

News story: New Year's Honours List 2019

MBE Lynette Adjei Lately Marketing and Promotions Officer, Birmingham City Council. For services to Adoption and Fostering Recruitment. MBE Frances Bell Teacher, Newport Primary School. For services to the Arts in Devon. MBE Elizabeth Booth Lately Headteacher, Dalmain Primary School. For services to Education and the Arts in the London Borough of Lewisham. MBE Christopher Bridge Chairman, Corporation Board, Colchester Institute. For services to Further Education and Skills. MBE James Cliffe Manager, No Wrong Door, Stepney Road Children's Centre, North Yorkshire County Council. For services to Children and Young People. MBE Joan Duncan Foster Carer, Lambeth Council. For services to Fostering. MBE Valerie Dunsford Lately Headteacher, Sheffield High School for Girls. For services to Education. MBE Peter Edgar Executive Member for Education, Hampshire County Council. For services to Education and the community in Gosport. MBE David Hughes Chair, The East Midlands Apprenticeship Ambassador Network. For services to Education. MBE Paul Irons Chair of Governors, Fernwood School, Nottingham. For services to Education. MBE Karen Kaufman Head of External Affairs, Busy Bees Childcare. For services to Children and Families. MBE Elaine Koerner Foster Carer, Somerset County Council. For services to Fostering. MBE Valsa Koshy Emeritus Professor, Brunel University London. For services to Education. MBE Carol Lyndon Childline Counsellor, NSPCC. For services to Vulnerable Children. MBE Angela Middleton Founder and Chief Executive Officer, MiddletonMurray Group. For services to Apprenticeship Training, Youth Employment and Business. MBE Vivienne Morgan Founder and Proprietor, Northleigh House School. For services to Education. MBE Claire Paul Director, Leadership Development and New Talent, BBC. For services to Apprenticeships and Education. MBE Elizabeth Perry Organiser, The Innovation Project, Twynham School. For services to Children in Christchurch, Dorset. MBE Rachel Pilling Head of Safeguarding, The Manchester College. For services to Further Education and Safeguarding. MBE Judith Poole Head of Student Support and Wellbeing, Blackpool and The Fylde College. For services to Education. MBE Louise Purser ASYE Practice Assessor, Central Bedfordshire Council and Volunteer, British Association of Social Workers and Learn to Care. For services to Children's Social Care. MBE Derek Randall Chair of Governors, Bridgwater and Taunton College. For services to Further Education. MBE Victoria Rodney Community Champion, Mercy Foundation Centre. For voluntary service to the community in Battersea. MBE Gail Rothnie Head of Outreach, University of Birmingham. For services to Widening Participation in Higher Education. MBE Lucinda Rumsey Senior Tutor, Mansfield College, University of Oxford. For services to Widening Participation in Higher Education. MBE Douglas Seymour Chair of Governors, Frank Wise School Banbury. For services to Education and the community in Oxfordshire and North Devon. MBE Jacqueline Stevenson Sociologist and Head of Research, Sheffield Institute of Education, Sheffield Hallam University. For services to Education. MBE Michael Terrell Foster Carer, Plymouth City Council. For services to Fostering. MBE Mandy Terrell Foster Carer, Plymouth City Council. For services to Fostering. MBE Ann Turner Lately Principal and Chief Executive Officer, Myerscough College. For services to Land Based

Education and Training. MBE Aileen Vassie Governor, Chelsfield Primary School. For services to Education. MBE Jashu Vekaria Deputy Headteacher, Uxendon Manor Primary School. For services to Primary Education. MBE Louise Walker Head of Social Work and Professional Standards, Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council. For services to Adult and Children's Social Care. MBE Helen Wood Foster Carer, Derbyshire City Council. For services to Fostering. MBE Colin Wood Foster Carer, Derbyshire City Council. For services to Fostering. MBE Andria Zafirakou Associate Deputy Head, Alperton Community School. For services to Education and Young People in Brent.

[Press release: Welsh Secretary congratulates Welsh recipients of New Year's Honours for 2019](#)



Secretary of State for Wales Alun Cairns said:

These honours recognise and celebrate the hard-work and achievements of the incredible people who go above and beyond to put others before themselves.

From household names to those silently serving their communities such as Reynette Roberts and Leon Gardiner, I am proud to see people from all walks of Welsh life being recognised for their commitment to their cause.

I am truly grateful for their dedication to their communities and thank them all for their tireless work to improve the lives of others as well as their extraordinary ability to inspire people all over the country. Congratulations to you all.

