



# Cure InSight

Cure Parkinson's Spring 2024 Newsletter

## WELCOME

To the spring edition of our newsletter.

## THE LATEST

Cure Parkinson's supports handover of the Parky Charter to Downing Street.

## COULD DIABETES TREATMENTS OFFER HOPE FOR PARKINSON'S?

We bring you the latest progress on repurposing diabetes treatments for Parkinson's.

## FUNDRAISER OF THE YEAR

We announce our Fundraiser of the Year and bring you details of our brand new golf challenge.



10%  
<50  
Spotlight  
YOPD

THE PARKY  
CHARTER

A FIVE POINT  
NATIONAL  
PLAN

# Contents

## ABOUT US

Welcome from Helen Matthews, CEO 3

## OUR RESEARCH

Progressing diabetes drugs as treatments for Parkinson's 4-5  
Our funding impact 6  
Research project updates 7  
Shaping the future of research 8-9

## OUR FUNDRAISING

Make a big impact with a small monthly donation 10-11  
Guy on a mission 12  
Rounds for Research - get golfing for a cure 13  
Fundraiser of the Year 14-15  
Events calendar 16  
Collaborating for a cure: workplace partners making an impact 17  
Cure Parkinson's supports the Movers & Shakers at Downing Street 18  
Movers & Shakers podcast 19

Look out for QR codes dotted throughout our newsletter. To use them, point your phone's camera at the QR code so you can see it on the screen. Tap on the notification that appears to open the link in your web browser and be taken to our website to find out more about our work.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE HERE

# Welcome from Helen Matthews, CEO

Welcome to the spring edition of Cure InSight in what we expect to be an exciting year of progress for Parkinson's research.

Through our International Linked Clinical Trials (iLCT) programme we have been funding and facilitating the repurposing of type 2 diabetes drugs as treatments for Parkinson's. Following the publication of the Lixi-Park phase 2 trial results that we were proud to support, we expect the results from two other trials of GLP-1R agonists which will bring us closer to understanding if this class of drugs offers hope of a disease-modifying treatment for Parkinson's in the not too distant future. Read the latest update on pages 4-5.

Cure Parkinson's has long championed urgency and efficiency of research, and so we are excited to be involved in so many ways with the first multi-arm, multi-stage clinical trial in Parkinson's – ACT-PD. This trial model allows multiple treatments to be tested simultaneously making it more efficient in terms of time, resource and cost. On pages 8-9 you can read about how people living with Parkinson's have been informing the trial design process.

We know that many of you have been listening to the award-winning Movers & Shakers podcast which has been engaging and informing listeners about life with Parkinson's for three series now. On page 18 you can read about the Movers & Shakers World Parkinson's Day visit to 10 Downing Street to present their Parky Charter.

We are also delighted that Movers & Shakers podcaster Rory Cellan-Jones has joined Cure Parkinson's as a patron. Former technology correspondent for the BBC, writer, technology advisor and owner of one of the UK's most beloved rescue dogs, Rory was diagnosed with Parkinson's in 2019, and since then he has made an incredible contribution to raising vital funds and awareness of the condition and we welcome him to the Cure Parkinson's team.



Pictured above: Helen Matthews, CEO at Cure Parkinson's, outside the Downing Street gates supporting the Movers & Shakers Parky Charter. Photo credit: Matt Crossick/PA Media Assignments.

The inventive and inspiring challenges that our fundraisers take on to raise funds and awareness for the charity continually amaze us. Please take the time to read about the joint winners of this year's Fundraiser of the Year Award who really have gone the extra mile. And if you love golf, you can find out about our latest fundraising challenge - Rounds for Research - on page 13.

Lastly, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your support which is enabling exciting developments in Parkinson's research – without you none of this would be possible.

Helen Matthews, CEO Cure Parkinson's

# We want to hear from you

Thank you for supporting Cure Parkinson's. We value your views, that's why we're asking you to fill out a short survey about our newsletter. Our Cure InSight survey is your opportunity to feedback on our newsletter and help us to understand the elements of our work that you are most interested to read about.

The survey should only take a few minutes and all participants will be automatically entered into a prize draw for the chance to win one of three £50 Marks and Spencer vouchers. If you do not want to be entered into the prize draw, you can opt out.

