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TUESDAY, 29 APRIL, 1941

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD.

*St. James's Palace, S.W.1,
29th April, 1941.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards of the British Empire Medal (Military Division) to the under-mentioned:—

For courage and resource:

Chief Engine Room Artificer Hurst Salisbury
Best Stephens, D/MX.49597.
Acting Electrical Artificer Fourth Class Stanley
John Wencelas Jurd, P/MX.61826.
Able Seaman Lionel Wilfred Gray, C/J.79641.
Ordinary Seaman William Thomas Snow,
P/JX.156912.

For bravery in saving life when H.M.T.
Arctic Trapper was sunk:

Seaman William James Kirk, LT/JX.184406.

ADMIRALTY.

*Whitehall S.W.1,
29th April, 1941.*

The KING has been graciously pleased to approve the following Reward for leadership, endurance and devotion to duty:

Bar to the Distinguished Service Order.

Captain George Bibby Hartford, D.S.O.,
Royal Navy.

His Majesty has also been graciously pleased to approve the following Awards:

For gallantry in saving life at sea:

The Albert Medal.

Acting Second Hand John Henry Mitchell,
LT/JX.173154, R.N.R.

On 27th September, 1940, Chief Engine-man Wedderburn fell into the sea between two trawlers in harbour. He could not swim, and was soon unconscious. An unknown seaman, who jumped in to save him was soon in difficulties. Mitchell, hearing his shouts, clambered over a vessel to the quay, ran 100 yards, climbed across two other ships and jumped into the water. He seized Wedderburn, who was sinking, by the hair, and held up the other man until a rope was passed down from the trawler. This he secured with a bowline round the now helpless seaman, using one hand, while he supported both men and himself by gripping the rope with his teeth. The seaman was then hauled out of the water by the men in the trawler. Mitchell, although fully clad, and wearing sea boots, supported Wedderburn by treading water until a pilot ladder could be lowered. He made the rope fast round Wedderburn, and steadied him as he was hauled out. He had been in very cold water for 35 minutes, and was unconscious when rescued.