



SECOND SUPPLEMENT

TO

The London Gazette

Of FRIDAY, the 27th of SEPTEMBER, 1940

Published by Authority

Registered as a newspaper

MONDAY, 30 SEPTEMBER, 1940

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1,  
30th September, 1940.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the award of the GEORGE CROSS to the undermentioned:—

Thomas Hopper Alderson, Part-time Worker (Detachment Leader), Rescue Parties, Bridlington.

For sustained gallantry, enterprise and devotion to duty during enemy air raids.

A pair of semi-detached houses at Bridlington was totally demolished in a recent air raid. One woman was trapped alive. Alderson tunnelled under unsafe wreckage and rescued the trapped person without further injury to her.

Some days later, two five-storey buildings were totally demolished and debris penetrated into a cellar in which eleven persons were trapped. Six persons in one cellar, which had completely given way, were buried under debris. Alderson partly effected entrance to this cellar by tunnelling 13 to 14 feet under the main heap of wreckage and for three and a half hours he worked unceasingly in an exceedingly cramped condition. Although considerably bruised he succeeded in releasing all the trapped persons without further injury to themselves.

The wreckage was unsafe and further falls were anticipated; coal gas leaks were of a serious nature and there was danger of flooding from fractured water pipes. Despite

these dangers and enemy aircraft overhead the rescue work was continued.

On a third occasion some four-storey buildings were totally demolished. Five persons were trapped in a cellar. Alderson led the rescue work in excavating a tunnel from the pavement through the foundations to the cellar; he also personally tunnelled under the wreckage many feet into the cellar and rescued alive two persons (one of whom subsequently died) from under a massive refrigerator, which was in danger of further collapse as debris was removed.

A wall, three storeys high, which swayed in the gusty wind, was directly over the position where the rescue party were working. This was likely to collapse at any moment.

Alderson worked almost continuously under the wreckage for five hours, during which time further air raid warnings were received and enemy aircraft heard overhead.

By his courage and devotion to duty without the slightest regard for his own safety, he set a fine example to the members of his Rescue Party, and their team work is worthy of the highest praise.

Temporary Lieutenant Robert Davies, Royal Engineers.

Lieutenant Davies was the officer in charge of the party detailed to recover the bomb which fell in the vicinity of St. Paul's Cathedral.

So conscious was this officer of the imminent danger to the Cathedral that regardless of personal risk he spared neither himself nor his men in their efforts to locate the bomb.

After unremitting effort, during which all ranks knew that an explosion might occur at any moment, the bomb was successfully extricated.

In order to shield his men from further danger, Lieutenant Davies himself drove the vehicle in which the bomb was removed and personally carried out its disposal.

No. 1942531 Sapper George Cameron Wylie, Royal Engineers.

Sapper Wylie was a member of the Bomb Disposal Section engaged upon the recovery of the bomb which fell in the neighbourhood of St. Paul's Cathedral.

The actual discovery and removal of the bomb fell to him. Sapper Wylie's untiring energy, courage, and disregard for danger were an outstanding example to his comrades.

#### CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1,  
30th September, 1940.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following awards of the George Medal and for the publication in the London Gazette of the names of units and individuals shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for their good services.

##### *Awarded The George Medal.*

Ernest Herbert Harmer, Executive Chief Officer.	} Dover Fire Brigade
Cyril William Arthur Brown, Second Officer.	
Alexander Edmund Campbell, Section Officer, Dover Auxiliary Fire Service.	

##### *Commended.*

Dover Fire Brigade. Dover Auxiliary Fire Service.	
Harold Thomas Hookings, Station Officer.	} Dover Fire Brigade.
Ernest Alfred Foord, Fireman.	
Edward Jesse Gore, Fireman.	
Arthur Thomas Cunnington, Auxiliary Fireman.	} Dover Auxiliary Fire Service.
Lionel Rupert Hudsmith, Auxiliary Fireman.	
John McDermott, Auxiliary Fireman.	

