FCO Press Release: Honours for service to Britain internationally and overseas

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) announces 71 awards in recognition of truly exceptional and outstanding service to Britain internationally and overseas.

The Diplomatic Service and Overseas New Year 2018 Honours List recognises extraordinary people in a range of fields overseas including the arts, assistance to British nationals overseas, broadcasting, business, community relations, education, health, peace and reconciliation, science and scientific research, security and voluntary and charitable work.

Awards go to Canadian Margaret MACMILLAN, lately Warden, St Antony’s College, Oxford, who receives a Companion of Honour for her services to higher education, history and international affairs. The Honorary Joseph BOSSANO, Member of Parliament and Minister, former Chief Minister who receives a KCMG for services to Gibraltar. And 96 year old Olive MILLER, Community Volunteer in the Cayman Islands, receives an OBE for services to the community. Further information about recipients receiving higher awards on the Diplomatic Service and Overseas List can be found at the end of this press release at annex A.

Sir Simon McDonald, Head of the Diplomatic Service, said:

“I congratulate everyone receiving an honour and thank them for their hard work and years of service. Britain’s positive impact around the world depends on exceptional people like those recognised today. We are very grateful”

Examples of other recipients from this honours list include:

**Professor Terence (Terry) Vincent CALLAGHAN**
Professor of Arctic Ecology, University of Sheffield, receives a CMG for services to advancing knowledge and international collaboration in Arctic science.

Professor Callaghan is the UK’s leading expert on the impact of climate change in the Arctic. Over a career of five decades he has led ground-breaking research; built impressive international teams; and delivered exceptional scientific results across the Polar Regions. He is passionate about the value of research for the public, including young people, and policy makers. His personal and professional influence create enormous impact and goodwill for the UK across the Arctic and beyond.
On learning of his award Professor Callaghan said “I am deeply honoured and humbled by this recognition of my life’s work which depended on selfless support from my family and cooperation with inspirational friends around the world. Only by working together across national borders can we understand the world’s changing environment and how we should adapt. We owe this to future generations.”

Professor Christopher RUDD
Provost and Chief Executive Officer, University of Nottingham, Ningbo, China, receives an OBE for services to higher education and UK/China co-operation

Professor Christopher Rudd is recognised for his outstanding contribution to Higher Education both in the UK and China and to Sino-British cooperation more generally. His work over the last decade, built on his international reputation as a materials engineer and leading engineering academic, has had a huge impact on the University of Nottingham and its pioneering relationships in China. As Provost and CEO at the University of Nottingham Ningbo China (UNNC) since 2015, Professor Rudd has seen continued growth and development of what is widely seen as the most successful Sino-Foreign University in China. Prior to his leadership role in China, he was a highly successful advocate of building international business-to-business links delivering tangible benefit for the University of Nottingham, the city of Nottingham, and the East Midlands region, and in support of national trade and investment in China. He also helped broker the Nottingham-Ningbo city-to-city partnership which has Stimulated education, healthcare and business partnerships and made the East Midlands a new destination of choice for Chinese visitors.

On learning of his award Christopher Rudd said “The Nottingham-China bridge relies on the efforts of many committed individuals on both sides. I feel proud and rather humble to accept this honour on behalf of a highly committed and extraordinarily hard-working transnational team”

Ann ASPINALL
Past Patron and Lifetime Honorary Member of the British Women’s Association Manila. Trustee of Stepping Stone Foundation, receives an MBE for services to charity and the British community in the Philippines.

An established businesswoman, Mrs Aspinall has given an enormous amount of her time and effort to improving the lives and opportunities for impoverished Filipino nationals through her support and involvement with many charities. Ann has constantly supported these endeavours, despite having her own company to manage and her chosen charity Stepping Stone Foundation to support. Her dedication and determination, often in the face of overwhelming odds, have inspired others to lend their support and help to project a positive image of the UK in the Philippines.

On learning of her award Ann Aspinall said “It is a great honour to receive this award. There are many others in the British Community in the Philippines who devote their time and effort in serving both communities. I am truly humbled to be recognised”.

