

The Canine Genetics Centre Update

Canine Genetics Centre APPEAL update

In early 2024, the Canine Genetics Centre (CGC) lost substantial funding from a long term supporter, leaving the centre worried for its future. It quickly launched an appeal, which over the course of 2024 has seen many breeders, breed clubs, individuals and other organisations donate or pledge funds.

At the end of 2024 the CGC is far better placed than at the start, however there is more to do and a mix funding approach must continue in 2025 and beyond.

The CGC is proud to announce a new partnership with Wisdom panel which provides some funding over the next few years and importantly access to lots of data which the CGC plan to use to hopefully find more genetic trends and markers. The CGC continue to explore a range of funding opportunities but these take time to come to fruition.

A few key achievements in 2024

- Cathryn Mellersh, Head of the CGC, won the coveted Canine Health Lifetime Achievement award in July, and the team presented at the 12th International Conference on Canine and Feline Genetics and Genomics Conference in Helsinki in June.
- A first - discovery of a treatable genetic disease in Cocker Spaniels. Retinopathy Vitamin E Deficiency (RVED), if identified early enough and a Vitamin E deficiency confirmed, can be treated with twice daily oral administration of Vitamin E; usually restoring levels to the normal range stopping the progression of retinal and brain disease.
- Five papers published this year on various topics of canine genetics, with three more under review. Publication of papers is a major requirement towards being able to apply for and secure grants and other funding in future. Five may not seem many but is comparable to the average number published yearly prior to the Covid pandemic.
- Launched a new 'Friends of CGC', which includes a NEW Friends of the CGC Health and Welfare Award to be won by individuals nominated by 'friends' and planned to be presented around March/April time.

Research plans for 2025 and beyond...

- Inherited eye diseases, idiopathic epilepsy and intervertebral disc disease continue to be areas of intense specialist research for the CGC.
- Increasing work into Steroid Responsive Meningitis (SRMA).
- Collaboration across the world to identify genetic cause for wobbly puppies.
- First genetic investigation into Paroxysmal dyskinesia (PxD), a type of movement disorder that can affect several breeds.
- And lots more...

We now need to continue the fund raising in 2025 and beyond to continue the CGCs research. To help consider becoming a Friend of the CGC. Visit bit.ly/cgcfriends



More than
£300,000
raised in 2024!
Phenomenal!!

Thank you!

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[Visit bit.ly/cgcfriends](http://visit.bit.ly/cgcfriends)



**More information and news available at
www.canine-genetics.org.uk**



Help us, help dogs. Become our Friend.

If you are a dog breeder, a dog owner or simply a dog lover please consider becoming a Friend of the CGC.

By making a regular donation you will be contributing to the health and welfare of dogs for years to come.

As a thank you:

- we will send you a lapel pin that we hope you will wear with pride.
- you'll be able to nominate somebody for the Friends of the CGC Health and Welfare Award.

Every dog, every breed, deserves to live free from debilitating disease.



Becoming a Friend is easy.
Simply set up a Direct Debit for £5 a month or more if you can. That's it!

Become a Friend now.

Visit bit.ly/cgcfriends

