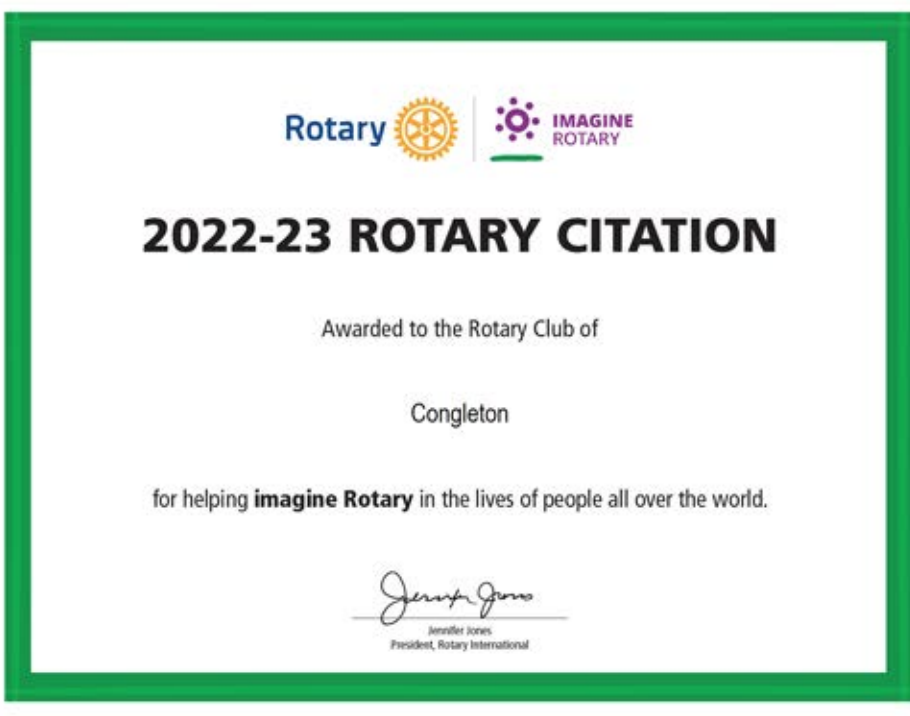




NEWS Letter

President's Patter



Past President Kevin set out a key objective for the Club in 2022-23, which was to increase membership numbers. Not only has he achieved this objective for the club, but he also earned a Rotary Citation, the most significant award a Rotary club can achieve. In the citation Rotary commented that "this past year, your club demonstrated a commitment to achieve its goals, which ultimately helps strengthen Rotary and shape our future" – well done Kevin.

It is important that all members are able to become involved in club activities and in particular in leadership roles. Jo has picked up the leadership cudgel and has agreed to lead the Tree of light project. Already Jo is revitalising the project and bringing forward some new ideas, including making the scheme more environmentally aware.

The Classic Car event has also got a new leadership team consisting of Stuart Hallworth, Eddie Rush and supported by Jo.

On Monday 21st August members and partners enjoyed a bowling evening at the Railway Inn in Congleton. The green looked perfect, but perhaps was not necessarily matched by the bowling, but a good evening was had by all and it is maybe something we repeat in the near future.

Eddie Roberts is making good progress in sorting out the arrangements for the Bonfire and Fireworks Display on the 4th November. In order to ensure that everything is in place and to update members on the manpower needs for the event, there will be a special club meeting taking place on the 9th October devoted to arrangements for bonfire. It is particularly important that all members attend this meeting.

However, it was noted that Eddie is back in hospital again. It was agreed that we will do all that we can to support Eddie and wish him a speedy recovery. In the meantime, arrangements for the Bonfire will go ahead and hopefully Eddie is available to lead the event.

Brian

The Rotary Citation: The most significant award a club can achieve

IN THIS ISSUE

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And we get a letter from the King!...

Rotary goes for the crown green...

Pledge acknowledged by Attenborough...

News... What's on - Our Diary Page...

Key brought to book!



Brian presented Past President Kev with a photograph album featuring all his recorded misdemeanors from his year in office.

We get a letter from the King!

In the spring we planted a Scots pine tree at Astbury Golf Club. Then president, Kevin, wrote a letter to the King, enclosing photographs of the tree.