To complete our survey please use the QR code below or visit [cureparkinsons.org.uk/cure-insight-survey](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/cure-insight-survey)



COMPLETE OUR SURVEY HERE

Terms and conditions apply, please see [cureparkinsons.org.uk/cure-insight-survey-conditions](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/cure-insight-survey-conditions)

Cover photo: Caroline Russell (CEO - Parkinson's UK), Gillian Lacey-Solymar (Movers & Shakers podcaster), Gaynor Edwards (Patron - Spotlight YOPD) and Helen Matthews (CEO - Cure Parkinson's) supporting the handover of the Parky Charter to 10 Downing Street. Photo credit: Matt Crossick/PA Media Assignments.

# Progressing diabetes drugs as treatments for Parkinson's

2024 is an exciting year as we anticipate the results of multiple clinical trials focused on GLP-1 receptor agonists. This class of drugs is currently used in the treatment of type 2 diabetes, and Cure Parkinson's has been funding research since 2008 to determine whether they could be repurposed as effective treatments for slowing Parkinson's.

## What are GLP-1 receptor agonists?

Glucagon-like peptide 1 (GLP-1) receptor agonists are a group of drugs currently used to treat type 2 diabetes. Diabetes is a condition where the body does not produce enough insulin – a hormone important for regulating sugar levels in our bloodstream. Insulin does so by helping cells to absorb sugar and convert it into energy. In the absence of insulin, sugar can build up in the blood and damage cells. GLP-1 receptor agonists stimulate the body to produce more insulin, which helps to lower blood sugar levels.

Laboratory data has suggested that GLP-1 receptor agonists could also be effective in slowing Parkinson's progression, and studies in people with diabetes indicate that those taking this class of drugs have a reduced risk of developing Parkinson's.



Pictured: Professor Olivier Rascol, virtually presenting on the results from the phase 2 LixiPark study at our spring Research Update Meeting this year.

## The Lixisenatide results

The results of the Cure Parkinson's supported LixiPark study investigating the impact of the GLP-1 receptor agonist lixisenatide in Parkinson's have now been published. This one-year, phase 2 clinical trial, led by Professors

Olivier Rascol and Wassilios Meissner at the University Hospitals of Toulouse and Bordeaux, involved 156 people with Parkinson's and was conducted at 21 different research centres across France. The results suggest that the progression of motor symptoms in participants taking lixisenatide slowed, while the motor symptoms of participants receiving the placebo (dummy drug) continued to progress. Cure Parkinson's is extremely proud to have co-funded this study with Van Andel Institute and the French Government, and we look forward to the further development of this drug class for Parkinson's.

**This clinical trial result is important as it represents the second clinical trial of a drug in this class that has demonstrated a positive result in people with Parkinson's at phase 2.**

To learn more about the LixiPark study please use the QR code below or visit our website at [cureparkinsons.org.uk/lixi-results](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/lixi-results)



LEARN MORE ABOUT LIXIPARK HERE

## Further results

In 2024, we will also learn the results of additional clinical trials focused on GLP-1 receptor agonists. Firstly, results are expected from the one-year phase 2 clinical trial of the GLP-1 receptor agonist exenatide, involving 60 people with Parkinson's in Stockholm, Sweden. These results are estimated to be available in the latter part of the year.

Additionally, we expect the results from the major phase 3 clinical trial also assessing exenatide. Led by Professor Tom Foltynie at University College London (UCL), this two-year nationwide study involved 196 people with Parkinson's. The trial was funded by the National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR), and Cure Parkinson's supported two sub-studies looking at alternative outcome measures to assess whether exenatide is effective in slowing Parkinson's. The study concludes in 2024 and we hope to learn the outcomes before the end of the year.

## Additional opportunities within a newer class of drugs

Given the encouraging preliminary results coming from the ongoing GLP-1 receptor agonist clinical trial programmes, scientists have been testing next-generation diabetes drugs to assess if they may have additional beneficial effects for Parkinson's. Cure Parkinson's is funding Dr Dilan Athauda at UCL, who is investigating 'dual agonist' diabetes medications as potential disease-modifying treatments for Parkinson's.

To read more please use the QR code below or visit our website at [cureparkinsons.org.uk/dual-agonist](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/dual-agonist)



READ MORE HERE



**// Cure Parkinson's has championed the repurposing of GLP-1 receptor agonists for Parkinson's from the beginning, and they are an important component of our commitment to bringing disease-modifying therapies to the Parkinson's community with urgency. We look forward to sharing these exciting developments throughout the year to come.**

Dr Simon Stott, Director of Research - Cure Parkinson's.

