

William Tully, Member, Civil Defence Rescue Service, Bootle.

People were trapped in the cellars of two houses demolished by H.E. bombs.

Although the remaining portions of the buildings were liable to collapse Tully wormed his way through a small hole in the debris and reached three persons whom he extricated. He then tunnelled a way to an adjoining cellar where other people were trapped.

After over ten hours work he succeeded in recovering all the casualties. During this time although he suffered from the effects of coal gas, he persisted with his efforts. Tully showed courage and determination.

Richard Bonser Wilde, Leader, Reserve Rescue Party, Civil Defence Decontamination Service, Bootle.

A H.E. bomb partly demolished a building, and adjoining premises caught fire.

Under the leadership of Wilde, debris was cleared from the entrance to the basement, which was being used as a shelter, and seven people were rescued. Although warned that the building was liable to collapse Wilde would not leave until he had searched the premises and ascertained that all persons had been rescued.

Wilde showed courage and devotion to duty.

COMMENDATIONS.

Those named below have been Commended for brave conduct in Civil Defence:—

Fred Bailey, Member, Civil Defence Rescue Service, Manchester.

John Arthur Boulton, Fireman, London Midland and Scottish Railway.

William Burns, Foreman, Civil Defence Rescue Service, Newcastle.

John Drury, Messenger, Civil Defence Wardens Service, Tynemouth.

William George Gruitt, Service Layer, South Metropolitan Gas Company.

Thomas James Moody, Acting Mains Ganger, South Metropolitan Gas Company.

Albert Edward Peisley, Deputy Foreman, Civil Defence Rescue Service, Manchester.

Edward David Price, Police Constable, Swansea Police Force.

Thomas Alfred Pulham, Motor Cycle Messenger, South Metropolitan Gas Company.

Richard John Richards, M.M., Acting Mains Ganger, South Metropolitan Gas Company.

Alexander Robertson, Driver, Civil Defence Rescue Service, Manchester.

Anthony Smith, Deputy Foreman, Civil Defence Rescue Service, Manchester.

Henry Swindells, Member, Civil Defence Rescue Service, Manchester.

John Richard Unwin, B.E.M., District Officer, London Fire Force, National Fire Service.

Benjamin Woolfenden, Member, Civil Defence Rescue Service, Manchester.

The Christian name of Albert Shipton, Chargeman Carriage and Wagon Examiner, Southern Railway, is as now described and not as stated in Gazette Supplement No. 35359, dated 28th November, 1941, page 6823.

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

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

19th December, 1941.

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned award and for the publication in the London Gazette of the name of the individual specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for brave conduct.

Awarded the George Medal:—

Edward Ashcroft, Process Worker, Royal Ordnance Factory, Ministry of Supply.

When an explosion occurred in a factory the door of a filling cubicle was blown open and a wall of fire flashed across from the cubicle to the edge of the shop. Mr. Ashcroft immediately attacked the fire with two buckets of water which were close at hand.

Water was then passed to him by a human chain from a tap at the edge of the shop into the cubicle. He had to stand close to the machine which still contained explosive but, regardless of his own safety, he persisted until all the flames were extinguished.

Ashcroft showed great courage and prevented a further explosion.

COMMENDATION.

The individual named below has been Commended for his brave conduct when attempting to rescue the pilot of a crashed and burning aircraft:—

Charles John Smith, Farm Bailiff, Churchstanton, Somerset.

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