



**SUPPLEMENT**

TO

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**FRIDAY, 13 JUNE, 1941**

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.**

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

*13th June, 1941.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointments to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for the following awards of the George Medal and of the British Empire Medal, 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 Additional Members of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—*

James Frederick Collins, Chief Officer, Bootle Fire Brigade.

During air raids on Merseyside, Chief Officer Collins has acted with courage and endurance.

His leadership of the Fire Services has been outstanding and, by his efforts, much valuable property has been saved.

Jack Lloyd Pelham, Deputy Borough Engineer and Surveyor, Head of Rescue Service, Hendon.

During air raids on his district Mr. Pelham has taken a very active part in the location of casualties, and at many incidents he has crawled through tunnels under wrecked buildings to make personal investigations.

Mr. Pelham has shown great courage and has devoted himself to rescue work with untiring energy.

William Edward Sweet, Chief Officer, Ipswich Fire Brigade.

Serious fires broke out during an enemy air attack and many buildings were endangered.

Chief Officer Sweet dealt with the situation in an extremely efficient and courageous manner.

Under his leadership the fire brigades worked magnificently until the fires were extinguished.

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

George John Duncan, Works Manager, The Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Gateshead Gas Company.

*Awarded the George Medal:—*

Joseph Callaghan, Yard Foreman (A.R.P. Worker), The Newcastle-upon-Tyne and Gateshead Gas Company.

During an air raid incendiary bombs fell on a Gas Works and started fires at many points. Mr. Duncan climbed to the top of a gas holder and sealed two burning escapes and a third which had not ignited. Though hostile aircraft were constantly overhead he remained on top of the holder for half an hour, during which period some H.E. bombs

were dropped nearby. After completing temporary repairs, Mr. Duncan heard the hiss of a further unignited escape from the far side of the holder. He obtained volunteers and directed them in the necessary repair work.

Callaghan noticed flames issuing from the crown of a gas holder. He climbed to the top and, after considerable difficulty, extinguished and sealed off an escape. In this case a bomb had burst open a seam and repeated efforts were necessary to effect a repair. In making these attempts single-handed, Callaghan suffered severe gassing but managed to reach ground level where he partly revived. Having previously noted incendiaries on top of another holder Callaghan, though still suffering from the effects of gas, climbed to the crown and stopped the leak. He was later discovered unconscious on the ground by Mr. Duncan who promptly administered oxygen and undoubtedly saved Callaghan's life.

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

Charles Ernest Metcalf, Station Engineer, The Rochester, Chatham and Gillingham Gas Company.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—*

William Edward Divers, Retort House Foreman, The Rochester, Chatham and Gillingham Gas Company.

During an air raid incendiary bombs fell on a Gas Works and started numerous fires.

Mr. Metcalf, accompanied by Divers, climbed a large holder, 147 feet high. Together they put out a fierce fire and sealed the hole with iron plates and clay. Divers sustained burns on the hands and arms. They then went to the crown of a second holder and stopped another leak. While these proceedings were taking place enemy aircraft were passing overhead and bombs were falling in the surrounding district.

Mr. Metcalf handled a dangerous situation with courage and resolution and was ably assisted by Mr. Divers.

*Awarded the George Medal:—*

Laura Bateman, M.B., B.Ch., Medical Officer, Brook Hospital, Shooter's Hill.

When the Brook Hospital was bombed two maids were imprisoned by debris. Dr. Bateman quickly relieved the suffering of the first maid but the other was buried under girders and masonry. Dr. Bateman volunteered to crawl under the wreckage and administer an anaesthetic. A porter held her, suspended by her ankles, while she reached the casualty and successfully carried out the injection.

A slight subsidence might have resulted in her being trapped and fatally crushed. The danger was very apparent but this did not deter Dr. Bateman from carrying out a gallant and difficult action.

William Jesse Darch, Officer in Charge, First Aid Party Depot, Birkenhead.

Two children were buried under the debris of a bombed house. Mr. Darch crawled through and got under the wreckage. Lying

on his stomach he burrowed his way forward with his bare hands. After some hours' work he was at last able to free one child. Mr. Darch remained in the hole although the wreckage was smouldering and generally unsafe and gradually released the second child.

The whole time Mr. Darch performed a very dangerous task with great gallantry and determination.