# Our funding impact

Each year, Cure Parkinson's conducts an analysis of its funding to understand its impact on the progress of therapeutics in the Parkinson's research field. This provides an opportunity to reflect on potential areas of growth and improvement, and to ensure that Cure Parkinson's focus to find a cure progresses as efficiently as possible.

Over the previous 15 months, Cure Parkinson's has approved funding for seven new grants, including two clinical trials, and one project extension. Two of these projects have been funded as part of our new grant scheme, the iLCT Pipeline Research Acceleration Programme. These laboratory-based (preclinical) investigations, one led by Professor Michael Schwarzschild at Massachusetts General Hospital and the other by Dr Poonam Thakur at the Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research, will examine a total of five potentially disease-modifying treatments for Parkinson's. The evidence the researchers are collecting relates directly to evaluation by Cure Parkinson's International Linked Clinical Trials (iLCT) committee members who have requested additional information in preparation for potential testing in clinical trials for Parkinson's. Cure Parkinson's is encouraged by the robust



Pictured: iLCT committee members at the 2023 meeting.

pipeline of drugs progressing through the different stages of research and the influence of the iLCT initiative on the development of potential new therapies. The number of clinical trials that Cure Parkinson's has funded since 2005 is now 15, investigating 13 different potential treatments and involving more than 1,300 people with Parkinson's.



Pictured: Cure Parkinson's funded Research Assistant Nadine Loefflad, at the Royal Free Hospital.

**Since the charity's inception in 2005, almost £19 million has been committed to research projects, involving close to 40 institutions across 11 countries. This funding directly supports Cure Parkinson's mission to slow, stop or reverse Parkinson's either through therapeutic development or processes to accelerate this research.**

The charity remains committed to strategically funding research in this remit and facilitating research in the wider field through initiatives such as iLCT. More information on the impact of these activities will be available in the 2023-2024 impact report.

# Research project updates

## TRANSEURO follow-up study

TRANSEURO is a multi-centre European clinical trial launched in 2010 to evaluate dopamine cell replacement therapy as a disease-modifying treatment for Parkinson's. The study has two elements: the cell transplantation trial and an observational study. Professor Roger Barker at the University of Cambridge is leading the observational study which is funded by Cure Parkinson's, and involves participants undertaking follow-up motor and cognitive assessments every 6 months for up to 12 years. The goal is to help researchers establish a point of comparison to determine whether the dopamine cell transplants have had a meaningful impact on the participants' symptoms and overall disease progression.

The learnings from TRANSEURO will be used to inform the ongoing STEM-PD clinical trial. To learn more about STEM-PD, re-watch our quarterly webinar using the QR code below or by visiting [cureparkinsons.org.uk/stem-cell-webinar](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/stem-cell-webinar)



**RE-WATCH OUR STEM-PD WEBINAR HERE**

## DAPA-PD

Cure Parkinson's, in partnership with Van Andel Institute, recently announced funding for a phase 2 clinical trial of dapansutride – an anti-inflammatory drug developed by Olatec Therapeutics. Researchers believe that by lowering brain inflammation, dapansutride may be able to slow the progression of Parkinson's.

Led by Dr Caroline Williams-Gray at the University of Cambridge, this 12-month study will involve 36 people with Parkinson's and aims to assess if dapansutride is safe and tolerable. The team hope to use these results to determine whether dapansutride should be evaluated in a larger phase 3 study.

Find out more about the DAPA-PD trial by using the QR code below or visiting our website at [cureparkinsons.org.uk/dapa-pd](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/dapa-pd)



**READ MORE ABOUT DAPA-PD HERE**

## Trial Emulation

In this new Cure Parkinson's funded study, Professors Li Wei, Tom Foltynie, and Anette Schrag from University College London and Professor Camille Carroll from Newcastle University will be using a 'trial emulation' to investigate three drugs – istradefylline, montelukast, and ursodeoxycholic acid (UDCA) – as potential disease-modifying treatments for Parkinson's.

Trial emulation does not replace a clinical trial but it is an opportunity to learn more about how well a treatment might work by looking at an existing medical database and taking a statistical approach to select certain groups of people. By analysing existing medical data it is possible to assess how well a treatment might work for those people. Importantly, the process can help plan and de-risk future clinical trials potentially saving time, money, and resources.

# Shaping the future of research

Patient and Public Involvement and Engagement (PPIE) is widely recognised as a vital part of the clinical trial design process. No clinical trial can operate without its participants; therefore, it is important that we listen to and learn from people with Parkinson's in order to create a safe and positive experience.

