

lives. While fires were raging and bombs falling, he coolly continued to go, partly on foot and partly by bicycle, from one incident to another administering morphia to those trapped in the wreckage, and applying first aid under conditions of extreme difficulty, with complete disregard for the intense bombardment and for the very real personal danger entailed.

Alfred Leslie Holford, Works Foreman Charge Hand, Birmingham.

The enemy dropped a large salvo of fire bombs on Birmingham, setting on fire some works premises. On his own initiative Holford at once attacked the fire with his firm's fire pump. After some time it was found that the premises of another firm adjoining were on fire and the flames were threatening these buildings. Holford at once tackled the new blaze. For two hours he worked alone, in great difficulties, as the only means of approach for the hoses lay over long lengths of roof. He went on in spite of enemy aircraft which were still overhead. The fire was eventually mastered.

Some two hours later further enemy attacks set a third factory ablaze. From a very perilous position on the roof and with the probability that large stocks of material in the burning buildings might at any moment explode, Holford by his tenacity and courage saved this factory also.

Archibald Lennie, A.R.P. Warden, Bootle.

Warden Lennie, who was off duty, reported at his post when an air raid warning sounded, and, on hearing the explosion of an H.E. bomb, cycled in the direction from which the sound had come, arriving on the scene within a few minutes. On being informed that there were some members of the family in a damaged house he immediately set to work clearing the debris and assisted in liberating a man. On hearing cries from a girl, he got in the hole through which her father had been taken and grasped the girl's hand. She could not move but called out that she felt all right. Lennie held her hand and cleared the debris with his free hand. He first freed her face which he covered with his steel helmet, borrowing another from a brother warden. He kept working his way through the debris freeing the girl limb by limb and was so occupied for two and a half hours. During all this time he was in danger of being buried in the debris which kept falling in as he cleared the way.

Lennie's work was an inspiration to the other wardens who were in attendance and his tenacity and resource saved the girl's life.

Robert Lindsay, M.B., Ch.B., Medical Officer, Casualty Mobile Unit, Folkestone.

Two children were trapped under the debris of some houses demolished as a result of enemy action. At great personal risk to himself, Dr. Lindsay crawled through a gap in the debris and sawed through fallen wood-work so that the children might be rescued. His danger was increased by escaping gas.

At another house, which was completely demolished, Dr. Lindsay crawled through a hole made in the debris to the aid of a

trapped boy, cleared the boy's face of earth and rubble, administered morphia to him and directed the operations of the Rescue Party. The boy was eventually released.

Dr. Lindsay acted at considerable risk to himself and it was mainly due to him that the children were rescued alive.

William Pendle, Stoker, Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street.

When this hospital was bombed, the explosion shattered the furnaces and burst gas and water mains. Pendle was in the stokehole when the explosion blew the burning coal from his furnace into the rooms. Three water mains and a gas main were burst, the gas catching fire. Through the openings into the stokehole flames could be seen rising to a height of 70 feet and water in enormous volume burst into this part of the building, filling up the coal bunkers below and then rising rapidly in the stoke-hole itself. Through all this inferno Pendle calmly proceeded to draw his fires, shut off steam and made all as safe as possible, not leaving until this was done. By this time the water was swirling up to his waist and he then had to struggle to the narrow staircase through floating debris to reach ground level.

Norman Stanley Petts, Civilian, Uxbridge.  
John William Livesey, A.R.P. Warden, Uxbridge.

Two houses were demolished by enemy action during an air raid. Mr. Petts and Mr. Livesey were engaged in assisting to rescue some people who were buried underneath the debris. Working together they first excavated a hole and burrowed down towards where they had heard a man's voice. When the hole was sufficiently large one of the men crawled in, followed later by the other. After gaining contact with the buried man, the two men freed him by moving the debris under which he was trapped, having first strutted up the wreckage around him. They finally succeeded in getting him out. The rescue was carried out under great difficulty as the rescuers had to work lying on their sides.

Had the wreckage further collapsed, Petts and Livesey most certainly would have been trapped and, in addition, there was an escape of gas which would have proved fatal to any person buried under the wreckage.

Arthur Leslie Swansborough, Patrol Officer, Southend-on-Sea Fire Brigade.

Following an enemy air attack a number of petrol tanks caught fire and blazed furiously. One tank blew up and P/O Swansborough immediately gave orders for the firemen to abandon their hoses and run. One fireman, in scrambling over oil pipes fell into a crater containing oil and water and, owing to the deep and slippery nature of the sides, it was impossible for him to get out unaided. P/O Swansborough immediately turned back and rescued the man from the crater which, a few seconds later, was a mass of flames from the burning petrol, the heat being so intense that both men received burns on the neck and hands. P/O Swansborough's courageous action undoubtedly saved the life of the fireman.