

Anne Rowling Regenerative Neurology Clinic



THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH



The University of Edinburgh's Anne Rowling Regenerative Neurology Clinic was founded thanks to a generous gift from author J.K. Rowling in 2010 and was opened by HRH The Princess Royal in 2013.

When J.K. Rowling's mother Anne was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in the early 1980s, there was no hope for patients, as no treatment existed. Nerve cells just shut down, one by one.

The Clinic, which is named after the author's mother, undertakes patient-based clinical research and clinical trials into a number of neurodegenerative conditions including multiple sclerosis. These diseases include multiple sclerosis (MS), motor neurone disease (MND or ALS), Parkinson's disease (PD) and movement disorders, cognitive disorders and dementias, brain haemorrhage after stroke, Huntington's disease (HD) and fragile X syndrome.

The Anne Rowling Clinic offers patients a supportive and welcoming space that merges clinical visits with state-of-the-art research. The research targets the discovery of treatments that will slow progression of neurodegenerative diseases, with the ultimate ambition of repairing damage.

What do we research?

Neurodegenerative disease is an umbrella term covering a range of conditions that primarily affect cells in the nervous system called neurons. These cells normally can't reproduce or replace themselves, so when they become damaged or die, patients can develop a wide range of symptoms including problems with moving, sensation, breathing, speaking, swallowing, learning and memory.

More than 20 million people worldwide are diagnosed with a neurodegenerative disease each year. These diseases include, but are not limited to, multiple sclerosis, Alzheimer's disease, Huntington's disease, Parkinson's disease and motor neurone disease.

Currently all of these conditions are progressive and incurable. There is a great unmet need for research that will lead to new therapies. We aim to tackle that need through Regenerative Neurology – the discovery of treatments that will slow progression of neurodegenerative diseases.



Thank you to everyone who supported us in 2014

- When **James Smith** retired from his post of Captain of an offshore rescue boat in the North Sea his crew wanted to give him a really special gift to mark his retirement. They know the Anne Rowling Clinic is very close to his heart so they decided a donation to the Clinic would be the best possible retirement gift.
- On 28 February the University of Edinburgh's **Dr Kate Cameron** proved her mettle when she walked over hot coals in aid of the Anne Rowling Clinic and in doing so raised £426 for the Clinic.
- Sisters **Lynda Murray** and **Pamela Young** put on a brilliant evening's entertainment on 1 March with live band Milestone, a fantastic raffle and delicious buffet. The siblings raised £2,129 in aid of the Clinic.
- We are thankful to **The Inner Wheel** for their continued support by choosing the Anne Rowling Clinic as one of their 2014 nominated charities; further to their cheque of £1,130 through their 2013 Coffee Morning, ladies of the Inner Wheel donated a further £1,936 to the Clinic at their AGM in June 2014.
- When **Hannah Doyle** and **Leo McHugh** were married on 26 July 14 they asked their guests that instead of buying traditional wedding gifts they make a donation to the Anne Rowling Clinic. The generosity of Mr & Mrs McHugh and that of their friends and family resulted in a donation of over £3,500.
- **Anne Marie Ritchie** keeps a collection can in her shop AJSE Beads (Bathgate) and sends in regular donations received from her customers.
- After their generous donation of £1,050 in memory **John Drever** in December 2013, John's friends and family remembered John and celebrated his life when they climbed Ben Nevis on 8 August 2014, raising a further £800.
- **Elizabeth Reay** donated £60 in lieu of giving wedding favours at her wedding on 21 August 2014 in memory of her aunt 'Dragonfly' Lynne Senior.
- **Dr Neil Oliver** completed the Crossmichael Triathlon for the third year running in aid of the Anne Rowling Clinic. Dr Oliver has raised over £3,500 by taking part in these three triathlons.
- Colleagues from **Lloyds Banking Group's** Major CRE BSU Edinburgh team not only banked their voices as part of the Clinic's Voicebank Project; they also raised £1,050 for the Clinic, which Lloyds Banking Group will match.
- **Mrs Jacqueline Lannigan** organised a Charity Night at the Grosvenor Princess Casino, Glasgow which raised £1,800.
- **Scott Wilson**, Lindt, donated a huge selection of chocolate goodies for our Open Information Evening on 30 October 2014. The evening raised almost £300 for the Clinic.
- Visitors to the **Anne Rowling Clinic** have donated almost £500 this year by donating to the collection can held on the reception desk.



Collections in honour of loved ones

We are extremely grateful to everyone who included the Anne Rowling Clinic in funeral collections; this is a remarkably generous thing to do at a very difficult time.

- Siblings Kenny, Catherine and Jenny donated over £2,000 after losing their beloved mum Anne-Elaine Thoms.
- Mrs Deborah Fraser donated £443.57 in memory of her mother Catherine Grimshaw.
- Dr James Cameron (Rowling Scholar and Ophthalmologist) set up a JustGiving in memory of his mum Lynne Cameron which raised £600 in her memory.
- Mrs Edith Smith collected £420 in memory of her husband Rodney Smith.