The Edmond J. Safra Accelerating Clinical Trials in Parkinson's Disease (ACT-PD) project is an upcoming multi-arm, multi-stage clinical trial platform in the UK. Co-led by Professors Tom Foltynie of University College London and Camille Carroll of Newcastle University, the goal of ACT-PD is to speed up the clinical trial process by allowing multiple potentially disease-modifying treatments to be tested simultaneously, with smooth transitions between trial phases.

Re-watch Georgia Mills, Project Manager for ACT-PD, present an overview of the study at our 2023 autumn Research Update Meeting using the QR code below or by visiting our website at [cureparkinsons.org.uk/research-meeting-23](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/research-meeting-23)



LEARN MORE ABOUT ACT-PD HERE

In the first year, the team aim to involve 1,600 people with Parkinson's across the UK, with recruitment projected to begin in late 2024 or early 2025. As the team work towards this, an initiative by the ACT-PD team has been to ensure people living with Parkinson's and their care partners are involved in every step of the trial design process. Primarily, this was put into practice through the establishment of the PPIE working group.

Led by people with Parkinson's, members of this group joined each of the other working groups in the ACT-PD consortium: Trial Design, Drug Selection, Infrastructure, Outcomes, PPIE and Funding and Sustainability. These groups additionally comprise experts from academia,

industry, government and charities such as Cure Parkinson's. This involvement of the PPIE group has meant that the patient perspective is always considered, strengthening the study in every way.



**Our unique insight into the symptoms and quality of life issues of Parkinson's, enables us to identify strategies in recruitment, retention and information sharing for the ACT-PD project. Ultimately, as PPIE contributors we are putting our heads and hearts together to find the most resourceful way to come up with a cure for Parkinson's.**

Carroll Siu, member of the PPIE working group.

**The PPIE group is unique in that it is led by and composed of people with Parkinson's and their care partners. Furthermore, to ensure the patient perspective is always considered, members of the PPIE group sit on each of the other working groups to offer their insights throughout the design process.**

In addition to the PPIE working group, the ACT-PD team established two other panels to provide additional patient input. Firstly is their wider PPIE network - a group of more than 40 members who offer their insights when a broader opinion is needed.

The second is their Community Advisory Panel (CAP). Promoting equality, diversity, and inclusion remains a challenge in Parkinson's research. To help address this, the team recruited 10 individuals from a diverse set of backgrounds to share their perspectives and inform the communications strategy. Initiatives

like these are essential steps for both engaging with underrepresented communities, as well as ensuring the trial outcomes are meaningful for and representative of the larger Parkinson's community.

Overall, PPIE represents an essential part of the research process, as involving and learning from patient experiences promotes higher quality research and care. There are many ways to participate in research, whether that be joining a clinical trial, sitting on patient advisory panels, or even something as simple as participating in research surveys. All of these efforts are important for ensuring your voice is heard and represented in Parkinson's research. If you are interested in getting involved in research, please use the QR code below or visit our website at [cureparkinsons.org.uk/ci-take-part](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/ci-take-part)



GET INVOLVED IN RESEARCH HERE



# Make a big impact with a small monthly donation

Regular gifts allow us to invest in long-term and innovative projects which will help us make faster progress towards the cure.

Our regular givers are a vital part of Cure Parkinson's; their incredible generosity means that we have a guaranteed pot of income each year to be able to plan our research priorities and invest in ever bigger projects.

One such project is the Edmond J. Safra Accelerating Clinical Trials in Parkinson's Disease (ACT-PD). This transformative project taking place in the UK, will create the first multi-arm, multi-stage (MAMS) trials in Parkinson's.

ACT-PD will speed up the process by testing multiple treatments against a single, combined placebo group. This means multiple drugs can be evaluated in the same time frame it would typically take to run a single clinical trial. Drugs can also be moved immediately between phases, removing this delay which can sometimes amount to years. Overall the initiative will significantly accelerate the research towards a cure.

The first set of trials within this MAMS platform is proposed to start in late 2024, which will be testing three drugs prioritised by our International Linked Clinical Trials (iLCT) programme.

**It is the single most accelerative project that Cure Parkinson's is working on. The model is already best practice in cancer and MS, and was used effectively for COVID-19. It will involve people with Parkinson's all over the UK and will deliver much-needed results, faster.**

However, it is only with a constant flow of donations that we can plan for transformative initiatives like ACT-PD, so please consider setting up a regular gift to Cure Parkinson's.