In a recent large scale attack by enemy bombers on Dover Harbour, fires were started in ships and oil stores. Air raids continued throughout the day. During the attacks all members of the Dover Fire Brigade and Auxiliary Fire Service engaged at the fires did excellent work in difficult and dangerous circumstances and the fires were eventually extinguished.

The individuals named above volunteered to return to a blazing ship containing explosives, in which they fought fires while enemy aircraft were still in the neighbourhood.

##### *Awarded The George Medal.*

George Archibald Howe, Manager, Shell-Mex and B.P. Ltd.  
William Sigsworth, Manager, Anglo-American Oil Company Ltd.

George Samuel Sewell, Engineer, Shell-Mex and B.P. Ltd.

Jack Owen, Fireman, Kingston-upon-Hull Fire Brigade.

Clifford Turner, Leading Fireman, Kingston-upon-Hull Auxiliary Fire Service.

##### *Commended.*

Thomas Gant, Handyman, Shell-Mex and B.P. Ltd.

During a recent air raid bombs were dropped on an oil depot, petrol tanks being pierced in several places, causing serious fires. Mr. Howe showed outstanding leadership and organization in fighting the fires and conspicuous bravery in entering the tank compound, which contained burning spirit, to open the valves so that the stock could be transferred. He was assisted by Mr. Sigsworth who also entered the tank compound and who was untiring in his efforts to extinguish the flames. Mr. Sewell led a party of men into the tank compound and was also continually on the tank roof whilst the gas inside was burning, endeavouring to extinguish the flames by playing foam over the tank top and placing sandbags over the roof curb. Fireman Owen volunteered to operate a hose on the top of an almost red-hot tank after wading through petrol and water to a depth of about four feet. His clothes were thus soaked with petrol and might have caught alight at any moment. Leading Fireman Turner volunteered to assist Mr. Howe in fixing hose on a tank-top surrounded by flames from burning petrol. Their clothes were thus soaked with petrol and might have caught alight at any moment.

Handyman Gant showed considerable resource and at great personal risk endeavoured to extinguish the flames.

##### *Awarded the George Medal.*

Dorothy, Mrs. Clarke, Ambulance Driver.	} Aldeburgh.
Bessie Jane, Mrs. Hepburn, Ambulance Attendant.	

These ladies showed courage of a high order and devotion to duty in rescuing a man badly injured in an explosion.

William Fisher, Dock Labourer, Southampton.

During an air raid great gallantry was displayed by Fisher in rescuing Gunner S. W. Jones of the 71st Light A.A. Battery from the Bofor's Gunsite on the roof of a building about 50 ft. above ground level.

In the early part of the raid, a series of bombs fell on the building itself and on the ground adjoining and one man of the gun team was seriously wounded in the face and head.

Fire quickly broke out, and in addition to the ammunition which began to explode, ammonia gas fumes were released from a cold storage chamber below.

The Sergeant in charge of the gun realised the danger to his men and rightly ordered them to abandon the post.

It was found impossible to get the wounded man over the parapet wall and down the ladder on to the crane platform, as the ladder slipped off the ledge.

Fisher then came up, and without hesitation made a rough seat of a sling rope and fastened it to the hook of the jib crane.

After obtaining the assistance of the crane driver, he allowed himself to be hoisted on to the roof of the building. He then attached the sling under the arms of the wounded soldier and waited on the roof until he had been lowered on to the quay. The sling was then detached and returned once more to the roof for the rescuer himself to be lowered.

During such time as Fisher was on the roof, he was in constant danger from the fire, the gas fumes and the almost continuous explosions of shells.

His conduct throughout was a fine example of initiative, bravery and coolness.

Patrick King, Air Raid Warden, Seaton Delaval.

