Each year The Queen recognises the Eexceptional service of people across the country, and anyone can nominate anyone else for an honour. So if you know someone in Cheshire who has made an outstanding contribution to the arts, business, charity, education, health and care, sport, tourism, youth work or any other area, why not nominate them now?



## Karen Jones MBE

Karen Jones of Neston was a founding trustee and Chair of Northern Lights Children's Charity which each year provides holidays of a lifetime for youngsters with life-limiting illnesses. She leads a team of volunteers who for over 30 years have raised funds to take hundreds of children to Lapland to see Father Christmas.

### What Are The Different Levels of Awards?

Most successful candidates receive an award within the Order of the British Empire. The specialist honours committees decide which level of award is appropriate:

#### British Empire Medal (BEM)

Awarded for very "hands-on" service to the community in a local area of Cheshire

**Member of the Order of the British Empire (MBE)** *Recognising an achievement or service to the community which has delivered a sustained impact and which stands out as an example to others* 

**Officer of the Order of the British Empire (OBE)** For those who have performed a distinguished North West or Cheshire-wide role in any field

**Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE)** *Rewarding a prominent national or North West role* 

#### Dame or Knight

*For those who have made a pre-eminent contribution in any field, usually at a national level* 

Front cover photo: Ian Anstice BEM of Frodsham receiving his Award from the Lord-Lieutenant

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# Nominating for Honour

Have you ever thought that someone you know deserves to be honoured for their achievements?

Cheshire has many unsung heroes who go the extra mile to serve our communities as volunteers, carers, fundraisers, entrepreneurs and much more.



Honours Lists are published twice a year – at New Year and on The Queen's Official Birthday in June. The Birthday 2019 List contained 1,073 names:

75% of these were people who had undertaken outstanding work in their communities

47% were women

10% were from a Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME) background

6% considered themselves to have a disability

The number of people in Cheshire receiving honours tends to be below the national average - your nomination could make a difference to this.

### Who Can Be Nominated?

You can nominate anyone, but be aware that only exceptional individuals receive an Honour. These are people who have made a real difference to their community and those who live there, have set an example through sustained and selfless voluntary service, and have changed things for the better and gained the respect of their peers. There are some examples in this leaflet.

### How Do I Nominate Someone?

It's simpler than you might think. If you go to <u>www.gov.uk/honours</u> you will find an explanation of the process and an online nomination form. Some advice on how to complete the form can be found on <u>www.cheshirelieutenancy.org.uk</u> You need to describe clearly and concisely what is special about the nominee's achievements and the significant difference which he/she has made. Then please ask two or three people to write letters supporting the nomination.

They should know the nominee and have various types of first-hand experience of the impact of their contribution. Thousands of honours nominations are submitted from around the UK every year, so you need to ensure your nominee truly stands out.

### Who Decides?

Your completed form is submitted to the Cabinet Office, which prepares information for an honours committee. The experts on the committee decide whether someone should be recommended for an honour – and the kind of honour they get.

The committee's recommendations go to the Prime Minister and then to The Queen, who awards the honour. The whole process can take up to 18 months.



# Paul Kerr BEM

Paul Kerr of Tattenhall has been a member of North East Wales Search and Rescue Group for over 25 years, giving up his time and risking his personal safety to rescue people in distress. In addition, as a volunteer for The Prince's Trust, he has helped adolescents in his local community and positively influenced the lives of numerous young people.

## Ann Mayer BEM

Ann Mayer of Bollington was instrumental in establishing the Bridgend Centre in the town as a community-led charity for participation and individual support, especially for the vulnerable - no matter what age. She accepted her BEM "on behalf of all the unsung heroes over the years who still continue to make the Bridgend such a caring, sharing community."