Ian Alexander BADDON
Volunteer for Cancer Patients Cyprus. For services to supporting patients with both cancer and dementia
Ian Baddon has provided outstanding assistance to vulnerable people and their families in Paphos, Cyprus, volunteering his own time and resources to those less fortunate than himself. He moved to Cyprus with his family in 2005 to help his wife deal with terminal illness and since her death has dedicated himself to supporting families going through similar difficult times. Over a period of 10 years, Mr Baddon has become involved with a number of individuals and families coping with either Parkinson’s disease, cancer or Alzheimer’s, liaising with doctors, lawyers and the British High Commission to ensure the best possible care and support is provided.

On learning of his award Ian Baddon said “There are so many people doing wonderful things. I am stunned to be recognised for this award. It is an honour which I will always treasure”.

Notes for editors:

For further information about the case studies or to arrange an interview please contact the FCO Press Office on 020 7008 3100.

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ANNEX A
NOTES ON HIGHER AWARDS

GCMG

Sir Mark Justin LYALL GRANT KCMG

Former National Security Adviser. For services to UK foreign and national security policy

Mark Lyall Grant is recommended for his excellent service to the UK throughout a distinguished career as one of the UK’s leading diplomats culminating in two of the most senior appointments, firstly as the UK’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations and then as National Security Adviser (NSA). His achievements in these roles include his influential role on the UN Security Council on some of the most difficult international issues, securing important human rights resolutions and overseeing HM The Queen's first visit to the UN General Assembly in 50 years. As National Security Adviser his achievements included oversight of the 2015 strategic defence and security review and advancements on counter-terrorism and cyber security issues.

KCMG

The Hon Joseph John BOSSANO

The Hon Joseph John BOSSANO, Member of Parliament and Minister, former Chief Minister. For services to Gibraltar

Joseph Bossano is recommended for his exceptional and sustained service to Gibraltar in a variety of roles including Chief Minister and Leader of the Opposition. Throughout his extraordinary 45-year political career he has made an unprecedented contribution to securing, progressing and promoting the identity, democracy and well-being of Gibraltar and its people. Mr Bossano’s achievements are many but one area where Mr Bossano has made a significant impact is with the successful introduction of major social welfare projects including the minimum wage, mandatory scholarships for undergraduates and co-ownership affordable housing schemes.

Dominick John CHILCOTT CMG

Former HM Ambassador, Dublin, Ireland. For services to British foreign policy

Dominick Chilcott is recognised for his contribution to the bilateral relationship between the UK and Ireland, including the first ever and successful State Visit by a President of Ireland to the UK as well as an increase in trade, investment and cooperation in many different fields between the two countries. His wider achievements include his contribution to bilateral relations with the USA and Sri Lanka, including conflict prevention and the evacuation of British nationals from a conflict zone, as well as leading the evacuation of the British Embassy in Iran following the attack in 2011 when the Embassy was overrun by protesters.

Paul John MAHONEY

UK Judge of the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg. For services to international justice
Paul Mahoney is recognised for outstanding and sustained service in the field of international justice and human rights. His academic and judicial work in service of the international human rights system and within the European Court of Human Rights has had a far reaching and powerful impact, recognised by Her Majesty’s Government and the UK judiciary.

Mark SEDWILL CMG

National Security Adviser and former Permanent Secretary at the Home Office. For services to UK national security

Mark Sedwill is recognised for his contribution in two major roles as well as his long-term contribution to UK policy on Afghanistan and Pakistan including as NATO’s Senior Civilian Representative in Afghanistan. He helped bring settled senior leadership to the Home Office following a period of continuous change and has overseen major achievements on a wide range of issues including police reform, modernising capabilities to confront evolving terrorist threats, restructuring border, immigration and passport operations, preparation for major events, new initiatives on modern slavery and response to crises such as the rapid increase in refugee numbers, historic child abuse and terrorist attacks.

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Professor Margaret Olwen MACMILLAN

Lately Warden, St Antony's College, Oxford. For services to higher education, history and international affairs

Margaret MacMillan is recommended for her sustained and outstanding contribution to higher education, history and public understanding of international affairs. Professor MacMillan has enjoyed a highly distinguished academic career with a formidable reputation on both sides of the Atlantic as one of the most brilliant historians alive today. In addition, she has made an unparalleled contribution to raising public understanding of historical and international affairs through her strong leadership of St Antony’s College, Oxford, widely viewed as a global centre of excellence in this area.