

# HRH The Princess Royal opens new centres

## The new Clinical Neuroscience Centre and Advanced Neuroimaging Suite have now officially opened

Her Royal Highness The Princess Royal attended the opening ceremony on 6 October to launch the new facilities at Queen Square. She was given a demonstration of the Interventional and Dementia Research MRI Scanners before visiting the Clinical Neuroscience Centre to see the Posture and Gait Laboratories in practice. "We were delighted that The Princess Royal came along in her capacity as Chancellor of the University of London," said Professor Alan Thompson, Director of the Institute of Neurology. "These are two of the most ambitious projects ever to take place at Queen Square and it is important to have this development recognised formally."

The Centre at 33 Queen Square combines three crucial elements: research, education and clinical practice. In addition, the Advanced Neuroimaging Suite brings together highly sophisticated imaging equipment to provide patients with one of the most specialised scanning facilities in the world. They represent £26 million of investment and would not have been possible without the £8 million which came from voluntary donations to the National Hospital Development Foundation. The charity's chairman Christopher Sporborg said: "The Development Foundation is extremely proud to be associated with these two outstanding initiatives which will make an enormous difference to patients with neurological conditions. On behalf of all the Trustees of the Foundation, I would like to thank everyone who has supported these projects."

Ron Gainsford was one of these supporters, with his own very personal reasons for fundraising. "I owe so much to the National Hospital and to the Development Foundation. Being able to play my small part in raising funds for the new Centre was both a joy and a privilege. Supporting this unique institution gives special purpose to me and the many who just want to give something back".



*HRH The Princess Royal visits the new facilities at Queen Square*