



SUPPLEMENT

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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1,
21st March, 1941.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointment to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for the following awards of the George Medal and the Medal of the said Most Excellent Order, and for the publication in the London Gazette of the names of the persons specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for their brave conduct in Civil Defence:—

To be an Additional Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

Albert Edward Johnson, D.S.M., Superintendent, Police Fire Brigade, Portsmouth.

Superintendent Johnson displayed commendable courage, determination and leadership during enemy air raids on Portsmouth.

He visited the concentrated fire areas, regardless of all personal danger, giving directions and encouragement to the personnel. He was largely responsible for the excellent state of the morale of the fire fighting services, and his help was incalculable.

Awarded the George Medal:—

Robert Leslie Arnold, Foreman A.R.P. Rescue Party, Birmingham.

Four houses were wrecked during an air raid and a man was buried underneath. To reach him it was necessary to tunnel through from the outside. This was particularly dangerous because the debris, surrounded by walls which were in danger of falling at any moment, was partly on fire. Time was short and Arnold burrowed through until he reached the man, whom he then drew out through the hole he had made. Arnold was well aware that at any moment he might be overwhelmed by the collapse of his burrow since there had been no time to place any supporting timber in it. He showed great courage and devotion to duty.

On other occasions Arnold has rescued many persons, often in extremely dangerous circumstances.

Walter Thomas Bates, Acting Deputy Superintendent, A.R.P. Casualty Service, Birmingham.

During an air raid, a depot in which a number of people were sheltering, received two direct hits by H.E. bombs.

Mr. Bates immediately entered the building—which was in danger of collapse—in order to rescue the injured and render first aid to those who could not immediately be

brought out. He released five persons who were trapped under a girder and rescued twelve others.

The second bomb caused Mr. Bates to be flung to the ground. Regardless of flying debris, the increased danger of collapse of the buildings and the possibility of the boilers in the cleansing station bursting, he continued his rescue work.

His courage and devotion to duty were an inspiration to his colleagues.

Henry Leslie Brooke, Leader, A.R.P. Rescue Service, Coventry.

A dwelling house was demolished by a high explosive bomb and the six occupants were buried in the wreckage.

Brooke and his men rescued two of the victims. Groans were heard from the direction of the cellar where a man was seen to be trapped by heavy timber. A hole was cut in the wall through which to remove debris by means of a bucket. In this confined space—too small for the use of an ordinary saw—Brooke worked with a hacksaw for three hours in conditions of considerable danger from falling debris and escaping coal gas. He would not leave his task until his efforts were successful because he knew the great danger of movement. He even administered an injection to the injured man under the guidance of a doctor.

In saving this man's life Brooke displayed exceptional gallantry and determination.

George Robert Butler, Meat Factory Hand, Liverpool.

John Jackson, Grocer's Assistant, Liverpool.

A high explosive bomb totally demolished three dwelling houses and severely damaged others. A woman was buried and trapped under the debris of one house in which a fire broke out.

Jackson and Butler were attracted to the scene by the woman's screams and immediately began the work of rescuing her.

They removed a large amount of debris and Jackson, going first, made a tunnel, passing the debris out to Butler, who followed him and threw it clear.

Continuing these operations they were successful in reaching and extricating the woman who was suffering from severe burns.

While effecting the rescue both Jackson and Butler were in constant danger of being trapped under the debris, part of which was on fire and likely to fall on them at any moment. There was also heavy gunfire at the time and bombs were dropped in the neighbourhood.

George Hubert Dean, Police Constable	} Metropolitan Police.
John William Turner Mead, Police Constable	
Rov Victor Edward Slowley, Police Constable	
Ernest John Tricker, Police Constable	

John Thomas Cain, Costermonger, Hackney.

The factory premises of a Paint Manufacturer received a direct hit from a H.E. bomb.

One end was wrecked and it was not long before the whole building was ablaze.

P.Cs. Dean, Mead, Tricker and Slowley arrived on the scene, and were joined by Cain, a boy aged 15. Cain knew that several persons were trapped in the private basement shelter directly underneath the fire, and the party separated in an endeavour to find an entrance.