James Frederick John	} "K" Division, Metropolitan Police.
Scott Flett, War	
Reserve Constable,	
William Loen Stone,	
Police Constable,	

A H.E. bomb demolished a house and a little girl was trapped. Police Constable Stone made a small hole in the debris and War Reserve Flett was lowered into it. He first extinguished a fire burning in the fireplace. Then Stone entered the opening and a search was made for the child. After they had removed a considerable amount of debris by hand, she was discovered pinned underneath a slab of brickwork upon which a steel girder and wooden rafter were resting. With a crowbar the rescuers levered up the brickwork and extricated the child, who was conveyed to hospital.

The rescue operations lasted for nearly an hour. Whilst tunnelling under the debris, the officers were working head downwards under masonry which was liable to collapse at any moment. They also had to contend with the dangers of fire and a strong leakage of gas.

Police Constable Stone and War Reserve Flett showed great gallantry in effecting the rescue.

Charles Arthur Freeman, A.R.P. Warden, Birmingham.

A high explosive bomb demolished dwelling houses. Warden Freeman tunnelled with his hands beneath the wreckage at the edge of the crater and worked unceasingly for five hours to rescue eight trapped people. During this time he was in grave danger from overhanging masonry and escaping gas.

Warden Freeman showed great courage and determination.

Charles Arthur Hales, Police Sergeant, "K" Division, Metropolitan Police.

During an air raid a cinema was set on fire and Sergeant Hales, with other police officers and a fireman, entered the building. Bombs were dropped and all the men were thrown to the ground, covered with flying debris and stunned.

Hales was the first to recover. He picked up one policeman and carried him down the staircase to the street. The Sergeant then immediately returned and brought out a War Reserve Constable in the same manner. By this time the building was well alight, part of the roof having fallen in. Without hesitation, the Sergeant re-entered the blazing building and found the fireman lying unconscious on the ground floor. Hales was too exhausted to carry the man out and had to drag him by the shoulders to safety.

He then collapsed but revived and remained on duty, later helping to extinguish another fire and to release several people who

were sheltering in the basement of demolished premises.

Sergeant Hales displayed gallantry and devotion to duty of a high standard and repeatedly risked his life to save his comrades.

William Joseph Smaje, A.R.P. Stretcher Party Instructor, St. Pancras.

A man was trapped beneath a considerable amount of burning and unstable debris which was itself surmounted by a damaged three-storey building.

A Stretcher Party Leader went in under the debris and attempted to reach the man but was forced to retire owing to the spread of fire and the dense smoke which resulted. He was able to report that the casualty was still alive.

Mr. Smaje, after repeated attempts, while the fire was still burning and at a time when it was known that a large tank of paraffin was likely to explode at any moment, succeeded in reaching the man and persisted in his efforts to release him until he collapsed as the result of partial asphyxiation.

Smaje, although warned against entering the tunnel, continued in his efforts with complete disregard of the great risk to his own life.

Harry Edwin Thomas Stonham, Leader, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Ilford.

Bombs demolished a number of houses and shops. Stonham and his squad went to the rescue of a woman and young baby who were buried beneath ten feet of debris adjacent to an extremely dangerous wall. The wreckage around this point was on fire. Stonham tunnelled into the debris from under a stairway which was partially collapsed. Fires broke out and the Auxiliary Fire Service were unable to overcome the flames but by skilful use of the hoses they were able to hold them in check.

After five hours constant tunnelling, Stonham was able to reach the woman, who was pinned by two beams, and to clear the loose debris from around her. He jacked up one beam and continued working on the other until he collapsed from exhaustion. He was relieved by another rescue party and the woman and baby were extricated and conveyed to Hospital.

The rescue was only possible as a result of high courage and skill exhibited by Stonham who risked his life in his efforts to release the mother and her child.

Henry Ernest Sweetland, Driver, A.R.P. Stretcher Party, Deptford.

During a heavy air raid Sweetland was acting as driver of a mobile canteen. He volunteered to go out with a stretcher party but a bomb fell nearby and Sweetland, who suffered severely from blast, had to be brought back for treatment. In spite of his injury, Sweetland insisted on going out again and rescued two people who had been trapped under burning debris. He picked up one of the injured persons and commenced to carry him to safety. Whilst so engaged another H.E. bomb dropped within a few yards and, still holding the patient, he was carried by blast on to some telegraph wires which, after a moment, gave way. Both fell to the ground, Sweetland sustaining an injury to his

shoulder. There was no assistance at hand and Sweetland carried his patient some distance to an ambulance and saw him safely removed to hospital. He then returned and gave further help to the injured.

Sweetland continued to work throughout the night although suffering from torn fibres of the neck and shoulder and bleeding ears and nose.

Sweetland displayed outstanding courage and devotion to duty and his gallant efforts resulted in the saving of many lives.

