

## **VOLUNTEERS STEP BACK IN TIME TO WELCOME ROTARY MEMBERS**

Visiting Rotary Club members from across the globe have been given a taste of the Black Country's heritage courtesy of volunteers from the Black Country Living Museum.

Thousands of Rotarians attended the 100<sup>th</sup> Rotary International Convention at the NEC this week.

As part of exhibitions in the House of Friendship, an entertainment area designed to offer delegates a snapshot of their host country, the Heart of England tourism board invited key visitor attractions to attend.

Les and Margaret Millington represented the Black Country Living Museum, wearing period costume from the early 1900s.

Les said: "The convention was a great opportunity to tell visitors, many of whom are planning to stay in the UK after the official event has finished, about the range of fantastic attractions we have nearby.

"The Black Country Living Museum brings a significant period of this region's heritage to life in an informative and entertaining way. We enjoyed telling Rotary members about our volunteer work with the museum and hopefully some will come and see us before heading home."

The Rotary International Convention is one of the biggest events to be held in the UK for 20 years attracting up to 19,000 Rotary members from nearly 150 countries worldwide and injecting an

estimated £20 million into the regional economy. It is being hosted by the Rotary Club of Birmingham.

Other attractions in the House of Friendship included a Victorian fair with traditional stalls, a carousel, the Queen Victoria pub and a bandstand.

Situated on Tipton Road in Dudley, the Black Country Living Museum is an open air museum attracting more than a quarter of a million visitors every year. Costumed characters are used to demonstrate life in the industrial age and provide demonstrations of period industries and crafts.

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