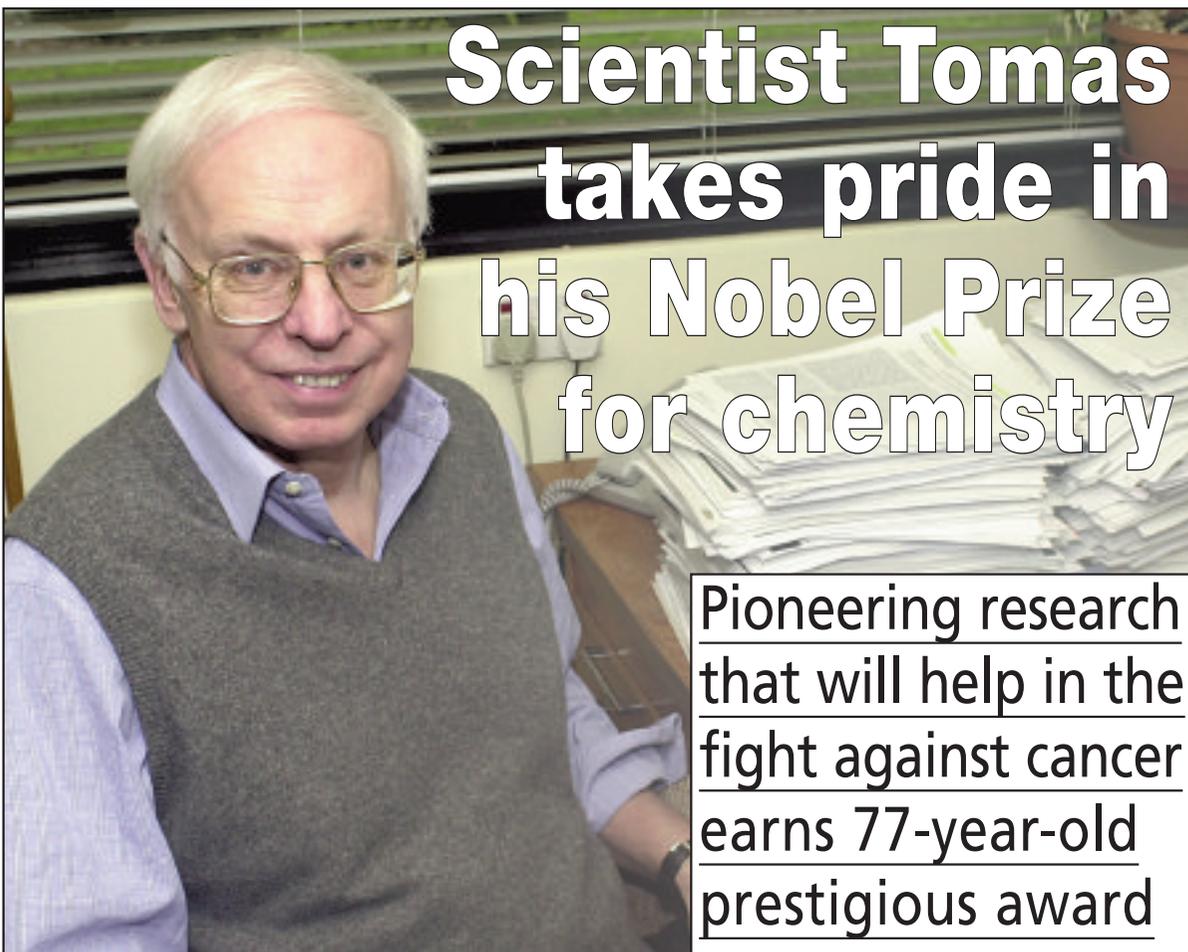


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# Scientist Tomas takes pride in his Nobel Prize for chemistry

Pioneering research that will help in the fight against cancer earns 77-year-old prestigious award

**Richly deserved: Tomas Lindahl has been named the joint winner of this year's Nobel Prize for chemistry**

**By Julia Gregory**

*Julia.gregory@nlhnews.co.uk*

A SCIENTIST who ran a pioneering research institute in Potters Bar is the joint winner of the prestigious Nobel Prize for chemistry.

