly to keep residents up to date on progress with the building work and deal with any construction issues.

Chaired by Cllr Roger Robinson, the group includes representatives from Ossulston Street Tenants’ and Residents’ Association (TRA), Cooper’s Lane TRA, Monica Shaw Court, and Phoenix Court, as well as Camden Council officers, The Francis Crick Institute (UKCMRI), and Laing O’Rourke.

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## First apprentices to start in September

Laing O’Rourke will employ the first apprentices on The Francis Crick Institute (UKCMRI) site this autumn. Two general building apprenticeships and one groundworks apprenticeship will be on offer to Camden residents aged 18-24, starting in September.

In late 2011/early 2012 Laing O’Rourke will look for local young people to train as shuttering joiners and concrete finishers. As building work progresses apprenticeships will include mechanical and electrical trades, with a number of apprenticeships available for pipe

fitters and electricians (starting September 2012).

The paid apprenticeships will last for two years and involve both on-the-job training and day release at college. Apprentices who successfully complete their training and have a trade which is still required on The Francis Crick Institute (UKCMRI) site may wish to apply for the Laing O’Rourke Apprentice+ programme. This will provide an extra two years’ training and more job opportunities.

Apprenticeships will be advertised through the King’s Cross Construction Skills Centre (KCCSC) in late June 2011, with interviews taking place in July/August. To find out more call KCCSC on 020 7974 5161.

Laing O’Rourke will employ and train at least 40 apprentices during the construction of The Francis Crick Institute (UKCMRI) building.



## Digging up the past

More than 250 people came along to the Museum of London's 'Digging up the past' open days at Brill Place, to find out more about the site's history.

The event, sponsored by The Francis Crick Institute (UKCMRI), attracted local residents – some of whom shared their own family stories of life in the area – railway enthusiasts, archaeologists and many others. Young visitors were given a chance to dig for archaeological 'treasures' in specially-built sandpits.

The Museum of London experts unearthed long-hidden railway tracks and the remains of a hydraulic power plant during the archaeological dig. They also discovered domestic items which probably came from the slum housing which was cleared in Victorian times to make way for a goods yard, including a candle snuffer, comb, white clay rabbit, marbles and a button.

In its time, the goods yard played an important role in the everyday lives of Londoners. It was a huge centre for the distribution of fresh products, such as milk and fish. The goods were brought into London by train, early each morning, from the countryside in the east of England and the Midlands. The yards were heavily bombed in the Second World War and eventually demolished in the 1950s and 1960s.



## Community art project to design site hoardings

Local community groups have taken part in a project to design artwork for the hoardings around The Francis Crick Institute (UKCMRI) site.

Children, young people, and senior citizens from Origin Housing, New Horizon Youth Centre, St Aloysius' School, One Housing Association, St Pancras Community Centre, Argyle Primary School, and the Calthorpe Project worked with artist Laila Brown to produce images inspired by the themes of medicine, the new building, and The Francis Crick Institute and the community.

Laila said: "This has been a really interesting project to work on and everyone involved has produced some great images. We hope that people passing the site will enjoy seeing the work too."

The artwork will go up on the hoardings in early July.

## Living Centre begins to take shape

Part of The Francis Crick Institute will be set up as a healthy living centre, to help improve health and wellbeing in Somers Town. The Francis Crick Institute (UKCMRI) is designing the 450m<sup>2</sup> space in partnership with the local community.

As a first step, we have set up a Living Centre community working group to advise on the services the Living Centre should provide and how it should be run. Members include representatives from New Horizon Youth Centre, Training Link, Hopscotch, Somers Town Community Centre, Camden Council, The Francis Crick Institute (UKCMRI), and local residents. The group is chaired by Cllr Peter Brayshaw.

So far the group has looked at options for the layout of the Living Centre. Next the group will consider how best to consult local people on their vision for the Living Centre. We will then begin consultation with the community towards the end of the year.

# An interview with Sir Paul Nurse



Sir Paul Nurse is Director of The Francis Crick Institute (UKCMRI) and President of the Royal Society, Britain's national scientific academy.

He grew up in Wembley, north-west London, and after a spell working in the microbiology lab at the local Guinness brewery, went to the University of Birmingham to study Biology.

He was Director of the Imperial Cancer Research Fund and Cancer Research UK, and President of New York's Rockefeller University.

In 2001 Paul shared the Nobel Prize for Physiology or Medicine for his discoveries about the way cells reproduce.

## Why is The Francis Crick Institute important?

The Francis Crick Institute is the most important medical research development in the UK for a generation. It will push back the frontiers of our knowledge of how living things work, and that knowledge will be used to tackle the diseases that still affect communities throughout the world – cancer, heart disease, infection, and neurodegenerative diseases like Alzheimer's.

## Why should scientists engage with the public?

Science has an important role in solving some of the big problems facing society, such as climate change and continuing epidemics of infectious disease. Science is also vital to our growing economy.

The public support and fund science because they recognise its importance, but they want something in return: better health; a higher quality of life; to protect the environment. So as scientists we have a duty to engage with society.

We have to listen to people's views and concerns, to discuss and engage. It's vital we do this so the public can understand the complex issues science deals with and we can make sensible decisions about what we should do and how science should be used.

## How will the local community benefit from The Francis Crick Institute?

The Institute has a role to play in promoting the health of local inhabitants by providing opportunities that perhaps the community wouldn't have if we weren't here.

We've already started talking to the local community about the benefits we can bring to Somers Town. One thing we'll do is set up a Living Centre that will offer services to help improve people's health and wellbeing.

It's an exciting project – the practical end of our work to bring health benefits to society. And as it's part of our building the Living Centre will also offer great opportunities for our staff and the community to meet and learn from one another's experience.

## 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

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

**Visit:** On-site exhibition,  
Ossulston Street, NW1

Our new exhibition opens in July. Staff will be on hand to answer your questions and you will be able to see the latest designs and plans for the building. Please check our website for opening times.

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

এই সংবাদ-পুস্তিকাটি আপনাকে দ্য ফ্রান্সিস ক্রিক ইন্সটিটিউট (ইউকেসিএমআরআই) এবং এদের ব্রিল প্লেস, সোমারস টাউনে একটি চিকিৎসা গবেষণা কেন্দ্র তৈরীর পরিকল্পনার বিষয়ে জানায়। যদি আপনার বাংলাতে একটি অনুলিপির প্রয়োজন হয়, অনুগ্রহ করে আপনার নাম ও ঠিকানা The Francis Crick Institute (UKCMRI), Gibbs Building, 215 Euston Road, London, NW1 2BE-তে পাঠান বা [info@crick.ac.uk](mailto:info@crick.ac.uk)-তে ইমেইল করুন।

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