After being repelled several times by smoke and heat, they all eventually found their way into the basement, having to pass through burning wreckage, paint, water and "live" electric wires dropping around them from the ceiling. Paint was inches deep on the floor, and within a very short time the whole party was saturated.

They found that a part of the basement had collapsed and several men were trapped underneath. The debris and everything around was running with oil paint, which was pouring from the floors above, and flames were rapidly approaching. The officers and the boy Cain speedily freed six men from the wreckage and carried them on doors and planks to where ambulances waited to take them to hospital.

A few minutes after the last of the six victims had been removed from the basement, the whole interior of the building collapsed.

The rescues from the shelter under this factory were effected at great personal risk—a risk which must have been recognised by all concerned. There would have been no possible chance of escape for the rescued persons had the police constables and the boy not accepted the risk and faced it with gallantry and courage.

Calypso Clarence Gammon, District Officer, Birmingham Fire Brigade.

District Officer Gammon was in charge at premises which had been severely bombed and were ablaze from end to end.

An Auxiliary Fireman, whilst engaged on the fire, ventured too far along one of the passage-ways at the side of the building. The heat caused one wall to collapse outwards and he was struck, rendered unconscious and buried by the debris.

Gammon found him in a sitting position surrounded by burning wreckage. His legs were pinned under a large concrete girder and the flames were rapidly sweeping towards him.

The District Officer removed the almost red hot brickwork with his hands, and, despite the fact that other portions of the wall were continually falling in and the fire had almost reached him, succeeded in lifting the concrete girder and released the man. District Officer Gammon displayed great courage and disregard for his own safety.

Arthur Edward Knibbs, General Dealer, Birmingham.

A high explosive bomb demolished a house, trapping two women and a youth. Knibbs climbed over debris and rescued the younger girl. There was a small hole leading down to the kitchen fire, which was still burning.

He went down this opening and saw the youth with his head under a beam. He released his head and dragged him out. A girl was pinned in a chair under a beam and it was necessary to saw the seat and one arm away to release her. Knibbs was working in a cramped position, close to the fire grate, for nearly two hours, and there was considerable risk of the house collapsing and trapping him. Bombs were also dropped in the neighbourhood during the time rescue work was being undertaken.

Mr. Knibbs acted in a most courageous manner without regard to his own safety.

Robert Pritchard, Member, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Bootle.

David Charles Forshaw, Police Sergeant, Bootle Police Force.

Thomas Joseph McCarthy, Police Constable, Bootle Police Force.

Victor James Scott, Police Constable, Bootle Police Force.

A heavy calibre H.E. bomb completely demolished some houses and partially destroyed others.

Part of the debris was immediately removed and a hole made in it towards a window, below ground floor level, in front of the cellar. Sergeant Forshaw squeezed through and helped the imprisoned persons out. Whilst inside, the wreckage gradually subsided and, shortly after he got out, the debris burst into flames and crashed into the cellar. The Sergeant, who sustained burns and other injuries, showed courage of an extremely high order.

The whole structure of one house had collapsed in a tangled mass of timber and rubble. Showing considerable daring P.Cs. Scott and McCarthy were able to extricate a mother and daughter. Pritchard made a working space, carefully shifting the bricks.

Scott located a child lying face downwards partly protected by a piece of timber. In a very confined space, with no head room and in a cramped position, Scott cleared the boy's head and shoulders. Pritchard got half inside the inner clearance and, assisted by McCarthy, they continued to remove the debris covering the victim.

After a considerable time they were able to release the child who was then passed out unharmed.

McCarthy, Scott and Pritchard displayed great courage and daring, knowing that tons of loose debris above were likely to fall at any moment.

Awarded the George Medal:—

William Gordon Adam, Superintendent.	} Gas Light and Coke Company.
Llewellyn Treleven Rinder, Works Officer.	
Frederick John Redman, M.M., Chief Valve- man.	

