

*Awarded the George Medal :*

James GILLAN, Colliery Manager, Hartley Bank Colliery, Horbury, Wakefield.

The Under-manager in the Wheatley Lime Seam was overcome in an accumulation of firedamp. Attempts were made to rescue him by two deputies, but these were of no avail so they called for help from the surface. Mr. Gillan, who had just returned to the surface from that district, gave instructions for calling out the Rescue Team from Wakefield and, accompanied by workmen carrying a reviver set, returned to the district. It was obvious that the casualty could not be reached without the use of breathing apparatus and after consideration Mr. Gillan decided to attempt a rescue using the apparatus he had with him. With this he successfully negotiated the 70 yards to where the man was lying. In the very considerable efforts necessary to drag the inert man and the apparatus, the supply tube to the mask became detached unknown to Mr. Gillan who was himself partially overcome 20 yards from the fresh air. He fell and in doing so realised that the tube had become disconnected. He was able to use the tube to administer oxygen both to the Under-manager and himself and they were recovered from this position by the Rescue Team. Mr. Gillan was aware of the serious danger in which he was placing himself but knew that the Under-manager's chance of survival depended on his immediate action, so he went forward, ignoring the grave personal risk in his efforts to help his colleague.

*Awarded the George Medal :*

Terence Murray LEWIS, Detective Senior Constable, Queensland Police Force.

Glen Patrick HALLAHAN, Detective Constable 1st Class, Queensland Police Force.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal for Gallantry (Civil Division) :*

Kevin John MORRIS, Constable, Queensland Police Force.

James Kevin SHEARER, Constable, Queensland Police Force.

A woman telephoned the Criminal Investigation Branch, Brisbane, and stated that her husband had threatened to shoot her and then commit suicide. He was in possession of a loaded .303 rifle in the bedroom of their home and she was afraid to return to the house. Constables Morris and Shearer went to the house and were informed that the man was still in the bedroom, was armed, and had threatened to shoot any person, particularly a policeman, who went into the house and attempted to relieve him of the gun. The two Constables approached the front door of the house and called out to the man who told them to come in. On entering, they found him sitting on a bed with a rifle in his hand, which he levelled in their direction. He warned them that the gun was loaded and threatened to shoot them if they touched their pockets, attempted to draw a gun or come any closer. They saw that the rifle was cocked, the safety catch off, and that the offender had his finger on the trigger. The Policemen tried to reason with the man but he appeared adamant in his intentions and threatened to kill the officers if they interfered. However, after some discussion he permitted

Constable Morris to leave, and the latter summoned Detectives Lewis and Hallahan. Morris then returned to the bedroom. Hallahan and Lewis, on arrival, entered the house and went also to the bedroom. Both men were threatened with the rifle as soon as they entered the room and the man warned them not to try any tricks. Lewis then engaged the man in conversation during which the gun was pointed first at him and then at Hallahan. Hallahan saw that the attention of the man was being held by Lewis and by a pre-arranged signal Hallahan jumped at the offender with a view to disarming him. Just as he made his move the man quickly swung the rifle towards him and fired. The bullet passed between Hallahan's legs but did not hit him. Hallahan grabbed the barrel of the rifle and Lewis, with the assistance of Morris and Shearer, and after a violent struggle lasting some minutes, disarmed and handcuffed the offender.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal for Gallantry (Civil Division) :*

David George COX, Constable, Plymouth City Police Force.

In the middle of the night, a cry for help was heard from a man immersed in sea mud up to his neck in Stonehouse Creek. Constable Cox and another Constable saw the man about 25 yards away from the edge. The beach at this point consists of about 10 yards of stone and pebble and the remainder to the water's edge at this time of the tide is mud and slime. The tide had turned and was flowing into the creek, the flow being assisted by a strong south-westerly wind. The Constable started laying boards out on to the mud and when within fifteen feet of the man Cox went along the boards but on reaching the end board he sank up to his thighs in slime and mud with the board underneath him. Cox managed to crawl back to the hard beach where he found a length of strong rope line with a spliced loop. He lashed this under his shoulders, crawled on the boards as far as he could and then on the mud to the water's edge. The water was just entering the man's mouth but Cox grabbed his collar, gradually levered him out of the mud and dragged him horizontally on to the surface. Cox was now exhausted with his efforts and both men were dragged out by means of the rope attached to Cox.

William George HARRISON, Head Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary, Clogher, Co. Tyrone.

John SHAW, Sergeant, Royal Ulster Constabulary, Clogher, Co. Tyrone.

The reservoir at Altadaven was damaged by an explosion and as a result water supplies to Clogher and the surrounding areas were cut off. Head Constable Harrison and Sergeant Shaw, with other members of the Police Force, went to the scene immediately and an examination of the reservoir showed that a large portion of the concrete housing was completely destroyed leaving one half of the reservoir useless, the water from it having escaped into a nearby stream. The other half was intact but from a manhole in it there protruded a piece of fuse 18 feet long, and to the end of it was attached an electric detonator with 100 feet of twin electric flex. Harrison removed the detonator but from past experience had