

*Whitehall, May 16, 1916.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to award the Decoration of the Albert Medal to the undermentioned Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and men of His Majesty's Forces serving in France in recognition of their gallantry in saving life:—

*Albert Medal of the First Class.*

Lance-Corporal George Alderson, 10th Battalion, Durham Light Infantry.

On the evening of the 14th October, 1915, Alderson, with two other non-commissioned officers, was moving some bombs into a room in a farmhouse where they were to be stored. While the bombs were being stacked, one of them fell to the floor and the percussion cap was fired. Alderson, knowing that the bomb would explode in four seconds, and that to throw it out of the window would endanger the men who were outside, picked it up and tried to reach the door. Before he could get out of the door the bomb exploded, blowing off his hand and inflicting other serious wounds, from which he shortly died.

By his prompt action in picking up and carrying the bomb he probably saved the lives of the three men who were in the room with him, and by his presence of mind in not throwing it out of the window he certainly saved the lives of those standing outside.

This act was the more meritorious as Alderson was fully aware of the deadly nature of the bomb and the danger to himself that his act involved.

*Albert Medal of the First Class.*

Major Cyril Louis Norton Newall, 2nd Gurkha Rifles (attached to the Royal Flying Corps).

*Albert Medal of the Second Class.*

Corporal Henry Hearne, Royal Flying Corps.  
1st Class Air Mechanic Harrie Stephen Harwood, Royal Flying Corps.  
2nd Class Air Mechanic Alfred Edward Simms, Royal Flying Corps.

On the 3rd January, 1916, at about 3 p.m., a fire broke out inside a large bomb store belonging to the Royal Flying Corps, which contained nearly 2,000 high explosive bombs, some of which had very large charges, and a number of incendiary bombs which were burning freely. Major Newall at once took all necessary precautions, and then, assisted by Air Mechanic Simms, poured water into the shed through a hole made by the flames. He sent for the key of the store, and with Corporal Hearne, Harwood and Simms entered the building and succeeded in putting out the flames. The wooden cases containing the bombs were burnt, and some of them were charred to a cinder.

*Albert Medal of the First Class.*

Second Lieutenant Thomas Barnard Hankey, 12th Battalion, King's Royal Rifle Corps.

On the 15th October, 1915, Second Lieutenant Hankey was in charge of a party under instruction in throwing live grenades. A man who was throwing a grenade with a patent Noble lighter became nervous when the lighter went off and dropped the grenade at his feet. Second Lieutenant Hankey at once picked up the grenade and threw it out of the trench.

There were four men in this section of the trench.

On the 4th December, 1915, while Second Lieutenant Hankey was in charge of a party under instruction in throwing live grenades, a man pulled the pin from a grenade and threw the grenade straight into the parapet. Second Lieutenant Hankey at once picked up the grenade and threw it over the parapet. There were four men in the throwing pit at the time.

On the 6th December, 1915, Second Lieutenant Hankey was in charge of a party under instruction in throwing live grenades from a catapult. A live grenade was placed in the pocket of the catapult, the fuse was lighted, and the lever released. The grenade for some reason was not thrown by the catapult, and fell out of the pocket on to the ground. Second Lieutenant Hankey, who was standing on the other side of the catapult to that on which the grenade lay, rushed at the grenade, seized it, and threw it away. The fuse was a short five-second fuse, and the grenade exploded on hitting the ground 15 yards away. There were eight men near the catapult at the time, and ten others not far away.

*Albert Medal of the Second Class.*

Second Lieutenant William Marychurch Morgan, 15th Battalion, Royal Welsh Fusiliers.

On the 14th February, 1916, during grenade instruction in a trench, a man let fall a grenade, which sank in the mud, so that only the smoke from the burning fuse could be seen. Lieutenant Morgan, who was outside the danger zone, at once sprang forward and groped in the mud for the grenade. The difficulty of finding it added greatly to the danger. He picked up the grenade and threw it over the parapet just in time, thereby saving several men from death or serious injury.

*Albert Medal of the Second Class.*

Corporal James Webb, Royal Army Medical Corps.  
Driver Richard Foley, Royal Field Artillery.

On 2nd January, 1916, during a heavy bombardment, Webb and Foley, acting entirely on their own initiative, left a place where they were safe and ran out to bring two wounded French civilians into a dug-out. They got both men into a cellar. During this operation heavy shells were falling all around them, and a motor-cyclist, who was assisting to bring in the second man, was killed.

*Albert Medal of the Second Class.*

Private Alfred George Tehan, 12th (Prince of Wales's Royal) Lancers.

On the 11th December, 1915, whilst at bomb practice, one of the bomb-throwers detonated the cap of his bomb, thus lighting the fuse, preparatory to throwing it. The fuse was damp, and as he thought it had gone out he placed this bomb on the ground and went on bomb-throwing. Tehan, who was also in the trench, suddenly heard a fizzing noise, and saw that the fuse of the bomb was burning. With great coolness and presence of mind he darted forward and seized the bomb, of which the fuse was already half burnt through, and threw it out of the trench, thereby probably saving the lives of himself and four other men in the