Awarded the Medal of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for Meritorious Service:—

Frederick James Win- chester, Assistant Valveman.	} Gas Light and Coke Company.
George Cornelius Bond, Assistant Valveman.	
Leslie Cyril James Godward, Ambulance Driver.	
A n d r e w T h o m a s McGuire, Ambulance Driver.	

A very heavy air attack was made on a large gas works and high explosive and incendiary bombs caused many fires.

Steam, was escaping and dense clouds of sulphurous fumes blinded and choked the men who had to cope with the situation.

Mr. Adam and Mr. Rinder entered the blazing area to report on the conditions. They were joined by Mr. Winchester and the three men entered a retort house to turn off the valve of a broken main. While doing this a bomb fell close by and blew Rinder through the doorway. Eventually the valve was located and the flame brought under control. Three times during the night, while the raid was still in progress, the men entered burning retort houses to shut off valves, showing courage and coolness in the face of great danger.

Mr. Redman was responsible for saving some of the gas holders by turning off the valves, a long and difficult process. To do this he worked between blazing sheds and pumping stations with bombs falling all round. There was the added danger of exploding mains and gas fumes. Redman displayed great courage and endurance.

Mr. Bond remained at his post throughout the night and directed the operations necessary to save the complicated plant in his charge. His bravery and persistent devotion to duty were an inspiration to the men under him.

Mr. Godward and Mr. McGuire reported with the Company's Ambulance and First Aid services and performed rescue work in the open during heavy bombing and anti-aircraft fire. Their gallantry in collecting casualties and conveying them to hospital, was outstanding.

Awarded the George Medal:—

Thomas Meiklejohn, Deputy Divisional A.R.P. Warden, Stoke-on-Trent.

Awarded the Medal of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for Meritorious Service:—

John Albert Steele, Head A.R.P. Warden, Stoke-on-Trent.

Frank Lowe, Member, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Stoke-on-Trent.

Enemy bombs fell on a dwelling house and an adjoining public house. Seven persons were trapped under the wreckage. Mr. Meiklejohn assumed charge of the rescue work with Mr. Steele and Mr. Lowe helping.

They worked hard and continuously in very difficult conditions. A large gas main in the roadway was fractured and on fire.

The debris was burning with pockets of escaping gas continually exploding. Several times the Fire Service had to play upon the flames which were threatening the rescue workers. The work of tunnelling was very difficult, as, owing to the amount of debris, it was impossible to get at the source of the fire which was being fed by escaping gas.

It was mainly due to Meiklejohn, in co-operation with Steele and Lowe, that four persons were got out alive and without serious injury.

Awarded the Medal of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for Meritorious Service:—

Ernest Adams, Assistant Commandant, Croydon A.R.P. Stretcher Party.

Herbert Gibbs, Section Officer, A.R.P. Stretcher Party, Croydon.

Some persons were trapped in a house, the whole of which had collapsed after receiving a direct hit from a H.E. bomb. Whilst the rescue party were digging a tunnel through the house, Gibbs and Adams built a bridge over the debris to facilitate the removal of the casualties. They then went down the tunnel and, with the aid of the rescue party, removed some furniture which had fallen on top of a man, and gradually lifted him out. This required the greatest care as the slightest mistake might have caused the house to fall in on them. The operation took over seven hours.

Adams and Gibbs exposed themselves to great danger and set a fine example to the men.

Thomas Alker, Police Sergeant, Manchester City Police.

During a heavy air raid some works premises were set on fire. Sergeant Alker organised a party of men, and, while A.F.S. units fought the flames, he arranged for the removal of a large number of motor tyres from the burning building. At the same incident a fire was discovered near to an ammunition store, and Sergeant Alker, showing a total disregard of danger to himself, went on the roof of a tool shed and extinguished the flames, thereby saving the ammunition.

Jim Allen, Technical Assistant, South Metropolitan Gas Company.

Allen was the A.R.P. Control Officer at a gas works when a bomb fell on a gas purifier. In spite of the danger from escaping gas he isolated the damaged plant and extinguished the fire. An added danger was the possibility of an explosion. Mr. Allen carried out his duties efficiently and his coolness was a source of inspiration to those working under him.