During an air raid King was in his shelter when he heard a bomb explode. He ran towards the place where it had fallen and found that two semi-detached houses had practically collapsed. One of these was empty, but in the other was a blind lady who had sheltered under the stairs. King managed to get through the front door and ascertained by shouting that the blind woman, Miss Hannah Wilson, was alive but buried under the debris. He borrowed a fireman's axe from a fireman who was on the spot and pulled some of the debris out of the way with it. Some of the roof timbers were obstructing him so he sent for a saw with which he sawed off lengths and used them as supports to prevent further debris falling as he progressed. He had to struggle for a considerable time through the debris, meanwhile encouraging Miss Wilson and telling her what to do. He managed with considerable difficulty to reach her and to clear the debris off her body, and eventually to bring her out into the open. The house was in imminent danger of collapse and King showed great courage and presence of mind.

Frederick Ernest Rose, Maintenance Engineer.

Rose was in charge of the salvage party at the factory at which he is employed. Although a raid was in progress and bombs and debris were still falling, Rose led his two assistants into damaged buildings and though hampered by flood water and darkness personally extinguished fires which had been started amongst some magnesium.

He then led his men on to another affected area and assisted to check fires which had also broken out there.

By his personal courage and coolness he was an outstanding example to others.

On another occasion he was brought to notice for gallant work during an air raid.

Miss Sonia Vera Carlyle Straw, Air Raid Warden, Caterham.

During an air raid Miss Straw volunteered to give assistance to the wounded. While the raid was in progress she attended a number of cases of badly injured women and children and treated several persons suffering from shock.

She carried on entirely by herself without assistance for a considerable time until help came.

Her action was most praiseworthy throughout and she showed great courage and resource.

#### Commendations.

Those named below have been brought to notice for good services in connection with Civil Defence.

Mr. Edgar Charles Cook, Air Raid Warden, Poole.

William Godfrey Furse, Able Seaman, SXX.13784, Royal Navy.

Miss Winifred Gilhooly, Telephone Operator, Castle Bromwich.

Samuel Graham, Bombardier No. 778755, 502nd Coast Regiment, Royal Artillery, Territorial Army.

Violet Alma, Mrs. Petit-Jean, Ambulance Driver, A.R.P. Services, Clacton.

Thomas Jones, Part-time Air Raid Warden, Sunderland.

Joseph Thomas Miller, Air Raid Precautions Officer, Clacton.

Joseph Parkinson, Air Raid Warden, Essex.

W. H. Woods, Chief Officer, Clacton Fire Brigade.

#### CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

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

*30th September, 1940.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following Awards:—

*The Medal of the Military Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for Meritorious Service.*

No. 2217014 Sergeant James Wilson, Royal Engineers.

Sergeant Wilson was the senior non-commissioned officer of the Bomb Disposal Section detailed to recover the bomb which fell in the vicinity of St. Paul's Cathedral.

With complete disregard of his own safety he supported his section officer unflinchingly until the bomb was finally located and brought to the surface.

Sergeant Wilson's determination and personal example of courage and devotion to duty were of inestimable value to the morale of his men and were largely responsible for the success of the operation.

No. 23855 Lance-Corporal Herbert Leigh, Royal Engineers.

Lance-Corporal Leigh was a member of the Bomb Disposal Section responsible for the recovery of the bomb which fell close to St. Paul's Cathedral; and was responsible for assisting Lieutenant Davies in the subsequent disposal of the bomb when it had been removed from the excavation.

His personal example of courage and contempt of danger in working over a bomb which might have exploded at any moment was of untold value in maintaining the morale of his men.

LONDON

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE

To be purchased directly from H.M. STATIONERY OFFICE at the following addresses:

York House, Kingsway, London, W.C.2; 120 George Street, Edinburgh 2;

26 York Street, Manchester 1; 1 St. Andrew's Crescent, Cardiff;

80 Chichester Street, Belfast;

or through any bookseller

1940

Price Sixpence net

*17/10/40  
16/10/40  
15/10/40*