Buckingham Palace replied addressed 'To everyone at The Rotary Club of Congleton.'

It reads... *The King has asked me to thank you for your very kind letter of 20th April.*

His Majesty was heartened to learn of the Scots pine tree that has been planted in honour of The late Queen in the grounds of Astbury Golf Club. Thank you once again to take the time to write to The King and for enclosing photographs of the tree and memorial Plaque. His Majesty would have me send his warmest good wishes to you all!

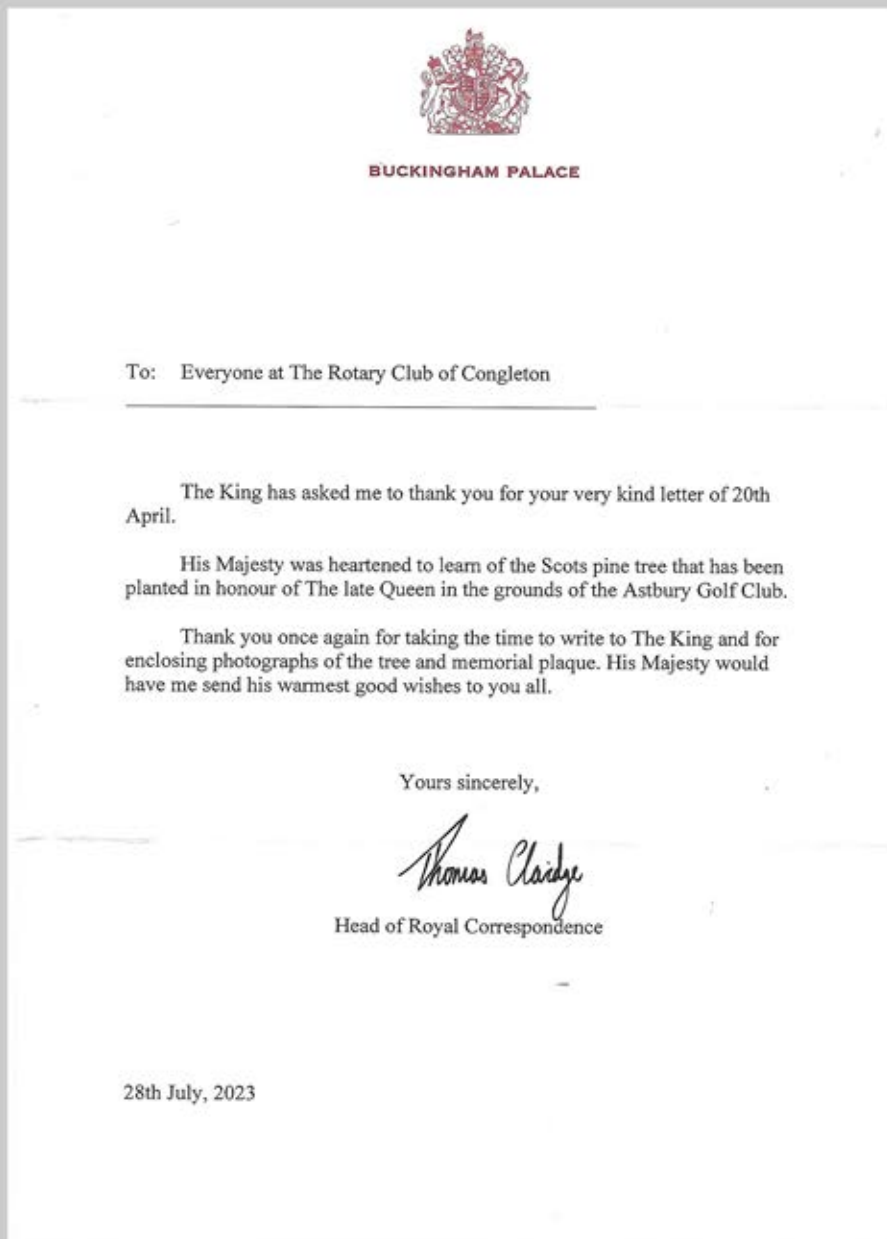
Signed by Thomas Claridge, Head of Royal Correspondence.