Charles Bigland, Constable, Salford Fire Brigade.

During an air raid Constable Bigland was one of a detachment sent to a gas works, where an incendiary bomb had penetrated the top of a gasometer, causing a tongue of flame which was acting as a beacon to enemy aircraft.

A hose was placed into position at the side of the gasometer which was then between sixty

and seventy feet in height. Bigland immediately climbed up a steel ladder to the top, lay flat on his stomach and remained in that position until he had succeeded in subduing the flame with a powerful jet. Employees of the gas works then sealed the hole with a steel plate and clay.

Bigland's fearless action set a magnificent example to others working with him.

John James Bryant, Foreman, Gas Light and Coke Company.

When a large works was set on fire by enemy bombardment, Bryant volunteered to shut off the supply of gas.

Arriving at the factory he found it had been burnt to the ground but, instead of returning to his headquarters, he remained in the area and visited other buildings, doing all that he could to save them. Bryant, who is nearly sixty years of age, persisted in his efforts for over thirty-six hours and showed great courage and devotion to duty in extremely dangerous conditions.

Clifford Budsworth, A.R.P. Warden, Salford.

Budsworth has shown courage and coolness throughout the enemy air raids on Salford. On more than one occasion he has rescued people trapped in demolished houses and has successfully tackled many fires caused by incendiary bombs. His behaviour has been an inspiration to his fellow wardens.

Nathan Dantzig, Leader, First Aid Party, Salford.

Leader Dantzig was in charge of First Aid Parties during an air raid. Hearing cries for help, he raised the remaining portion of a damaged Anderson shelter and commenced digging with his bare hands. The first person he recovered was dead, but, undaunted, he carried on tunnelling, regardless of the danger to himself from falling debris and high explosive bombs. Dantzig worked untiringly and rescued four people. During the periods of danger his calmness and efficient leadership had a reassuring effect on his men.

William George, Police Constable, Manchester City Police.

During an enemy air raid P.C. George went to several places where unexploded time bombs had fallen. He displayed a calm devotion to duty, making thorough investigations and arranging for the evacuation of persons within the danger areas. At one such incident the bomb exploded and the Constable was blown against a wall by the blast. Despite the shock, he refused to go off duty and gave valuable help at other incidents.

William Thomas Lee, Driver, Gas Light and Coke Co.

During a very heavy air raid, a large gas main was hit and set on fire. Volunteers from the gas company set out to close the valves.

Lee, as the driver of the van, displayed great courage and skill in getting through to the scene of the fire. It was necessary to drive through streets with burning buildings on either side, over rubble and shattered glass, and around bomb craters. When returning, a bomb dropped in front of the van and Lee was rendered unconscious. He was rescued by the Police but, on recovering, immediately returned to his headquarters and reported for duty.

Francis George Markin, Inspector, Salford Police Force.

Houses were wrecked by high explosive bombs and persons trapped under the wreckage. Inspector Markin attended and organised rescue operations. Throughout, enemy aircraft dropped incendiary and high explosive bombs. Though the work of rescue was hampered by the danger of the property collapsing, it continued until all persons were extricated.

The Inspector helped to recover the dead and injured, and took charge of a Police Rescue Party engaged in fighting a nearby fire.

His courage and complete disregard of danger was most encouraging to all.

George Harold Nicholls, Section Officer, London Auxiliary Fire Service.

Upon arrival at a fire it was reported to Nicholls that a woman was trapped in the building. Although the roof was liable to fall, and there was a possibility of being overcome by escaping gas, he disregarded all danger and crawled through the debris, rendered First Aid, and finally rescued her.

The roof actually collapsed a few minutes after the woman had been brought to safety.

William Petley, General Mechanic, Chief Engineer's Department, London County Council.