**// Consistent giving helps Cure Parkinson's have the steady support they need to make a lasting impact. The charity does vital work every day, so whether big or small, I know that regular support can make a difference to their day-to-day efforts and help Cure Parkinson's achieve their overall mission.**

Tom Cooper pictured taking on the 2023 TCS London Marathon in support of Cure Parkinson's.

## Three good reasons to become a regular giver:

### Fund research happening right now

Your gifts could support any of our current projects that still need funding. We use regular gifts to fund a variety of research projects, research meetings, and apps to improve trials.

### Help us plan for the future

Regular gifts enable us to fund the world's leading neuroscientists and neurologists to prioritise the next generation of drugs for clinical trial.

### Easier to budget for and more convenient

If you regularly donate to Cure Parkinson's each year, but tend to give one-off amounts, you might find it easier to set up a regular gift. You can budget accordingly and having a donation coming out as a monthly payment can be easier to manage.

## IT'S QUICK AND EASY TO SET UP A REGULAR GIFT TO CURE PARKINSON'S THROUGH ONE OF THE FOLLOWING WAYS:

- 1 Visit our website at [cureparkinsons.org.uk/ci-donate](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/ci-donate) or use the QR code below to set up a direct debit online.



**SET UP A REGULAR GIFT HERE**

- 2 Complete the enclosed direct debit form and return it to us using the freepost envelope provided. (There's no need to write anything else on the envelope or affix a stamp).

- 3 Call the Fundraising Team on 0207 487 3892 to set up a direct debit over the phone.

# Guy on a mission

Adventurer and Cure Parkinson's ambassador Guy Deacon CBE has been on an epic mission to raise vital awareness of Parkinson's worldwide since he set off on his African adventure in 2019. Now, his extraordinary undertaking is the subject of a forthcoming documentary and book, which he is touring around the UK in 2024.

In November 2019, at the age of sixty and having lived with Parkinson's for over ten years, Guy Deacon CBE set out on an adventure: to drive solo from his home in Dorset to Cape Town on the southern tip of Africa.

Guy drove, lived and slept in his VW Transporter, often in very remote spots. Along the way he broke down five times, underwent one emergency evacuation, and was forced home in 2020 by a global pandemic.



**// I experienced nothing but extraordinary kindness and generosity. I may have attracted more help by being in greater need than most because of my Parkinson's, but the lengths people went to on my behalf left me humbled.**

Guy Deacon.

Guy experiences bradykinesia (slowness and stiffness of movement) which can make driving difficult, and with his facial expression frozen, communication can be a challenge. Even with these obstacles, Guy remained focused on his mission and finally arrived in Cape Town in December 2022 – after 12 months of overland travel through 25 countries, covering a total distance of over 18,000 miles.

**Now his extraordinary undertaking is the subject of a forthcoming documentary and book, *Running on Empty*.**

With the help of filmmaker Rob Hayward and producer Adrian Pennink, Guy has created a documentary following his travels to highlight the difficult realities of living with Parkinson's, all set amidst a backdrop of the stunning scenery and fascinating histories of the African countries he travelled through.

Guy will also be undertaking a number of speaking engagements around the country to promote the book *Running on Empty*, which is available to order from Amazon. All proceeds from the book and tour will be shared among Parkinson's charities through The Deacon Foundation. We are so grateful for Guy's dedication to raising awareness of Parkinson's.

To find out more about Guy's story and future book tour dates, please use the QR code below or visit [cureparkinsons.org.uk/guy-book-tour](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/guy-book-tour)



**FIND OUT MORE ABOUT GUY HERE**

# Rounds for Research - get golfing for a cure

Calling all golfers! This summer, we're asking you to complete 2, 4 or 5.5 rounds of golf (or 36, 72 or 100 holes) in one day to raise vital funds and awareness for our research.

We'll be teeing off on Saturday 1 June – the 153<sup>rd</sup> day of the year – because we're determined to find a cure for the estimated 153,000 people living with Parkinson's in the UK. However, you can choose any day to play this summer. Just remember that you'll need all the daylight you can get if you want to complete 5.5 rounds of golf!

If you want to challenge yourself even further, leave your buggies at the clubhouse; playing four rounds of golf would be the equivalent of walking an entire marathon! Either way it will be hard work, but whatever your level of skill or fitness, you'll have a tee-rrific day out.



