2023

- Diamond's upgrade will lead science for the next decades
- The asteroid Bennu is studied at Diamond
- Funding Diamond-II upgrade approved

2022

- Covid Moonshot launched to find an oral antiviral drug for SARS-CoV-2 through open-science
- 20th anniversary and 15 years of research and innovation
- David Attenborough visits to film the science behind the last days of dinosaurs
- Diamond grows to over 800 employees

2021

- Awarded the Bronze Engage Watermark for public engagement as the most accessible scientific facility in UK
- Massive research and development of new Covid therapies

2020

- 10,000 structures in protein bank

2019

- Ancient Herculaneum scrolls examined

2018

- 3D mapping of Apollo mission moon rocks

2017

- 10th anniversary
- New insight into foot-and-mouth-disease and host cells

2016

- Human T-cells with the ability to fight cancer visualised
- Diamond grows to over 560 employees
- Hydrogen fuel production process potentially made cheaper and easier through new enzyme discovery
- Key mechanism behind antibiotic drug-resistance mapped

2015

- New cement tested for storage and disposal of radioactive waste
- Over four petabytes of data now generated at Diamond
- 4000th paper visualises brain cancer markers using trace metals that could help to evaluate malignancy

2014

- 50 million year old bite marks from a hungry caterpillar identified on fossilised leaf
- New graphene-like smart material discovered for faster, smaller and more efficient tech

2013

- Brain protein linked with stress, anxiety and depression unpicked
- Synthetic vaccine for foot-and-mouth disease virus measured

2012

- New 'clean air' carbon capture material developed

2011

- New potential drug target mapped for breast and ovarian cancers

2010

- Mechanism behind HIV infection of human cells mapped

2009

- Structural information on Vaccina virus uncovered

2008

- The Daresbury synchrotron is decommissioned and Diamond becomes the UK's national synchrotron

2007

- Comet fragments from near Neptune are brought to Diamond for study
- Research begins on preserving centuries-old Tudor Warship, The Mary Rose
- HM Queen Elizabeth II officially opens Diamond
- The first scientists arrive for experiments

2006

- PM Tony Blair visits Diamond

2005

- Diamond team grows to over 200 employees

2003

- Construction begins at Harwell Campus in Oxfordshire

2002

- The UK government and the Wellcome Trust form a joint venture, and Diamond Light Source Ltd. is created with just a handful of employees

1990s

- Early work begins on design for a new 'third generation' UK synchrotron
- The world's first 'third generation' synchrotron - ESRF - is built in Grenoble, France

1980

- The world's first dedicated synchrotron is built in Daresbury, Cheshire

diamond