

ROTARY CONGLETON

Newsletter

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Take a tour of Rotary Internationals Headquarters without leaving home and for free!!!

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Rotary have been unable to offer in-person tours of Rotary International World Headquarters in Evanston, Illinois, USA. Now the new virtual tour makes it easy for members to get a peek at the changes they've made in the building anytime and from anywhere. You'll also learn more about Rotary's vision to create lasting change in communities around the world. Click [here](#) to take the virtual tour.

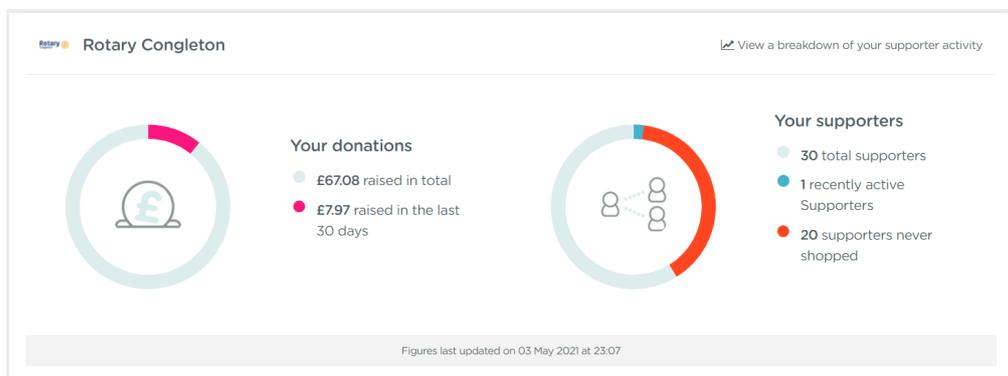


We are making great progress and have already raised nearly £70.00 and it hasn't cost our supporters a penny!

We have enrolled 30 supporters, however, 20 supporters are yet to use this super easy fundraising platform.

Just imagine what funds we could raise if everyone used the platform and remember, it doesn't cost you a penny!

Thank you to those that have supported so far.



APRIL

ROUND-UP

Left a bit, right a bit!



We provided traffic marshals for the Beartown Road Cruise who assisted the opening of the Congleton Link Road. The event attracted around 120 entries and will raise a substantial amount for the new Christie wing at Macclesfield Hospital. We have previously supported the charity. Our photos show members in training for their traffic duties as well as the results of their organising skills at the Waggon and Horses!





Thankyou to John Gauld for his article below on our efforts at the Town Hall vaccination centre and the public we have met.

The Town Hall drive to vaccinate the adult population of Congleton and Holmes Chapel started with the most vulnerable – the octogenarians – first. Now this is a spirited lot, not given to suffering fools lightly; sometimes over-confident and at other times needing gentle reassurance and positive direction.

So, it seemed quite appropriate that the Rotary Club should find itself in the midst of the volunteers needed at the Town Hall. At the heart of the action, some of the Rotarians that turned up were only a little younger than the population that they were helping! At first, the club played a supporting role, but it soon became clear that with volunteers emerging from the woodwork all over town, someone had to co-ordinate the effort. The role fell to Rotary.

The Rotarians were tasked with monitoring the queues outside, asking a pre-entry checklist, directing the caterpillar through registration, hand sanitisation, temperature control, vaccination and the obligatory post-vaccination monitoring for 15 minutes before leaving the town hall. Each shift needed a team of 12.

Outside the Town Hall, one intrepid Rotarian asked a candidate one of the required questions before allowing them entry

"Have you had a test - either positive or negative in the last 7 days?"

"I'm not telling you, came the retort."

Vaccinations were by appointment only. Universally, they turned up early.

One gent was asked "Have you got an appointment?"

"Yes. Next Thursday." was the reply.

Some had quick answers to questions like "Are you together?" (couple coming in, standing close)

"We have been for 65 years. Do you know something we don't?"

One quipped to a volunteer "Are you directing traffic next week in Paris?"

Duty at the door into the main hall meant keeping people socially distanced before being allocated a vaccination station. Part of the brief was to ask people to take their heavy outer clothing off so that time wasn't wasted. Without thinking one intrepid Rotarian said to a somewhat elderly, but very elegant lady, "Please get your clothes off and be ready!" Without batting an eyelid, the lady looked him straight in the eye, leaned forward and said confidentially - "Coat yes, clothes later, if you'd like to call round!"

When told the required 15 mins was up before they could leave, one octogenarian told a female volunteer " Oh can't we stop a bit longer love, this is the first time I've seen any other people for 12 months and it's wonderful!"

This amazing age group were almost unanimously grateful for their vaccinations and the organisation. They expressed their thanks as they left. One commented "The needle went in a long way."

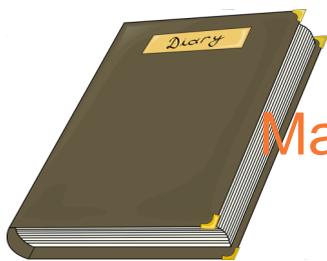
To which a volunteer replied "Did it come out the other side?"

"No" was the reply.

"Well that's alright then!"

The process is settling down now. The age groups are younger and even those elders returning for their second jabs know the ropes. Rotary is now managing a list of well over 90 volunteers in addition to its own hard core of members who turn up whenever they are free. And the process could become a long-term commitment. The first round anticipates all adults being vaccinated by the end of July and their second jabs could take us to the end of September. Now, the talk is of booster jabs to deal with variants starting, perhaps, as early as October.

John Gauld.



May/June Diary

Date	Event	Place	Time
7th & 8th May	Volunteer Expo	online	Volunteer Expo Online - 7-8 May 2021 - Change Lives, Take Action.
10th May	Business meeting	Zoom	7.00pm - 9.00pm
18th May	Virtual District Assembly part 1	Online	VIRTUAL District Assembly - Rotary District 1285 (rotary-ribi.org)
19th May	Virtual District Assembly part 2	online	VIRTUAL District Assembly - Rotary District 1285 (rotary-ribi.org)
24th May	Speaker Evening - Patrick Tyrrell - The Rotary Foundation	Zoom	7.00pm - 9.00pm
7th June	Business meeting	Zoom	7.00pm - 9.00pm
21st June	Speaker Evening - Kerry Spink - Visyon	Zoom	7.00pm - 9.00pm



The Four Way Test

of the things we think, say and do

1. Is it the **TRUTH**?
2. Is it **FAIR** to all concerned?
3. Will it build **GOODWILL** and **BETTER FRIENDSHIPS**?
4. Will it be **BENEFICIAL** to all concerned?