So get your team together, pick a course and date, sign up on our website and take on the Rounds for Research challenge to raise funds for Parkinson's research.

Are you part of a club or a club captain? To get involved use the QR code below, visit our website at [cureparkinsons.org.uk/golf-challenge](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/golf-challenge) or email Rachel Hunt at [rachel.hunt@cureparkinsons.org.uk](mailto:rachel.hunt@cureparkinsons.org.uk)



**TAKE PART HERE**



**WHO?** Get your team or entire club together (or play solo!) to take on the challenge. Registration is free and you will receive top tips and support from our dedicated Fundraising team.



**WHEN?** Depending on how many rounds you choose to play, you may need as much sunlight as you can get. Play on or around our big tee off on Saturday 1 June, or a date that suits you this summer.



**WHERE?** Play at your regular club or try somewhere new. We can help you raise awareness of what you are doing and why.

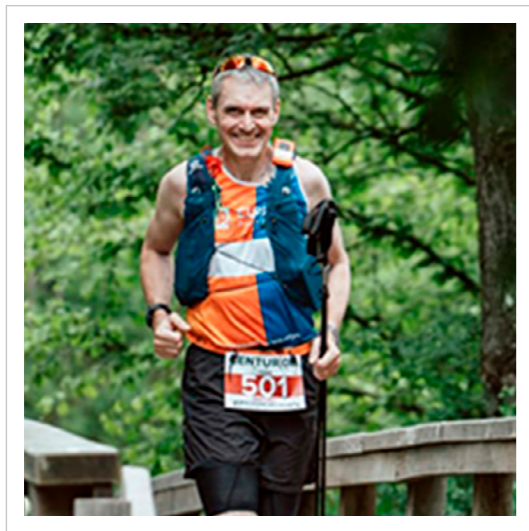


**WHY?** We are dedicated to finding a cure for the estimated 153,000 people living with Parkinson's in the UK. Your support will help fund innovative research which has the potential to slow, stop, or reverse the progression of Parkinson's.

# Fundraisers of the Year Award

We are thrilled to announce that we have two winners of our 2023 Fundraiser of the Year Award: Antony Rose and Michelle Gillies! These two incredible supporters went above and beyond to support our vital research by spending 2023 raising funds and awareness in their local communities.

Antony was diagnosed with Parkinson's in 2019 and has been a longtime supporter of Cure Parkinson's since being inspired by our late co-founder, Tom Isaacs. Before embarking on his latest challenge – a '50 mile slam' – Antony had already taken on two incredible races for Cure Parkinson's: the Thames Path 100 in 2020 and the South Downs Way 100 in 2021.



**// Apart from crossing the finish lines and being out in some wonderful locations, it's been about the people. My training and running buddies, support crews or friends who've been meeting me after the races – they all gave me some amazing boosts along the way.**

Antony Rose during his '50 Mile Slam' challenge in support of Cure Parkinson's.

The '50 mile slam' saw Antony run four 50 mile races between April and September 2023 to raise more funds for our research. Towards the end of the year he decided to push himself even further by taking on the Winter Downs 200 (a 200 mile race with a 96 hour time limit) too!

Antony attempted to complete a '50 mile slam' in 2017, but had to pause the challenge due to the impact his Parkinson's (though it was yet to be diagnosed) was having on his health. Last year he felt ready to take on the challenge once again, so trained hard to prepare for the physical and mental toll. But running 400 miles is no easy feat, so support from friends and family kept Antony going.

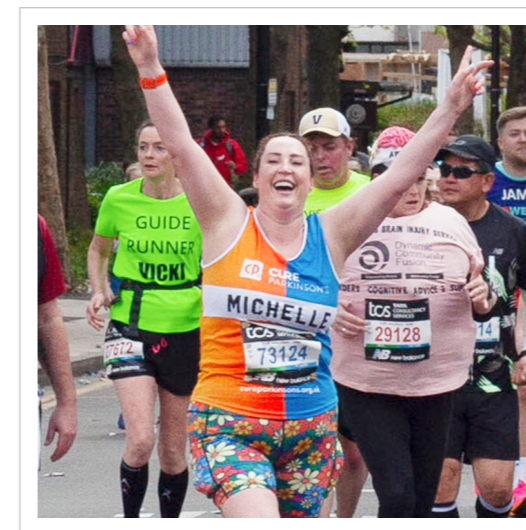
Meanwhile our joint winner Michelle spent much of 2023 truly going the extra mile with her fundraising. Michelle's father is living with Parkinson's and she has found it incredibly difficult watching his condition deteriorate over the past 11 years. To help support our research, last year Michelle signed up to run the 2024 London Marathon for us and began fundraising straight away.