Petley exhibited conspicuous devotion to duty when hospital buildings were destroyed by fire during an air raid. He assisted the Fire Brigade in rescuing, by river, female nursing and domestic staff, and local residents. He himself remained behind, working incessantly throughout the afternoon and evening, fighting the fires, until the evacuation of the area was ordered.

George Wally, Ambulance Driver, Salford.

A house was demolished during an air raid. On arrival at the scene Wally volunteered to tunnel through with bare hands, as a pick and shovel could not be used. After labouring strenuously for two hours, refusing all offers of relief, he was successful in locating a woman who was trapped by large beams across her legs. Pending the arrival of a doctor, Wally, without thought of personal danger, protected the woman with his own body from the danger of the roof of the tunnel collapsing. After the doctor had administered morphia, Wally returned along the tunnel, removed the beams and extricated the woman.

Tom Nicholas Wilcock, Station Officer, London Fire Brigade.

Station Officer Wilcock was in charge of a Fire Pump when a bomb exploded nearby, disabling the appliance, severely wounding one member of the crew and injuring two others.

Several trams and a char-a-banc were wrecked, and two gas mains, one on each side of the road, were fractured and set on fire.

Assisted by his men, he forced his way into a burning tramcar and extricated the injured conductor and passengers. After his wounds had been dressed he returned to

the station, and, obtaining a spare appliance, had it manned by some of his crew, with himself in charge.

Wilcock, although suffering great pain from cuts and shock caused by glass splinters and blast, showed initiative and courage.

COMMENDATIONS.

Those named below have been brought to notice for brave conduct in Civil Defence.

Francis Henry Arden, Fireman, London Fire Brigade.

William Leonard Ashman, Assistant Engineer, Portsmouth and Gosport Gas Company.

Richard Bailey, Police Sergeant, Manchester City Police.

Derryck Barnes, Mechanical Engineer, Paddington.

Mary Barrow, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Medical Practitioner, Birmingham.

Walter Christopher Baverstock, M.M., Retort House Fireman, Gas Light and Coke Company.

William Beckett, Special Constable, Salford Special Constabulary.

Arthur Cyril Beech, Patrol Officer, Wolverhampton Auxiliary Fire Service.

Harry George Percy Blunden, Fireman, London Fire Brigade.

James Bowtell, Section Officer, London Auxiliary Fire Service.

Robert Bracken, Leader, First Aid Party, Salford.

William Bernard Burton, Leader, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Nottingham.

Leonard Albert Butchers, Temporary Acting Sub-Officer, London Fire Brigade.

James Calvert, Fireman, London Fire Brigade.

Edmund Henry Charnock, J.P., Chief A.R.P. Warden, Smethwick.

Andrew Campbell Clarke, M.B.E., M.B., Ch.B., Divisional Police Surgeon, Salford Police Force.

Frederick Henderson Cope, Assistant Works Chemist, South Metropolitan Gas Company.

Arthur Ralph Daunton, A.R.P. Warden, Croydon.

Arthur Davenport, M.M., Police Constable, Manchester City Police.

Patricia May Davies, Auxiliary, London Women's Auxiliary Fire Service.

Frank Leslie Dawson, Labourer, Gas Light and Coke Company.

Robert Thornton Oscar Day (deceased), Leader, Work's Firefighting Squad, John Palmer Ltd., Portsmouth.

Walter Edward Dennis, Depot Superintendent, A.R.P. Casualty Service, Weymouth.

Arthur David Duffy, Auxiliary Messenger, London Auxiliary Fire Service.

Arthur John Ellis, Fireman, London Fire Brigade.

John Evans, Acting Officer, Birmingham Fire Brigade.

George Thomas Farrow, Siphon Pumper, Gas Light and Coke Company.

William Frost, Lorry Driver, Wandsworth.

William Gregorv, Police Constable, Manchester City Police.

Ernest William Griggs, Siphon Pumper, Gas Light and Coke Company.

Thomas William Haigh, A.R.P. Warden, Birkenhead.

Albert William Herring, A.R.P. Warden, Paddington.