*Awarded the George Medal:—*

Edwin Bainbridge, Chief Valveman,	} Gas Light and Coke Company.
Daniel Frederick Clarke, Second Valveman,	

*Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—*

Frederick Henry Brooks, Foreman,	} Gas Light and Coke Company.
George James Ffitch, Locomotive Driver,	
Ernest Victor Hignett, Luteman,	

Many bombs were dropped on a Gas Works and fierce fires were started. Flames roared from the sides and crowns of punctured holders and the whole area was lit up, making a target for further bombing. Bainbridge and Clarke worked heroically to get the fires under control. With conspicuous courage the two men, disregarding the falling bombs and shell splinters, went from holder to holder to close the inlet valves, and eventually succeeded in subduing the flames. Hignett assisted in these operations and showed coolness and determination.

Brooks was in charge of a producer plant which was in danger from the fires. Although almost surrounded by the flames, he remained at his post and put into operation effective measures which prevented explosions and serious damage. Brooks' devotion to duty was outstanding.

Ffitch was in his locomotive when a bomb broke an oil pipe line. Oil flooded the ground round the engine and burst into flames. In order to save the engine he got down to uncouple the trucks. As he did so another bomb fell a few yards away and the blast flung him into the well of the engine. Ffitch picked himself up, uncoupled the trucks and moved the engine to safety. He did his duty coolly and courageously in the face of great danger.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—*

Joseph Great, Engineman, London and North Eastern Railway.

A ship was damaged and on fire. The engine-room was flooded to a depth of eleven feet, and the water level was still rising. Two tugs endeavoured to pump out the water but were unable to cope with the inflow. Great volunteered to get into the engine-room and locate the trouble. He had to climb over the engine, lower himself down to the main pipe and crawl along it. He discovered a fracture in the main ejector valve and sealed it. The tugs were then able to cope with the inflow of water and to lower it to a safe level.

During the time Great was in the engine-room he was in grave danger and by his action the ship was saved.

Frederick George Gregory, Clerk of Works, St. Pancras.

A H.E. bomb demolished domestic premises and several persons were trapped. A heavy leakage of coal gas necessitated Rescue personnel working in relays. Mr. Gregory, disregarding his personal safety, directed the work throughout, refusing to be relieved until finally rendered unconscious from gas poisoning. Although still suffering from the effects of the gas, he voluntarily returned to duty in the morning and continued to direct rescue operations until late in the day when he was again forced to give up due to illness. His courage and devotion to duty and his resourcefulness in directing rescue operations were instrumental in saving the lives of the trapped casualties.

Miss Gertrude Irene Hawkes, Executive Officer, First Aid Post, Birkenhead.

When a First Aid Post was severely damaged by a bomb Miss Hawkes displayed great coolness and resourcefulness. She arranged for the removal of casualties to a safer part of the building prior to their transfer to hospital, organised the salvaging of equipment and, by her example, greatly encouraged the personnel of the Post.

Miss Valentine Howell, Assistant Nurse, Class 1, Colindale Hospital, Hendon.

A high explosive bomb dropped against the outer wall of the Hospital some fifteen feet from Nurse Howell. The whole of the end of the ward was wrecked, the light immediately went out and many leaks of water developed. The ceiling began to break down and the side of the wall to fall forward. There was a patient in bed at this particular part of the ward and Nurse Howell immediately went to his assistance and managed to get him from under the falling debris. She had just succeeded in removing the patient when the roof and the side of the wall fell in. Nurse Howell, who is sixty years of age, displayed remarkable coolness and presence of mind in effecting this rescue.

Horace Edward Jones, Foreman, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Birmingham.

A H.E. bomb partly demolished a house. People were trapped under the staircase which had collapsed under the weight of the wreckage. Jones, despite the falling brickwork, made a hole in the debris and, after much hard work, cut through the staircase. The front of the house completely collapsed during this time.

Jones, by his gallantry and total disregard of his own safety, rescued seven persons.

Arthur Charles Lang, Police Constable, Bristol Police Force.

A high explosive bomb demolished a house and a man was trapped. Police Constable Lang tunnelled with his hands through the debris and, after nearly two hours, released the victim.

Throughout the operation the Constable was in considerable danger from falling debris and escaping gas.

John Henry Mann, Officer in Charge, First Aid Party Depot, Birkenhead.

Violet, Mrs. Adamson, Car Driver, First Aid Party, Birkenhead.

During an air raid, while high explosive and incendiary bombs were falling nearby, Mrs. Adamson assisted Mr. Mann to rescue four women who were trapped under a large quantity of debris.