She set herself an ambitious fundraising target (which she smashed before 2023 had drawn to a close) and planned some wonderful events to raise money and spread the word about our work.

**Although balancing a full time job, organising fundraising events and training for a marathon has been tough, Michelle has found the process very rewarding and raised over £23,400 for us so far!**

A particular highlight for Michelle was her 'Soup and a Sweet' fundraiser; a lunch event open to the community with homemade soups, puddings, toffee and fudge on offer. The event proved so popular that she had to create more space to accommodate everyone who came along, and raised around £2,600 that afternoon alone.

Michelle had a great time at the TCS London Marathon, and is keen to keep raising funds and awareness for us in the future.



**// The support I received from the community of Peterhead was overwhelming and I can't thank everyone enough. It feels very emotional to have raised this amount for a charity that is very close to my heart.**

Michelle Gillies taking on the iconic TCS London Marathon for Cure Parkinson's in April.

**// If anyone is thinking about it – just do it! It doesn't matter how much you raise, or what the challenge is, every bit helps.**

Antony Rose

We would also like to thank our amazing runners up: Alison Anderson who cycled from Cheltenham to Barcelona; Caroline Cockerham and the Otley Zebras Under 14s Rugby Club, who organised community fundraising challenges and events; Thomas Cooper who ran the London Marathon and cycled in our Raid Ventoux challenge; the Positively Parkinson's team who created their Big Tri and Mini Tri; Phill Robinson who made us charity partner of Boardwave; and Neil Russell who ran an incredible 970 miles from London to Barcelona.

Thank you all for your amazing support! Your dedication and determination to raise funds and awareness will help fund our vital research – we really couldn't do it without you.

Feeling inspired? Find out more about taking on your own challenge by using the QR code below or by visiting [cureparkinsons.org.uk/foty](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/foty)



**FIND OUT MORE HERE**



# Events calendar

Join us at one of our many events taking place over the next six months from spring to autumn 2024.

## RESEARCH EVENTS

**Quarterly webinar series:**  
4 September

**Research Update Meeting:**  
Royal Society of Medicine / online  
November (date TBC)



## WALKING EVENTS

**Ultra Challenge Series 2024:**  
Various locations, May – September

**Facebook Walking Challenge:**  
Taking place throughout October



## RUNNING EVENTS

**Tough Mudder:**  
Various locations, April – October

**ASICS London 10k:**  
14 July

**Cardiff Half Marathon:**  
6 October

**Royal Parks Half Marathon:**  
London, 13 October

**TCS London Marathon:**  
27 April 2025



## CYCLING EVENTS

**London to Brighton Bike Ride:**  
16 June

**The Celtic Challenge:**  
From Edinburgh to the Isle of Iona,  
4-8 September



JOIN AN EVENT HERE

# Collaborating for a cure: workplace partners making an impact

Companies support Cure Parkinson's in lots of different ways. Construction company Overbury put their own spin on a fundraising classic, a quiz night, raising over £25,000 for Cure Parkinson's!

On 22 February Overbury, a construction company with offices across England and Scotland, hosted its annual Charity Quiz night. 700 people from the construction industry gathered at The Brewery in London and, equipped with quizzing remotes, each team put their trivia knowledge to the test.

Cure Parkinson's was one of 10 charity beneficiaries, with all money raised split equally. There was an auction, a raffle, and a Q&A featuring Cure Parkinson's patron Mike Tindall, fellow rugby legend Lawrence Dallaglio and former footballer Steve Sidwell.

**Thank you Overbury for supporting Cure Parkinson's and raising over £25,000. Every company who supports us bring us one step closer to a cure.**

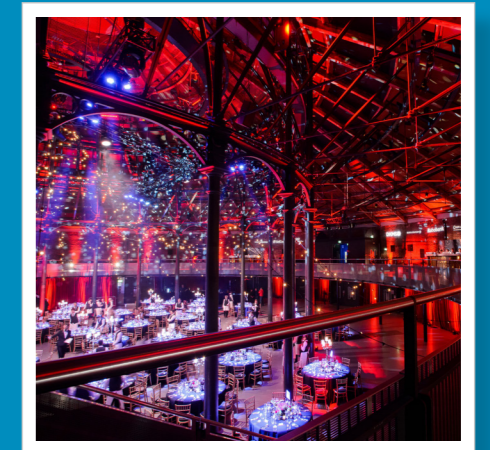
Andy Simons, Director of Fundraising and Marketing at Cure Parkinson's.

