

# NEWSLETTER APRIL 2021



SIR GRAHAM BRADY

Member of Parliament for Altrincham and Sale West

Dear all,

Welcome to April's newsletter,



Over Easter weekend I was asked to write a piece for the Sunday Telegraph on how the state is reaching too far into our lives; there is a link to the article:

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/politics/2021/04/04/vaccine-passports-state-has-reached-far-taking-away-freedom/> and was interviewed by Matt Frei on LBC about 'Vaccination Passports' and made the case that vaccination should be voluntary – especially when the risk of the vaccine (small) might be greater for young people than the risk of COVID. Also, during the Easter break, we were able to get out on doorsteps in local and Mayoral election campaigns.

Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April I was interviewed on That's TV Manchester.

<http://www.thats.tv/manchester/>



**HRH Duke of Edinburgh**

12<sup>th</sup> April, Parliament was recalled for tributes to HRH the Duke of Edinburgh. A steadfast support to Her Majesty the Queen, He gave exemplary service to our country. I have written to Her Majesty on behalf of the 1922 Committee.

### **Dame Cheryl Gillan**

The following day in the Commons we paid tribute to my late friend Dame Cheryl Gillan. I knew her for a long time; she stood for Greater Manchester Central in 1989 and is fondly remembered by many people in the area. As a Vice Chairman of the 1922 Committee she was invaluable to me. A former Welsh Secretary, she was able to sing *Hen Wlad Fy Nhadau*, the unofficial national anthem of Wales, word perfectly and on one occasion raised over £400 for Children in Need by doing so.

Extremely bright and forthright; I will miss her wise counsel as well as her wicked sense of humour. The picture below shows Cheryl next to me as we announced the result of the confidence vote on December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018.



### **Announcement of the result of the vote of confidence 2018**

**16<sup>th</sup> April** I was grateful to Angela Stone for a guided tour of bars in Altrincham to talk to landlords about the challenges of reopening.

### **Altrincham and Sale Chamber of Commerce**

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April, I took part in a webinar with Altrincham and Sale Chamber of Commerce. We covered a number of topics, including the inevitable Covid and it was good to have feedback directly from local businesspeople. There is a picture below:



Chamber of Commerce Webinar

20<sup>th</sup> April I joined a virtual roundtable with the Royal College of Nursing, hearing about the challenges facing the profession.

### **Meeting with PM**

21<sup>st</sup> April I met with the PM in his House of Commons office, he was in good spirits, delighted that the European Super League proposal had been dropped. After that I chaired a meeting of the 1922 Committee. Both Jacob Rees Mogg and Priti Patel have been to speak to colleagues at the '22 this month.

**Welcome Feedback.** I received a letter from the Principal at the Royal Northern College of Music:

Dear Sir Graham,

I wanted to write to thank you personally for the recent assistance you gave us with the RNCM's bid for a grant from the Cultural Recovery Fund. Following our conversation, I was able to make contact with Oliver Dowden and Caroline Dinenage MP well ahead of our bid being submitted and am pleased to tell you that the College was successful in being awarded some funding this time around.

I have no doubt that your support played an important role in this regard and we are all sincerely grateful.

All best wishes,

Linda

**Professor Linda Merrick**

**Principal**

Royal Northern College of Music

The college had unreasonably been excluded from the first round of cultural recovery fund support because it is a hybrid between an education institution and a live concert venue. I am delighted to have been able to help to obtain support for such a fantastic institution.

**Teams with BTH** On 22<sup>nd</sup> April I had a very good meeting via Teams with Blessed Thomas Holford; plenty of excellent questions from the sixth form students and as you can see, I appeared on a screen at the end of the classroom!



### **Speaking to Blessed Thomas Holford on 22<sup>nd</sup> April**

24<sup>th</sup> April at 5pm I was on Talk Radio with Nick De Bois: <https://talkradio.co.uk/>

26<sup>th</sup> April was the APPG on Autism chaired by Huw Merriman. The meeting included a tribute to Dame Cheryl, the group's former Chairman for all she did to raise the profile of autism. She had in particular, piloted the Autism Act into legislation as a Private Members Bill.

29<sup>th</sup> April off to Solihull in the afternoon to do some campaigning for Andy Street, the excellent candidate for Birmingham Mayor.

That's all from me for now, I'll be back with more news next month by then we will all be allowed to meet people indoors again!

With best wishes,

Sir Graham Brady MP