

the man to come down but without success and it was apparent that no direct approach could be made to seize him owing to the extreme danger of falling into the street 150 feet below. The Police Officers were joined by Mr. Matthews who talked to the man who then moved his position slightly. Immediately Matthews, followed by Superintendent White and P.C. Adams, leapt across on to the small ledge and caught hold of the man by his arms and tried to pull him back. There was a struggle and all were in danger of falling off the parapet. Still struggling the man was pushed on to another ledge and other helpers, wearing safety belts, were then able to reach him and pull him through a window into the building.

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

Arthur Alec DAWTON, Fireman, London Fire Brigade. (Ruislip.)

A fire broke out at a building of five floors and a basement. On the arrival of the brigade the first floor was well alight but people could be seen at a third floor window. An escape was pitched with difficulty and although there was dense smoke at the head of the escape Fireman Dawton ascended and succeeded in helping two women and a man on to the escape. An elderly woman remained in the building and was unable to climb out as the others had done. When she fainted Fireman Dawton entered the room where despite blinding smoke, intense heat and falling and burning debris, he attempted to lift the woman on to his back preparatory to climbing down the escape. On account of her weight he was unable to do this, but managed to pass the still unconscious woman through the window to a Sub-Officer at the head of the escape. There is little doubt that the four people, and particularly the elderly woman, were saved because of the courage and determination displayed by Fireman Dawton.

Hubert Leslie EVANS, Building Contractor, St. Davids.

A mentally deranged man, who had been involved in a shooting incident earlier in the day, was seen walking down a street carrying a 12 bore gun. Mr. Evans, who knew the man and was fully aware of what had happened, suggested to the Police that he should try and reason with him, and to disarm him. This was agreed and shortly after Evans saw the man walking down the road. He approached him and after a few words grabbed hold of the gun, opened it, and took out two live cartridges. The man demanded the return of the gun, but Evans refused and a violent struggle started. A policeman then came to the aid of Evans and after a further struggle the man was overpowered and arrested.

Lyll Bernard WILKINSON, Farm Labourer, West Wyalong, New South Wales.

Mr. Wilkinson went to the side of a shed where a man pointed a rifle at him and warned him that if he tried to run he would shoot. Wilkinson was then forced to drive a car on to the highway. The police were informed of the incident and organised a pursuit. A constable gave chase and at one stage drove alongside Wilkinson's car but seeing the gunman with the rifle at his shoulder and aiming at him, the constable dropped back but continued to follow at speeds at times between 70 and 80 miles per hour. During the chase over many miles the gunman informed Wilkinson

of his intention to shoot the constable. On one occasion he directed Wilkinson to stop the car and three shots were fired at the constable who had stopped about 100 yards away and was standing beside his car. On two further occasions Wilkinson was ordered to stop so that the man could shoot the constable, but the police car did not stop close enough. The gunman then directed Wilkinson to turn the car around and go back. The constable seeing the car drive towards him, parked his car diagonally across the road and took cover behind a gate post. Wilkinson was ordered to drive in front of the constable's car but he defied the order and drove his car to the rear of the police car. The gunman then climbed across into the front seat and aimed the rifle in front of Wilkinson in the direction of the constable. The car was then travelling at a slow speed. Wilkinson released the steering wheel, grabbed the barrel of the rifle and commenced to struggle for possession of the weapon. He succeeded in wresting the rifle from the gunman and threw it through the driver's window. At the same time, the nearside door of the car came open and Wilkinson, using his foot, forced the gunman out on to the roadway. The gunman commenced to run away and was followed by the constable who fired a shot over his head but he did not stop and after a further warning a second shot was fired which struck the gunman in the back of the head.

*Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct:*

George Rexworthy BROOKS, Inspector, Somerset Constabulary. (Taunton.)

James Adrian GOUGH, Sergeant, Somerset Constabulary. (Wellington.)

For services when arresting a mentally deranged woman armed with a rifle.

Gordon CLEGG, General Foreman, Rochdale, Lancashire.

For rescuing a man from a burning hut.

Allan Shelton COTTON, Sergeant, Manchester City Police Force.

Joseph DUNNE, Painter, Salford.

Owen Stanley HUGHES, Constable, Manchester City Police Force.

Harry STOREY, Sub-Officer, Manchester Fire Brigade.

Thomas STANDRING, Maintenance Decorator, Manchester.

For services when a man threatened to commit suicide by jumping from a ledge on the face of a building.

Bert CRAYDEN, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (London E.10.)

Denis GARVEY, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (London N.1.)

Denis O'CALLAGHAN, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (London E.1.)

For arresting an intruder armed with a shot gun.

Robert CUMMINGS, Ganger, Jedburgh, Roxburghshire.

Peter MONAGHAN, Bricklayer, Glasgow.

Robert TAYLOR, Cable Joints, Glasgow.

For services when two men were overcome by a poisonous gas in an underground chamber.