## Would your company like to get involved in fundraising?

Whether it's organising a quiz for 700 people or taking on a challenge as a team, fundraising is a great way to have fun while making a huge difference. For more information about how your company can get involved, please email Lili at [lili@cureparkinsons.org.uk](mailto:lili@cureparkinsons.org.uk), use the QR code below or visit [cureparkinsons.org.uk/corporate-partnerships](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/corporate-partnerships)



GET INVOLVED HERE



## JOIN OUR GALA DINNER

On Monday 7 October Cure Parkinson's will host a Gala Dinner at the legendary Camden Roundhouse. It promises to be a brilliant evening of star-studded entertainment, and we're looking for companies who want to get involved.

**Could you bring a table of colleagues or clients, donate an auction prize or become a sponsor?**

**For more information please email Madison at [madison@cureparkinsons.org.uk](mailto:madison@cureparkinsons.org.uk), use the QR code below or visit [cureparkinsons.org.uk/gala-dinner](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/gala-dinner)**



FIND OUT MORE HERE

# Cure Parkinson's supports the Movers & Shakers at Downing Street

On 11 April, World Parkinson's Day, the Movers & Shakers podcast group presented their Parky Charter at 10 Downing Street, supported by Cure Parkinson's, Parkinson's UK and Spotlight YOPD.

The Movers & Shakers have become widely known in the Parkinson's community and beyond since they released their first podcast episode in March 2023. Now in its third season, with a fourth coming soon, the podcast has become a huge hit with many describing it as a source of information, support, motivation and humour.

Through the thousands of emails and letters the group have received since the podcast started, they have gained real insight into the experiences of others living with the condition. This led them to the conclusion that Parkinson's must be taken more seriously by the government and healthcare providers, and so they created the Parky Charter and accompanying petition. The Charter describes five things that people affected by Parkinson's need from the government, one of which being increased funding towards research into a cure.



Cure Parkinson's has collaborated with the Movers & Shakers, Parkinson's UK and Spotlight YOPD to support the Charter and on 11 April, World Parkinson's Day, the group presented the petition to 10 Downing Street, supported by the CEOs of each charity.



Pictured: The Movers & Shakers handing over the Parky Charter to 10 Downing Street supported by Caroline Russell (CEO - Parkinson's UK), Carl Beech (CEO - Spotlight YOPD) and Helen Matthews (CEO - Cure Parkinson's). Photo credit: Matt Crossick/PA Media Assignments.

To find out more about the Charter, and sign the petition, please use the QR code below or visit [cureparkinsons.org.uk/parky-charter](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/parky-charter)



**FIND OUT MORE AND SIGN THE PETITION HERE**



## TUNE INTO THE MOVERS & SHAKERS PODCAST

Series one to three available now

The Movers & Shakers podcast finds six friends – Rory Cellan-Jones, Gillian Lacey-Solymar, Mark Mardell, Paul Mayhew-Archer, Sir Nicholas Mostyn, and Jeremy Paxman – gathered in a Notting Hill pub to discuss the realities of life with Parkinson's. And maybe find a few silver linings!

Free to download from Apple Podcasts, Audible, Google Podcasts, Spotify and many other podcast platforms.



# CURE PARKINSON'S

## OUR VISION

A world free from Parkinson's.

## OUR MISSION

We fund and facilitate research that has the potential to cure Parkinson's. We're working with urgency to find new treatments that can slow, stop or reverse the condition.

# Join the conversation

We'd love to tell you about what we're up to, and the most cost-effective way of doing this is by email. We promise that we will not fill your inbox with endless emails. You can change how you choose to hear from us at any time by visiting [cureparkinsons.org.uk/your-permissions](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk/your-permissions)

You can also join us online on



[cureparkinsons.org.uk](https://cureparkinsons.org.uk)

+44 (0)20 7487 3892

120 New Cavendish Street, London W1W 6XX

**amrc**  
ASSOCIATION OF MEDICAL RESEARCH CHARITIES



Cure Parkinson's is the operating name of The Cure Parkinson's Trust. The Cure Parkinson's Trust is a registered charity in England and Wales (1111816) and Scotland (SCO44368) and a company limited by guarantee - company number 05539974 (England and Wales).