Tomas Lindahl, who headed up the biomedical Francis Crick Institute, has been awarded the prize for his work into DNA.

Together with his fellow prize winners Paul Modrich and Aziz Sanzar, he mapped how cells repair damaged DNA and safeguard genetic information.

He ran the institute's Clare Hall Laboratory,

in Blanche Lane, South Mimms, for the Imperial Cancer Research Fund and then Cancer Research UK from 1986 to 2005.

The 77-year-old closed his lab at Clare Hall in 2009.

When he described his work in an interview with the Nobel Prize committee, Mr Lindahl explained: "We want to understand repair mechanisms in some detail so that we can prevent the cancer cells from repairing DNA when we, for example, expose them to radiotherapy.

"But we do need the repairs to protect us against DNA damage that occurs inevitably."

He said it was a surprise to win the prize and he felt "very lucky and proud."

The Nobel committee said that the trio had made "fundamental and groundbreaking discoveries on the enzymatic mechanisms of DNA repair".

Sir Paul Nurse, director of the Francis Crick Institute, said: "I am absolutely delighted that Tomas, an Emeritus Professor at the Crick Institute's Clare Hall Laboratory has been recognised for outstanding working on DNA."

He added: "Tomas has been an inspiration to his colleagues and peers for decades.

"This honour is most richly deserved."



**Give us a hand: Volunteer Hayes Rees with assistant manager Anne Tidiman**

## Bags more fun!

A CHARITY shop in High Barnet is appealing for people to donate their old handbags – to help save the lives of critically ill children.

The Children's Air Ambulance shop, which raises money for children to be rushed to hospital via helicopter, says the handbags will help it raise vital cash.

It costs £2,800 to airlift a single child on the charity's specially equipped helicopter, which is the only one of its kind in the UK.

The shop, at 91 High Street, is also running a competition to win a chance to dress the shop's window display alongside the design of the handbag amnesty.

Store manager Sharon De Freitas said: "Everyone can get involved, whether that's submitting a window design or simply donating a handbag this autumn.

"We can't wait to see all the creative ideas from aspiring fashionistas in the area.

"This is no easy task. Competition entrants will have to think of something creative and original to make the window really stand out.

"The winning design will not only take pride of place on the high street, but also help us raise vital funds for critically ill children."

To enter the competition, please submit a creative sketch or design of how you would present the window display to [TCAAhandbagcomp@onlybeattie.com](mailto:TCAAhandbagcomp@onlybeattie.com) stating why you would love this special opportunity.

The competition closes on Friday, October 23.

To donate a handbag, the High Barnet shop is open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Saturday, and from 10am to 4pm on Sunday.

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**Phone Collection Line  
020 8880 9034**

Why not call at our shop where you can purchase all the above items at discount prices, or just come to have a look around.

We are at 429-431 High Rd, Tottenham, N17 6QH (Head Office)

## Rugby trophy helps to raise awareness about dementia

THE Premiership Trophy Saracens won earlier this year was taken along to a dementia awareness day.

Club chairman Nigel Wray showed onlookers the cup at the event at Brent Cross as a way to get people talking.

The club sponsors the Saracens Dementia Club at Finchley Memorial Hospital, in Granville Road.

Saracens joined forces with the Alzheimer's Society to help provide information about the condition and dementia cafes in Barnet.

Barnet councillor



**On display: Lisa Rutter with Nigel Wray and, right, Gordon Banks, Saracens' stadium and community director**

Lisa Rutter, who helps at a dementia cafe, said: "Dementia is a growing concern especially as we are all living longer.

"The main aim of this day and the long-term goal is to raise awareness of this terrible disease and stamp out any

stigma. The dementia cafes provide much-needed respite to carers and people suffering with the disease.

"People who go to the dementia cafe always leave at the end of the session feeling relaxed and happy."

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