Mrs. Adamson procured the necessary tools and helped Mr. Mann to cut a way through to the trapped people.

Both showed courage and devotion to duty.

Frank Edward Martin, Dock Checker, Great Western Railway.

During an air raid Martin tackled many fires caused by incendiary bombs. When a lorry loaded with timber caught fire, he removed the timber and prevented the fire from spreading although the petrol tank was likely to explode. Under his supervision a trailer pump was taken to the scene of a large fire and, as a result of the arrangements he made for relaying the supply of water, much valuable property was saved.

Stanley Tyrrell Newell, Leader,	} A.R.P. Rescue Party, Camberwell.
Ernest Daniel Rider, Member,	

A H.E. bomb partly demolished two houses. Newell sawed through two floors to the top of the building and lowered two women to safety by means of a rope.

Rider, by scratching away debris and wreckage in the other house was able, after three hours, to rescue two people who had been trapped.

Both men were in grave danger from an unexploded time bomb nearby and, whilst the rescues were being effected, more bombs were dropped which caused further collapse of the buildings.

Newell and Rider showed great courage and devotion to duty.

Miss Winifred Yate, A.R.P. Warden, Birmingham.

Miss Yate has been constantly on duty during air raids, looking after shelters and patrolling her sector when bombs and shell fragments were falling.

On one occasion she most courageously assisted in bringing many heavy horses to safety from stables which were on fire.

Miss Yate has performed meritorious service, marked by gallantry and devotion to duty.

#### COMMENDATIONS.

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

James William Andrews, Stretcher Bearer, A.R.P. Stretcher Party, Birkenhead.

William Ashworth, Member, Volunteer Rescue Party, Birkenhead.

Walter Joseph Avis, Benzole Operator, Gas Light and Coke Company Limited.

Edward Miles Bedwell, War Reserve Constable, "K" Division, Metropolitan Police.

Miss Sarah Boyle, Attendant, First Aid Post, Birkenhead.

- Walter Buckley, Member, Volunteer Rescue Party, Birkenhead.
- George Edward Childs, Deputy Gas and Water Engineer, Barry Borough Corporation.
- Joan, Mrs. Creed, Temporary Clerical Assistant, Social Welfare Department, London County Council.
- James Ferguson Cummings (deceased), Driver, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Glasgow.
- Miss Lorna Duncan, North Shields.
- George Fogg, Member, First Aid Party, Birkenhead.
- Henry Gee, Driver, A.R.P. Report and Control Centre, Erith.
- Arthur Gibson, Inspector, "X" Division, Metropolitan Special Constabulary.
- Doris Zita, Mrs. Greaves, Head of Rest Centre Teams, Women's Voluntary Services, Birkenhead.
- Douglas Arthur Horn, Engineer's Clerk, Gas Light and Coke Company Limited.
- Arthur Enoch Hudson, Foreman, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Birmingham.
- Eric William Hudson, Leader, First Aid Party, Birkenhead.
- Henry Cecil Jennings, Gas Maker, Gas Light and Coke Company Limited.
- John Jones, A.R.P. Messenger, Birkenhead.
- George Edward Lewis, Shunter, Great Western Railway.
- Harold Lee Major, Member, Volunteer Rescue Party, Birkenhead.
- Joseph Edward Major, Member, Volunteer Rescue Party, Birkenhead.
- Thomas Frederick Mulvaney, Police Constable, "K" Division, Metropolitan Police.
- Charles Edward Murray (deceased), Police Sergeant, "K" Division, Metropolitan Police.
- James Barnard O'Sullivan, Leader, A.R.P. Stretcher Party, St. Pancras.
- John Charles Pearson, Gas Fitter, Barry Borough Corporation.
- Robert Porter, Foreman, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Birmingham.
- Miss Elizabeth Scully, Probationer Nurse, St. Giles' Hospital, London.
- John Coleman Smith, Coppersmith, Cardiff.
- George Seymour Swan, M.B., Ch.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Surgeon, Birkenhead.
- Alfred William Tidey, Water Filtration Plant Attendant, Gas Light and Coke Company Limited.
- William Toye, Shunter, Great Western Railway.
- Albert Neville Yapp, Member, First Aid Party, Birkenhead.

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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS  
OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1,  
13th June, 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:—

For services when an enemy aircraft crashed and the crew were taken into custody.

George Dudley Bowes, Farmer, Norfolk.  
Frank Wilfred Warnes, Farm Labourer, Norfolk.

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