



Unsung hero supplies local care homes with much needed hand sanitiser

Chris Richmond, mobile engineer, has been distilling alcohol as a hobby for many years, but at the start of the Coronavirus pandemic, Chris decided to do something truly amazing by turning his hand to producing hand sanitiser for local care homes in Exeter.

Hand sanitiser must be made using 65% alcohol or above to effectively kill bacteria and viruses and Chris produces hand sanitiser which is 92% alcohol and adds an antimicrobial skin cleanser, often used in hospitals to help manage infection.

In week one of the UK's battle against Coronavirus, Chris had produced his first litre of hand sanitiser which he gave to a friend who works in his local hospital's pathology labs, who gave it his approval.

Once given the thumbs up, Chris was on a mission to produce as much hand sanitiser as he could for the care homes in Exeter, one of which is managed by his wife who, like so many others, is finding it so difficult to source hand sanitiser and PPE to help protect care staff and residents.

But then Chris hit a stumbling block as he realised that his small still just couldn't cope with the quantities needed, so off his own back, he bought a larger still and now Chris produces 24 litres of hand sanitiser each week, supplying three care homes, and neighbouring houses, all free of charge. Once Evotech heard of their employee's amazing quest the company offered to support Chris by covering his costs to date and will continue to do so throughout the pandemic.

Managing Director, Mark O'Grady said: "We are delighted to be able to support Chris' initiative and applaud him for his ingenuity, hard work, resilience, and steadfast commitment to support his local community, all attributes which, as a company, we value highly in our employees."

Chris' hand sanitiser helps to protect around 100 care home residents, 250 care staff and 30 of his neighbours from Covid-19 and helps prevent the spread of the virus in his local community. Working tirelessly and selflessly to support his local community during these unprecedented times, he really is an unsung hero!

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