



The Lily Foundation

## Light Up Green for World Mitochondrial Disease Week 2020

Buildings and monuments around the UK will light up green for a week this September, to raise awareness about mitochondrial disease.

Dozens of landmarks, including castles, bridges and towers, are expected to take part in the annual global initiative to mark **World Mitochondrial Disease Week (13-19 Sept)**. Municipal buildings, businesses, pubs, schools, hospitals and private homes are invited to participate.

Last year saw famous sites including Battersea Power Station, Mersey Gateway Bridge, Leeds Castle and Blackpool Tower go **#MitoAware** by lighting up green. This year's event is expected to make an even bigger impact, as it coincides with a *Coronation Street* storyline about a child with mito that has helped put the disease in the national spotlight.

Liz Curtis, CEO and co-founder of The Lily Foundation, the UK's leading mitochondrial disease charity, commented:

*"We were delighted by the number of sites around the UK that lit up green for mito awareness last year, and we're hoping to make an even bigger splash for WMDW 2020. Mitochondrial disease is a devastating illness that can affect any person at any time of life, so it's vital to educate and inform the public about it, and to fund research into effective treatments. We're so proud of our supporters who have worked so hard to raise awareness about this important cause, and grateful to the local councils and sites that have agreed to take part."*

Mitochondrial disease, or mito, refers to a group of progressive and often life-limiting genetic disorders that affect one person born in the UK every day. Since 2007, The Lily Foundation has worked to raise public awareness about the disease, support those affected, and fund scientific research towards a cure.

For more information visit [www.thelilyfoundation.org.uk](http://www.thelilyfoundation.org.uk) or email [liz@thelilyfoundation.org.uk](mailto:liz@thelilyfoundation.org.uk) .

**Thank you** for taking part and helping to bring real, positive change to the lives of people affected by mito.

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