

Chosen few earn awards for outstanding contributions

Queen's honours for Wiltshire superstars

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THE outstanding contributions of Wiltshire residents to the community and their respective workforces were recognised with awards in the Queen's Birthday Honours list.

Kathleen Mary Appleby, of Perry's Lane, Seend Cleeve, was awarded an MBE for her stellar work in the cement and concrete industry for all of her 42-year career.

The managing director of The Concrete Society, based in Camberley, Surrey, was over the moon at receiving the honour.

"I am amazed and delighted to be honoured and accept this award on behalf of colleagues and volunteers I have worked with over many years. I think that I represent a lot of unsung heroes who do a lot of work for this industry," she said.

"I was notified a few weeks ago and had to keep it secret. I finally told my son, Ben, and a couple of close friends just before the announcement was made over the weekend."

Specialist maths teacher, Sheila Claridge received an MBE for being instrumental in the development of a rigorous and highly effective intervention programme called Maths Counts, which is now running in 37 schools in Bristol, Wiltshire, Somerset and London.

The Corsham resident, who worked at the Mead



Kathleen Appleby has been awarded an MBE. Inset, Sheila Claridge and Rosemary Macdonald

Primary for five years until December 2016, said: "I am hugely honoured of course but I didn't work alone by any stretch of the imagination and I feel no more deserving than many wonderful and dedicated colleagues I have worked with over the years, most especially at The Mead.

"I am so pleased it's been announced, my husband and daughters have been bursting to tell family and friends."

Wiltshire Community Foundation chief executive Rosemary Macdonald, 54,

of Westbury Leigh, said her British Empire Medal for services to the county came out of the blue. "I didn't expect it. It is humbling that people think what I've done is worthy of this honour because I would have done it anyway, I think the work is so important," she said.

"I think everyone at the Community Foundation, the staff, the trustees and the supporters, will be very proud that our work has been recognised in this way. It is wonderful."

The WCF is an independent charity that gives grants and funding to the voluntary sector and charities across the county.

Dorset and Wiltshire Fire and Rescue Service's group manager Karen Adams was awarded the Queen's Fire Service Medal for her 24 years working there. In 1994 she became the first whole-time woman firefighter employed by Dorset Fire Brigade. "I am overwhelmed and extremely proud," she said.