[Press release: Privy Council appointments December 2018](#)

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[News story: Lockerbie anniversary](#)

On 21 December, Scottish Secretary David Mundell joined members of the Lockerbie community to lay a wreath in the memorial garden in the the town's Dryfesdale Cemetery.

The simple and low key ceremony was an opportunity for townspeople to mark quietly the 30th anniversary of the bombing of Pan Am 103. Jeff Brown, Moderator of the Presbytery of Annandale And Eskdale, conducted a service which included readings from Psalm 121, John's and Gospel and St Paul's message to the Corinthians.

Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for Dumfriesshire, Fiona Armstrong read out a message from the Queen which read "I send my prayers and good wishes to all those who will be marking this solemn anniversary."

Speaking on the day of the commemoration, Mr Mundell said:

On this 30th anniversary of the bombing of Flight 103 over Lockerbie, my thoughts and prayers are with the family and friends of the 270 men, women and children who perished on that terrible night, and everyone else whose life has been touched by the event.

Lockerbie lost its anonymity that night. We went from a quiet small town to a centre of global attention in a few seconds. That was the scale of the challenge local people have faced, aside from the

horrors of the air disaster itself. It has not been easy, nor have we been able to achieve the closure we would have wanted, even after 30 years. However, throughout, the people in Lockerbie have retained their dignity and stoicism, and offered friendship and support to those who lost loved ones.

The relationship that has developed between Lockerbie Academy and Syracuse University, is one of the few positives to come from that night, along with all the other personal relationships that have been forged. Strengthening and deepening those relationships must be our priority as we look to the future. On this 30th anniversary we follow the Syracuse University motto to 'look back but act forward'.

Mr Brown echoed this when he closed the ceremony with "Forward Lockerbie. Forward in faith, in hope and in love."

[Press release: New Year, new lick of paint for local charity](#)

With Christmas around the corner and it being the season of goodwill the group, who between them work in a variety of roles at Highways England in Guildford, wanted to help a local organisation which supports people with mental health issues.

The group of volunteers approached Oakleaf Enterprise, which is located nearby to their workplace, with an offer of help. With 1 in 4 people in the UK suffering from a mental illness every single year, Oakleaf's services have never been more vital.

The December timing was perfect as over Christmas one in ten people feel unable to cope, rising to a third of people with a mental health problem. And over a quarter of people feel the pressure to have the 'perfect Christmas', increasing to half of those with a mental health problem (48%).

Highways England Mental Health First Aiders at Oakleaf

Tom Briggs, from Highways England, said:

We wanted to do something practical and had originally thought about offering to do some gardening – recognising the positive link between physical exercise and well-being. But we found that the art room at Oakleaf was a tad uninspiring and clearly in need of a re-vamp.

It has been a real learning curve for those of us with no DIY skills and a great opportunity for us to build links with Oakleaf, a hidden gem whose staff and volunteers do such a fantastic job. We hope to continue to support them.

In the weeks leading up to D-Day (day of decorating) the team met regularly to organise a rota, delegate tasks and buy supplies. They also gained the support of the local B&Q at Ladymeade Retail Centre who kindly donated some paint and brushes.

Highways England staff painting the art room

Tom said:

Many of the individuals Oakleaf support don't have loved ones to celebrate with at this time of year and the charity needs donations to give as presents to their clients at their Christmas party. So we also collected donations from our colleagues for Oakleaf to give to their clients at their Christmas party.

Our volunteering is mutually beneficial as we are able to raise the profile of volunteer Mental Health First Aiders both within our organisation and the wider community. In the same way first aiders are called to help people with physical injuries we are here to offer initial support and guidance to those going through a difficult time or may be experiencing symptoms of anxiety or depression, especially at times like Christmas when there is social pressure to be seen as having a good time.

Eli Beckett at Oakleaf Enterprise said:

We are thrilled to have the support of Highways England. Bringing our charity and businesses together is a fantastic way of connecting corporate organisations with the local community whilst raising awareness of mental health and reducing the stigma that is connected to this invisible illness.

We strive to work with businesses who take a genuine interest in the mental well-being of their staff – Highways England are a fantastic example of a company doing just that, with a wonderful, proactive team of MHFA trained employees based in the Guildford office.

Both the staff and clients here at Oakleaf are so grateful to Highways England for all their fundraising efforts so far and for coming down to help redecorate our slightly tired looking room! We look forward to growing this partnership with Highways England as we continue to support some of the most vulnerable adults in our local community live well with a mental illness.

General enquiries

Members of the public should contact the Highways England customer contact centre on 0300 123 5000.

Media enquiries

Journalists should contact the Highways England press office on 0844 693 1448 and use the menu to speak to the most appropriate press officer.