The tree, clearly visible from the clubhouse, continues to thrive and grow.



..And there's more to come!

To commemorate the coronation of HM King Charles III, we planted two flowering cherry trees in Congleton Park. The trees should come into flower on the anniversary of the Coronation on May 6th every year and remind the people of Congleton of the significance of this great event. Maybe, if we send a photograph of the trees in bloom, we might get another letter from His Majesty.



Let's go Bowling!

Rotarians and their partners set out to prove that the earth really isn't flat, when they took on the challenges of The Railway Inn's crown green bowling green. The techniques varied, but the results surprised as the teams got to grips with bias and chasing each other down the gullies on the far side of the green.



Richmond, Surrey

4.7.23

Dear Simon Fallis,

Thank you for your letter.
I think your pledge is an excellent
one and I hope it attracts a
lot of signatories.

from David Attenborough

Pledge Praised by Top Man!

Will you do as David Attenborough suggests?

David Attenborough writes..."Dear Simon Fallis, Thank you for your letter. I think your pledge is an excellent one and I hope it attracts a lot of signatories."

Well over 350 local people have joined Rotary's campaign to make Congleton an environmentally-friendly town. The Pledge is packed full of hints and tips for modern living in a plastics-free age, where we have to look after our precious resources and reduce carbon emissions.

Tell all your friends to sign 'The Pledge' online at www.congletonrotary.co.uk



Over 350 names already and a regular mailing campaign numbering 8 'Hints and Tips' so far speaks to the success of a project that could transform the way that local people think about the environment - and Rotary-Congleton's role in it.

I've signed the Pledge!

Rotary Congleton

**The Pledge Hints and Tips No. 1
Let's Talk Rubbish!**

Did You Know?

A lot of waste that could be RECYCLED ends up in LANDFILL - taking years to break down

GLASS	1,000,000 Years
PLASTICS	1,000 Years
P.E.T. BOTTLES	450 Years
TIN CANS	50 Years

The list is a selection of 1000 and this need to be broken down into paper 'The Pledge'

Simon Fallis, Rotary Congleton Environmental Team Leader 07589 03022 www.congletonrotary.co.uk

I've signed the Pledge!

Rotary Congleton

**The Pledge Hints and Tips No. 2
What can you recycle?**

Yes Please	No Thanks
Glass Bottles and Jars	Food waste
Paper and Glass	Smashed Potatoes
Plastic and Card	Chocolate
Aluminium	Batteries
Jar and Milk Cartons	Paint Tins
Plastic Bottles	Plastic Soap
	Candles

Leave it Loose - Don't put recycling in bags or boxes
Anything you recycle must be clean and dry

More information on the Cheshire East website
https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/bins_waste_and_recycling

Simon Fallis, Rotary Congleton Environmental Team Leader 07589 03022 www.congletonrotary.co.uk

I've signed the Pledge!

Rotary Congleton

**The Pledge Hints and Tips No. 5
Beat the £56 Bin Charge!**

One way to beat Cheshire's bin charge is to compost your own waste!

Buy a compost bin from your local hardware shop - or online. They cost from as little as £6 - or build your own
see www.gardenersworld.com

Find out how to compost at www.rhs.org.uk

Avoid the £56 fee
Avoid repeat trips to the tip
Be more environmentally-friendly
Make your compost for free

And Enjoy Your Gardening More!

Simon Fallis, Rotary Congleton Environmental Team Leader 07589 03022 www.congletonrotary.co.uk

I've signed the Pledge!

Rotary Congleton

**The Pledge Hints and Tips No. 4
So Why Buy Local and Seasonal?**

1. Reduces CO₂ emissions in transport
2. Food is fresher, tastier and often cheaper
3. Supports growers and the local economy
4. Supplies the nutrient you need
5. Reconnects with Britain's natural cycles

Look Forward to the best of British Produce. For example...

First Rhubarb	in	March
First Asparagus	in	April
First Strawberries	in	May
First Raspberries	in	June
First Peas	in	September
First Apples	in	October

...and fresh vegetables throughout the year

Above all... enjoy local and seasonal produce
More information at localishfood.co.uk

Buy Local Produce!

