

Press release: The Queen's Birthday Honours: Sister Imelda Poole

On 9th June 2018, Sr Imelda Poole, IBVM was made Member of the Order of the British Empire in The Queen's Birthday Honours 2018, for her achievements and services to end modern slavery.

On the announcement of the award, the British Ambassador to the Holy See, Sally Axworthy, said:

I am delighted to learn that Sr. Imelda Poole has been awarded this honour by Her Majesty The Queen.

It is well-deserved recognition of Sr. Imelda's outstanding service in combatting human trafficking and modern slavery, through the European religious sisters' anti-trafficking network RENATE which she leads, and through and Talitha Kum, the religious sisters' worldwide anti-trafficking network.

Sister Imelda is a key ally in Her Majesty's Government's campaign to eradicate modern slavery. It is wonderful to see such a distinguished friend of this Embassy honoured in this way.

Note for editors:

· Read more about Sr. Imelda Poole in the [case study](#) written by HM Ambassador Sally Axworthy to mark 2017 International Women's Day.

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Press release: Welsh Secretary hails outstanding individuals in the Queen's Birthday Honours list

The Queen's Birthday Honours List recognises the achievements of a wide range of extraordinary people across the United Kingdom.

Marking the achievements of the recipients from Wales, Secretary of State for Wales Alun Cairns said:

It is with great delight that I congratulate those who have been recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.

These honours acknowledge the incredible achievements of outstanding individuals who work tirelessly to improve the lives of others and inspire those around them.

I am proud to see people from all walks of Welsh life being recognised for their achievements and I am grateful for their commitment and dedication to their communities. Congratulations to you all.

Notable names from Wales in the honours list include Chief Constable of North Wales Police Mark Polin and Welsh sports stars Jessica Fishlock and Menna Fitzpatrick.

Congratulating Mark Polin, who received an OBE for services to policing, Welsh Secretary Alun Cairns said:

During his long and distinguished policing career, Mark Polin has provided excellent leadership and exemplified his very deep commitment to community policing at every turn.

He has been a credit to North Wales Police and is held in the highest regard not just by his colleagues, but across the range of partners that the Force works with and the communities that it serves. My sincerest congratulations to him on this very worthy honour.

Congratulating Welsh international football star, Jessica Fishlock on her MBE for services to women's football and the LGBT community, Alun Cairns said:

From becoming the first Welsh player of any gender to make 100 appearances for their country, to league titles and player of the year awards for her clubs in Melbourne and Seattle, the accolades have been coming thick and fast for Jessica over recent years. That roll of honour is bolstered again today as she is named among the Queen's Birthday Honours recipients.

She is a great sportswoman, an enduring role model and an inspiration to all. My warmest congratulations to Jessica – a worthy recipient of this honour.

Congratulating Welsh Winter Paralympics GB multi-medallist, Menna Fitzpatrick, Alun Cairns said:

There were few performances at this year's winter Paralympic Games that captured the imaginations more than those exemplified on the slopes of Pyeongchang by Menna Fitzpatrick. Together with her guide Jennifer Kehoe, Menna displayed the sheer grit and determination needed to bring home a haul of four medals – including a gold – and secured the title of Britain's most successful Winter Paralympian.

Today, and at just 20 years old, she takes her rightful place on the honours list as the youngest recipient. My congratulations to Menna on this worthy accolade and I wish her every success for the future.

[News story: Queen's Birthday Honours List 2018](#)

Eighty-seven people have been recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours List, published on Friday 08 June, for their services to education, children's services, and social mobility.

The list recognises the outstanding work of individuals working to raise standards and widen participation in education, improve children's services, and enable a greater number of children and young people to reach their potential.

Jonathan Slater, Department for Education Permanent Secretary, said:

I want to personally congratulate all the award recipients in The Queen's Birthday Honours list, and especially pay tribute to those have been recognised for their services to education, children's services, and social mobility.

Their contributions are improving the lives of children and young people, and helping to build an education system for everyone.

Secretary of State Damian Hinds said:

Congratulations to all those in today's Queen's Birthday Honours List who are being rewarded for their work in education and children's services. It is wonderful to see so many people helping

young people being recognised for their incredible work.

Thanks to them, and all the teachers, social workers and staff right through the education sector and across the county for their hard work to make sure that we are improving education for every child.

If you know someone working to improve education, children's services, or social mobility who deserves an honour, please contact the Honours Team at: Honours.team@education.gov.uk.

Press release: Scottish people recognised in the Queen's Birthday Honours 2018

Following on from the publication of the Queen's Birthday Honours 2018 list today (June 8 2018), Scottish Secretary David Mundell passes on his congratulations to Scottish honourees:

I am pleased to see the Queen's Birthday honours recognise the achievements of a diverse and inspiring number of our fellow Scots. From sporting icons to key players in business and academia, these individuals have been influential in shaping our nation.

As Scotland's most capped footballer and joint leading goal scorer, Kenny Dalglish was rightly crowned 'king' by his fans around the world. His glittering achievements in football and dedicated service to communities, including through his unwavering support for the families of the Hillsborough victims and the millions of pounds raised by his family's cancer charity, mean that 'King Kenny' now deservedly becomes a Knight.

