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Foreign &  
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## **FCO Press Release: Honours for service to Britain internationally and overseas**

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) announces 80 awards in recognition of truly exceptional and outstanding service to Britain internationally and overseas.

The Diplomatic Service and Overseas Birthday 2019 Honours List recognises extraordinary people in a range of fields including British business and prosperity, British community and community relations, British nationals overseas, charity and voluntary work, child welfare, commemorations and veterans, cultural relations, development, education, nature, the Overseas Territories, popular culture, public service, science and scientific research, security, special education needs, sport, trade and investment and UK defence.

Awards go to Clive JONES CBE, lately Chair of Trustees for the Disaster Emergencies Committee, who receives a KCMG for his services to humanitarian crises. Also receiving a KCMG is Jonathan TAYLOR, lately Vice President of the European Investment Bank, for services to investment and the economy. Sarah FRIAR, lately Chief Financial Officer of Square Inc in the USA, receives an OBE for services to entrepreneurship and financial services. And Gary STEMPEL, Head Coach of the Under 17 Panamanian Football Team, receives an MBE for services to youth and sport in Panama. Further information about recipients receiving knighthood level 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 impact around the world depends on exceptional people like those recognised in this year’s Queen’s Birthday Honours. Everyone in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office is grateful for their outstanding contribution.”*

Examples of recipients from this honours list include:

### **Alfred BOE**

Musical Performer and Actor, receives an OBE for services to music and charity

Alfie Boe is not only recognised for an outstanding contribution to music as a highly successful vocal tenor, but also for his voluntary work as a genuine and committed supporter of many charities in the UK. A well-known name in music and Musical Theatre, Alfie Boe has performed in a number of hit productions in the West End and on Broadway as well as at high profile events in the UK of national importance. In addition to his music career, and despite spending significant time overseas, Alfie Boe has dedicated a huge amount of time

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and personal commitment to charity in the North West of England where he is from and across the UK. For example, he has been a long-term supporter and Ambassador for the music therapy charity Nordoff Robbins, supported The Prince's Foundation for Children and the Arts and successfully fundraised for various cancer charities and small hospices throughout the country.

On learning of his award Alfie Boe said, "I can't express how honoured I am to receive the award of an OBE. I remain a humble servant to Her Majesty the Queen and Royal Family. I am a servant to the public, Great Britain and its charities. My gratitude is beyond words. My voice belongs to the nations".

### **Anne MCEWAN**

Former President of the National Association of British Schools in Spain, receives an OBE for services to education

Anne McEwan is recognised for an exceptional contribution to the development of British schools in Spain over more than fifty years. Beginning her career as a teacher in Scotland before moving to Barcelona, Mrs McEwan soon progressed to Head teacher of one of the earliest British schools in Spain. Under her leadership, the school in Barcelona became one of the most prestigious international schools in Spain, with excellent academic results. In the latter part of her career, she has made an exceptional voluntary contribution, first as President and later as a member of the Executive Committee, to the development of the National Association of British Schools in Spain, the umbrella body which now represents the sector and includes the majority of British schools in Spain. Anne McEwan's vision, determination and tireless commitment to the development of British education have all been critical to the growth in provision of high quality, British education across Spain.

On learning of her award Anne McEwan said "I am so proud and honoured to have been nominated for this award. It has been a privilege for me to work in British schools in Spain, creating opportunities for children and young people of all nationalities to prepare for the future. Contributing to the development of the National Association of British Schools in Spain has been a rewarding, learning experience highlighting the importance of team work. For this reason, I would like to express my appreciation to all of those who have worked with me and given me support over the years and to share this honour with them. Thank you!".

### **Jane Elizabeth EBEL**

Director of UK-Moldova Projects, receives an MBE for services to vulnerable and disabled people in the Republic of Moldova

Jane Ebel is recognised for an outstanding contribution to supporting children and adults with disabilities and helping them to become more socially integrated in one of the least developed countries in Europe. Whether through her programs in early years inclusive education and therapeutic music or her initiatives to involve disabled children and adults in inclusive sport, she has made a huge difference to the lives of many disadvantaged people in the Republic of Moldova. Despite the significant challenges of implementing these projects in the Republic of Moldova with limited support, Jane Ebel uses her professionalism, creativity, knowledge and experience to bring people together to inspire change and more

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importantly to improve the quality of the lives of people with disabilities throughout the country.

On learning of her award Jane Ebel said “I feel extremely honored to be given this award for something I have always felt passionate about; but the unstinting dedication and professionalism of the Moldovan partners has made our successes possible. There is still much to do, to promote genuine equality and inclusion in Moldova; but the fantastic, ongoing collaboration between UK and Moldova makes it both enjoyable and deeply rewarding”.

**Beverly Jean DENBURY**

Chairperson and Founder of the Journey of Hope Botswana, receives a British Empire Medal for services to breast cancer awareness in Botswana

Beverly Denbury is recognised for an exceptional contribution to the fight against breast cancer in Botswana over the last decade. Despite fighting an ongoing battle with breast cancer herself, she has devoted her life to attempting to reduce the impact of breast cancer in the country where she has resided for the last 30 years. She has spearheaded the campaign to increase breast cancer awareness throughout the country, promoting early diagnosis and access to treatment and ultimately improving the prognosis of women diagnosed with breast cancer in the country. She has done this through the Journey of Hope Botswana, a charity organisation she founded in 2009 in response to her discovery that the majority of women in Botswana are diagnosed late in the disease process. The charity consists of three staff and over 50 volunteers who work to increase awareness, educate women in self-examination techniques and fast-track those in need to appropriate services and support. This contribution has made a significant impact and ultimately saved lives.

On learning of her award Beverly Denbury said “I was absolutely thrilled and delighted to receive the news of the award. Cancer is a terrible disease in all forms. I can only hope that any early detection and awareness might help in saving lives in the future”.

**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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**NOTES ON HIGHER AWARDS**

**KCMG**

Clive Jones CBE

Lately Chair of Trustees for the Disaster Emergencies Committee. For services to humanitarian crises

Clive Jones is recognised for his exceptional leadership as the Chair of Trustees for the Disaster Emergencies Committee (DEC) during a period of dramatic change in the organisation's 50 year history. Over the course of his tenure, the DEC launched ten emergency fundraising appeals and raised approximately £500m, enabling the UK public to support the international aid effort in response to humanitarian crises caused by natural disasters, conflict and outbreak of disease. Mr Jones' outstanding achievements and impact during his time at DEC have been numerous and deeply felt, both within the organisation and within the wider charity, fundraising and humanitarian sectors.

Jonathan Taylor

Lately Vice-President of the European Investment Bank. For services to investment and the economy

Jonathan Taylor is recognised for his significant contribution to investment and the UK economy in his role as Vice President of the European Investment Bank (EIB). Drawing on a rare combination of deep knowledge of financial services, extensive experience of achieving positive outcomes in the EU institutions and excellent negotiating skills, Mr Taylor achieved outstanding results at the EIB. He oversaw a doubling of investment loans to the UK in three years and was influential in keeping the pipeline open after the referendum; the lending he secured has supported growth UK-wide and has helped to reduce regional disparities during a very challenging time for the UK economy.

Alexander Younger CMG

Chief, Secret Intelligence Service. For services to national security

Alex Younger has served as the Head of the Secret Intelligence Service since November 2014, advising the government and the National Security Council on all the major security

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and foreign affairs issues during this period. He has brought remarkable personal commitment to ensuring the Service is ready for the opportunities and challenges of the future. Alex joined the Service in 1991 and has served overseas in Europe and the Middle East.

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