Simon Fallis, Rotary Congleton Environmental Team Leader 07589 03022 www.congletonrotary.co.uk

I've signed the Pledge!

Rotary Congleton

**The Pledge Hints and Tips No. 5
Beat the £56 Bin Charge!**

One way to beat Cheshire's garden bin charge is to compost your own garden and food waste!

Buy a compost bin from your local hardware shop - or online. They cost from as little as £6 - or build your own
see www.gardenersworld.com

Find out how to compost at www.rhs.org.uk

Avoid the £56 fee
Avoid repeat trips to the tip
Be more environmentally-friendly
Make your compost for free

And Enjoy Your Gardening More!

Simon Fallis, Rotary Congleton Environmental Team Leader 07589 03022 www.congletonrotary.co.uk

I've signed the Pledge!

Rotary Congleton

**The Pledge Hints and Tips No. 6
Let's All Go Naked!!**

Buy fruit and vegetables in their own skins - and avoid over-packaged goods.

Does everything really need to be wrapped in plastic?

What's better for you - and for the environment - to grow your own or buy 'Naked Produce'?

Take a look at local farm shops
Join traditional grower groups
Go to Congleton market (Tuesday and Saturday)
Buy unpackaged produce from the supermarket

All vegetables and most fruits do not need to be packed in plastic. Consider the environmental benefits when you choose what to buy - and when you eat, get your fruit and veg unwrapped...

Just as Nature Intended!

Simon Fallis, Rotary Congleton Environmental Team Leader 07589 03022 www.congletonrotary.co.uk

I've signed the Pledge!

Rotary Congleton

**The Pledge Hints and Tips No. 7
Recycle Plastic Film For FREE!**

Only one third of all the plastic packaging around food is recyclable.

Is there a solution?

Plastic bags
Crisp packets (not foil)
Food and pet pouches
Plastic shrink wrappings
Cling film

...in fact - 'soft' plastic film of all sorts cannot be put in the 'grey' bin for the local council to recycle.

However, one local supermarket has a large bin in the entrance area where you can return all your soft plastic wrapping material. They can recycle it all...

And Above All... It's Free!

Simon Fallis, Rotary Congleton Environmental Team Leader 07589 03022 www.congletonrotary.co.uk

I've signed the Pledge!

Rotary Congleton

**The Pledge Hints and Tips No. 8
Let's be lazy this Autumn when we tidy our gardens!**

Wildlife: for example, hedgehogs, frogs and bees - rely on that pile of old wood or leaves for hibernation.

Garden birds need those dried seed heads while feeders and nest boxes provide both food and shelter for them to survive the winter cold

For more tips:
www.gardenersworld.com "10 ways to help garden wildlife in autumn"
www.ukbirdwatch.com "Gardening for wildlife this autumn"

**So put the spade away...
- and put the kettle on!**

Simon Fallis, Rotary Congleton Environmental Team Leader 07589 03022 www.congletonrotary.co.uk

NEWS



SWIMMING FOR THE HELICOPTERS

Danny Daynes, Regional Fundraiser, gave an interesting and enlightening presentation on the work of the North West Air Ambulance. Currently the service has 3 helicopters, 2 based at Barton and 1 at Blackpool, covering 5,500 square miles and a population of 8 million. Nationally there are 21 air ambulance charities with a total of 44 helicopters and the North West area is the 2nd largest after London. The service relies solely on charitable funding and needs to raise £12 million annually to cover costs.

Danny explained that the aim of the service is to provide acute hospital care to very unwell patients at the roadside/scene of incident and each helicopter is staffed by a doctor, a paramedic and a pilot. Last year, the Air Ambulance flew 2833 missions and 451 of these were in Cheshire. Unsurprisingly, the M6 corridor is a particular blackspot for the service. After the presentation, Rachel and Sandra presented a cheque for £3050 to the North West Air Ambulance that had been raised by the Rotary Swimathon.

Stuart took the photograph.

Proms success

Impressario Doug Parker's 'Last Night at the Proms' was, as usual a sell-out, enjoyed by all and raising around £800 for club funds



AND VISYON GETS THEIR SHARE FROM SWIMATHON

TWO charities stood to share the proceeds of Swimathon funds.