- James Hogan, Leading Fireman, Birmingham Auxiliary Fire Service.
- Rosina Holton, Auxiliary, London Women's Auxiliary Fire Service.
- Gerard Charles Jones, Leader, First Aid Party, Salford.
- Jack Benjamin Kempton, Draughtsman, Gas Light and Coke Company.
- Leonard Frank King, Auxiliary Fireman, London Auxiliary Fire Service.
- Arthur Horace Lancaster, Auxiliary Fireman, London Auxiliary Fire Service.
- Reginald Bertram Little, Fireman, London Fire Brigade.
- Norman McCaig, Inspector, Wallasey Special Constabulary.
- Jean Adele Mackie, Auxiliary, London Women's Auxiliary Fire Service.
- Sydney Stuart Macro, Auxiliary Fireman, London Auxiliary Fire Service.
- Miss Mabel Elizabeth Manning, Canteen Worker, Metropolitan Police Food Service.
- Edward Markham, Valve Locator, Gas Light and Coke Company.
- Walter Hubert Meizner, Valve Locator, Gas Light and Coke Company.
- George William Metcalfe, Fireman, Birmingham Fire Brigade.
- William Henry Miles, Jnr., Member, First Aid Party, Gas Light and Coke Company.
- William Morley, Work's Fire Officer, South Metropolitan Gas Company.
- Ronald Noble, Junior Station Inspector, Metropolitan Police.
- Bertie Edward Pearmine, Auxiliary Fireman, London Auxiliary Fire Service.
- Julia, Mrs. Pearson, Post Officer, A.R.P. Casualty Service, Birmingham.
- Albert Edward Porter, Member, First Aid Party, Gas Light and Coke Company.
- Cyril John Potter, Deputy Head A.R.P. Warden, Birmingham.
- John Walter Potts, A.R.P. Warden, Croydon.
- Frank Prendergast, Police Constable, Manchester City Police.
- William Harold Price, Police Constable, Birmingham City Police.
- Miss Mabel Prince, A.R.P. Warden, Liverpool.
- John Quinton, Patrol Officer, Wolverhampton Auxiliary Fire Service.
- Ernest Alfred Redfern, Police Sergeant, Manchester City Police.
- Sidney Victor Redman, A.R.P. Warden, Croydon.
- Albert Edward Salisbury, Police Sergeant, Birmingham City Police.
- William Arthur Scarborough, Assistant Foreman, Gas Light and Coke Company.
- George Thomas Sharp, Police Constable, Birmingham City Police.
- George Shedden, Temporary Acting Sub-Officer, London Fire Brigade.
- Stanley James Shillingford, Special Constable, "V" Division, Metropolitan Special Constabulary.
- Arthur Robert Thomas Smith, Retort House Worker, Gas Light and Coke Company.
- Charles Albert Stevens, Sub-Officer, London Fire Brigade.
- Charles Albert William Timme, Leading Auxiliary Fireman, London Auxiliary Fire Service.
- Frederick Charles Walker, Temporary Acting Sub-Officer, London Fire Brigade.
- Alexander Duncan Wardrop, Police Constable, Manchester City Police.
- William T. Wharton, Ordinary Seaman, Merchant Navy.
- Alfred White, Fireman, Birmingham Fire Brigade.
- Henry Thomas Whiting, Acting Assistant Mains Superintendent, Gas Light and Coke Company.
- Charles Albert Wilford, Fireman, Birmingham Fire Brigade.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS
OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1.
March, 1941.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the publication in the London Gazette of the names of the persons specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for their brave conduct.

Commendations.

For attempting to rescue the crew of a crashed and burning aircraft:—

- Clement Claude Bennis, Chauffeur, Norwich.
- Herbert Fitzwilliam Brundish, Senior A.R.P. Warden, Norwich.
- Benjamin Stanley Hardesty, Police Constable, Norfolk County Constabulary.
- Gerald Cozens Wiley, Special Constable, Norfolk County Constabulary.

For services when an enemy aircraft crashed and caught fire:—

- Arthur Thomas Beaumont (deceased), Sub-Officer, Faversham Fire Brigade.

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