I also welcome the Knighthood for Jim Ratcliffe, chair and chief executive of Ineos Chemical Group, who has built a business empire which contributes so much to the Scottish economy. And I'm pleased to see awards to celebrate the success of individuals in the Winter Olympics and Paralympics including an OBE for Mike Hay, Chef de Mission, Team GB.

I offer my sincere congratulations to these recipients on their worthy honours. What they have accomplished is an inspiration.

[Press release: International visits pay off for British business](#)

International Trade Secretary announces billions worth of overseas trade wins.

- significant deal secured by UK company to deliver natural gas project in Cameroon
- further deals in Panama, Turkey, India and Qatar a £75 million boost for British businesses
- the deals come across the life sciences, transport, infrastructure and cyber security sectors

International Trade Secretary, Dr Liam Fox, today (Friday, 8 June) hailed millions of pounds worth of trade wins with some of the fastest growing economies as a sign of growing global links post-Brexit.

Capitalising on recent foreign visits by Cameroon's Minister Secretary General, the Presidents of Panama and Turkey and the Prime Minister of India, the Department of International Trade (DIT) is helping UK businesses access exporting opportunities and increase prosperity across the country.

Following Trade Minister, Baroness Fairhead's, meeting with Minister Secretary General Ferdinand Ngoh Ngoh, London based oil and gas company, New Age, and the Cameroon Government have agreed a deal which will see the development of a floating natural gas project in Cameroon utilising the offshore Etinde gas field.

The project is of huge importance to the African country, who will be able to ramp up their gas export operation, in turn generating a huge revenue stream for the public treasury, whilst also helping to develop offshore infrastructure in support of future local power generation.

Following the visit of the President of Panama, Juan Carlos Varela, Dorking based Biwater expanded a deal which sees them improving Panama's water and wastewater infrastructure alongside the Panama Government.

The company's work sees them delivering lasting environmental and social benefits to communities in Latin America's fastest growing economy. The UK government provided support for the company and the project through UK Export Finance's financial support offer.

UK life sciences company, GE Healthcare, also secured a deal earlier this week after the visit of President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan with Turkish construction firm KAYI holding. The agreement will see £74 million worth of medical equipment exported to hospitals being built across emerging markets of Turkey, Kenya, Tanzania and the Balkans.

DIT has also secured the first ever memorandum of understanding with the Qatar Central Bank which will see UK Cyber Security firms help secure Qatar's online financial sector. The deal is hugely significant to the UK cyber security sector which already exports £1.6 billion worth of world-leading technology around the globe.

International Trade Secretary, Dr Liam Fox MP, said:

International visits by foreign ministers aren't just good for the government but for UK exporters across the country too, so that local companies can expand their global reach.

There are strong reasons for the UK to be optimistic about our presence on the world stage and this series of deals, worth more than £1.9 billion, showcases Britain's world leading capability in key sectors such as cyber security and life sciences as we leave the European Union.

That is why as an international economic department we provide a wide range of support for business such as our award-winning export credit agency, UK Export Finance, great.gov.uk and our international trade advisers.

A new direct flight route from Manchester to Mumbai has also been secured by Jet Airways last week. Beginning in the autumn, the new route will be a significant boost to exporters in the Northern Powerhouse as the new will see flights going between the 2 cities 4 times a week, improving connectivity in the process. The announcement comes following the visit of Baroness Fairhead to Mumbai and Bangalore earlier this year.

UK exports of goods and services as a whole increased by 12.1% to £622 billion last year, and with the UK gearing up to leave the European Union, the department will shortly deliver a new Export Strategy to set out the government's ambition to get businesses of all sizes exporting their products.

Background:

Top 5 ways DIT supports businesses to export:

1. great.gov.uk – export platform which lists thousands of export opportunities worth millions of pounds. It also puts firms in touch with global buyers at the click of a mouse.

2. [UK Export Finance](#) – the UK’s export credit agency provides financial support like capital loans, to ensure no viable export deal fails due to lack of finance and insurance. UKEF has recently partnered with five of the UK’s biggest banks, to help small businesses easily access government-backed financial support.
3. Face-to-face support for exporters in England – delivered via a network of around 250 [international trade advisers](#) (ITAs). ITAs are managed by 9 delivery partners who operate in each of the 9 English regions.
4. [Trade shows](#) – DIT supports trade shows across the world to showcase the best of UK companies from sectors including life sciences, automotive and food and drink.
5. Board of Trade – with representatives from the business community to be the ‘eyes and ears’ of modern businesses. It meets 4 times a year rotated around the UK guaranteeing all parts of the Union have a chance to raise the issues most important to them.

DIT recently launched its [Cyber Security Export Strategy](#), setting out how the government will help the 800 British cyber security firms export their world leading services around the globe.

Further information

- contact the DIT Media and Digital Team on 020 7008 3333
- follow us: [@tradegovuk](#) or [gov.uk/dit](#)