The club was delighted to welcome Linda De Sa, Funding and Marketing Manager for Visyon to its meeting on Monday 4th September where she was presented with a cheque for £3,650, raised by members of the public who took part in the Rotary Swimathon 2023 held at Biddulph Leisure Centre. Local schools, offices, youth groups etc., formed teams to swim lengths of the pool to raise sponsorship for this year's chosen charities – North West Air Ambulance and Visyon, who assist young people with their mental health and emotional wellbeing. Fifty percent of the money raised was returned to the swimmers for their own chosen charities

Visyon's Linda De Sa was delighted with the cheque and told members that since their formation in 1994, support for young people in the East Cheshire area had grown steadily to enable them to conduct 6887 sessions in the last 12 months, supporting 1664 children, of which 559 were in the Congleton area.

Visyon will be celebrating its 30th anniversary next year with a number of fundraising events planned throughout the year



Event co-organiser, Rachel presents Linda with her cheque

Classic Car Consolation for the Old Saw Mill

When the Rotary Classic Car Show was rained off in July, generously, many entrants and sponsors declined to ask for their money back! As a result, Rotary ended up with an odd amount of money. The beneficiary of the event was The Old Saw Mill. So the club 'topped up' the money and Eddie Roberts, standing in as Chairman for the night, presented a cheque for £1,000 to Peter Aston from The Old Saw Mill



THE ANNUAL CONGLETON ROTARY BONFIRE & FIREWORKS NIGHT
TICKET PRICES HELD FOR ANOTHER YEAR!
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 4TH
IN CONGLETON PARK

Gates Open at 5pm
Torchlight Procession and Bonfire lit at 6pm
Children's Display at 6.30pm
Main Display at 7.30pm

Fairground Rides - Stalls - Refreshments

Tickets: £10 Adults, £6 Children
(Purchased on the Day or at the Gate. Pay by cash or card)

£7.50 Adults, £4 Children
(Purchased in Advance. Pay by cash or card)

Under 5's are Free

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM CONGLETON INFORMATION CENTRE AT THE TOWN HALL

Rotary Congleton

Remember, remember -well how could Congleton forget?

It's back for another year - A spectacular night out with the safety of a public display fireworks set off in a controlled area under strict health and safety controls. As usual, two displays - an early show for the children and some bigger fireworks for the adults later. Come and enjoy the fun of the fair.

GOOD DECISIONS DON'T JUST HAPPEN! ASK YOURSELF THESE 4 QUESTIONS.



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?

Diary Page

This is the run-up to a busy season!

Essential bonfire meeting - even more important as Eddie remains 'on the sick' All hands to the pumps too plan and make our biggest fund-raiser a night to remember (remember?)

Rotary-Congleton's big weekend. Friday set-up in the park, Saturday all day event with ticket sales in the town and the rest of the field being set out. Sunday's litter pick to return the park to it's former glory

76!!! Our biggest Party Night of the Year celebrates 76 years of community service in Congleton. Back to The Sandhole Farm and the fabulous Oak Barn. Best bib and tucker and posh dress set out to impress.

The Daneside Theatre hosts the Silk Brass and Eaton Bank's Encore Choir again for an evening of Christmas favourites. Taya and her friend Hannah will provide an interlude with a Ukrainian Christmas favourite

Party Time! let your hair down with friends and partners and enjoy an evening of fun and high jinks, courtesy of our own entertainment team...

Date & Time		Monday, October 9 2023
Mon 9 Oct '23	19:00 PM to 22:00 PM	Bonfire Planning
Mon 23 Oct '23	19:00 PM to 22:00 PM	Speaker Night
Sat 4 Nov '23	16:00 PM to 22:30 PM	Bonfire Night
Mon 6 Nov '23	19:00 PM to 22:00 PM	Huddle/Business meeting
Mon 20 Nov '23	19:00 PM to 23:00 PM	Charter Night
Mon 4 Dec '23	19:00 PM to 22:00 PM	Huddle/ Business Meeting
Sat 16 Dec '23	19:00 PM to 21:00 PM	Christmas Concert
Mon 18 Dec '23	19:00 PM to 22:00 PM	Christmas Party