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Former long-serving Steeple Morden Postmistress receive royal recognition for serving the community and voluntary work

- King's Birthday Honours recognition for retired Steeple Morden Postmistress Tricia Covington for services to the community
- Will receive British Empire Medal
- Served as Postmistress for 36 years
- Voluntary work for the Royal British Legion and the Poppy appeal
- Runs an art class in the village

Tricia Covington, who was the long-serving Postmistress for Steeple Morden has been given Royal recognition for services to her Cambridgeshire village

After 36 years at the helm Tricia retired in January and she now has been awarded a British Empire Medal in the King's Birthday Honours for her long, dedicated service to Steeple Morden and for her voluntary work.

Whilst working as Postmistress, Tricia was already busy doing voluntary work in the village including the Royal British Legion and the Poppy appeal and running an art class.

Last year Tricia was busy with the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations in the village and this year she was busy with the Coronation celebrations.

The 70-year-old also saw her retirement as an opportunity to do even more voluntary work in her community.

Tricia, took on the role of Postmistress with the encouragement of her family, upon the retirement of the previous Postmistress. She moved the Post Office and small shop moved into the nearby family-run car repair garage in the village, which was started by her parents Barbara and Peter Prothero in 1955 and this still operates today.

Postmistress, Tricia Covington, said: "I've loved my job as Postmistress 99.9 per cent of the time. Not many people have had that level of job satisfaction. I'm a people person. The best thing about the role is the people that you meet. I've got to know people very well. I am delighted to have received this recognition in the King's Birthday Honours."

Post Office Group Chief Retail Officer, Martin Roberts, said: "Tricia has served the Steeple Morden community very well as Postmistress for 36 years. Instead of retiring and taking it easy, Tricia's reaction was great – that will allow me more time to volunteer in her village. This Royal recognition is well deserved with her work with the Royal British Legion and the Poppy appeal, leading art classes and helping the community to mark special Royal occasions."

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Notes to Editors

- With over 11,500 branches, the Post Office network is the biggest retail network in the UK, with more branches than all the banks and building societies combined.
- 98% of Post Office branches are run with retail partners on an agency or franchise basis.
- The Post Office provides services central to peoples' everyday lives; 99.7% of the population lives within 3 miles of a Post Office.
- We offer the UK's largest fee free cash withdrawal network through our 11,500 branches and over 2000 ATMs and 99% of UK bank customers can access their accounts at the Post Office.
- Thousands of Post Office branches are now open longer, with 4000 open 7 days a week, making it even easier for customers to access vital services.
- We sell 170 different products and services spanning financial services including savings, insurance, loans, mortgages and credit cards; Government services; telephony; foreign currency; travel insurance and mail services.
- Post Offices branches remain highly valued and trusted, and are the focal point of many communities. For more information; visit www.postoffice.co.uk and to find out about a Post Office business opportunities; visit www.runapostoffice.co.uk