

the weight of material above. They climbed through the window and, in spite of the great danger, commenced to remove debris. After about one and a half hours work they succeeded in rescuing a casualty.

All three men showed great courage and worked very hard in most difficult conditions.

Robert Wood Berwick, Auxiliary Fireman, East Ham Auxiliary Fire Service.

During an air raid, whilst engaged with a branch-pipe on the roof of a church, Berwick heard a cry for help. A man had fallen from the roof into a space approximately two feet wide and twenty feet deep, between the church and an adjoining building.

Although the church was burning fiercely, Berwick procured a length of rope and, with help, climbed down to the casualty, secured him to the rope, and hauled him up. He then carried him along the roof to a ladder, down which the injured man was lowered.

Berwick performed this gallant action at considerable risk to himself.

Edward Burkinshaw, Senior }  
A.R.P. Warden, } West Riding of  
William Edis, Furnaceman, } Yorkshire.

Two houses were demolished by a H.E. bomb.

Burkinshaw and Edis started digging and tunnelled eight feet under the wreckage until a woman was reached, whom they extricated. The two men then commenced digging in the other demolished house, and found a little boy. Whilst he was being released Edis comforted and shielded the child from falling debris.

Both men showed courage and determination.

Frederick Walter Chantrell, }  
Leading Auxiliary Fireman, } East Ham  
Charles Robert Brooks, Aux- } Auxiliary Fire  
iliary Fireman, } Service.

After fighting fires for several hours Chantrell received an order to get his crew away and leave the equipment, as all means of escape seemed to be barred by flames.

Brooks volunteered to attempt to save the pumps and, with Chantrell in charge, the crew mounted in their position. Using mackintoshes and hose ramps to protect themselves from the heat and falling embers and despite fallen masonry and piles of debris which at some points barred the way, Brooks eventually succeeded in driving the pump and crew to safety.

Alexander Conway, Auxiliary }  
Fireman, } Liverpool  
Edward Heyes, Auxiliary Fire- } Auxiliary Fire  
man, } Service.

A high explosive bomb demolished two houses and people were trapped.

Conway and Heyes clambered into the debris and while Heyes supported the collapsed floor with his back, Conway sawed away timber. They crawled through this opening and released five women and a small child. One woman was embedded up to the neck in debris and, to reach her, the rescuers had to cut their way through a floor which had been turned on end.

The work was hampered throughout by an escape of gas from a fractured main. Bombs were dropped in the adjoining streets, the district was subjected to machine-gun fire and the whole area was lit up by fires in the neighbourhood.

Conway and Heyes showed great courage and resource.

Vincent George Evans, Third Officer, Wembley Fire Brigade.

A bomb ignited a quantity of A.A. shells and cartridge cases on an Army lorry.

Third Officer Evans directed operations for extinguishing the fire. By his coolness and devotion to duty he set an example to his men who remained at their posts, about fifteen yards from the lorry, although shells were exploding close to them, shrapnel was falling and there were enemy aircraft overhead.

Wilfred Francis Francis, Deputy Head A.R.P. Warden, Swansea.

When his Post was badly damaged by a H.E. bomb, Mr. Francis, although shaken by the effects of other bombs which exploded nearby, visited shelters in his Group area and arranged for the evacuation of the occupants of buildings which had become unsafe and dangerous.

Mr. Francis worked without regard for his own safety and his cool direction of his men, his ability to think clearly under trying conditions, together with his gallantry and bravery, undoubtedly resulted in the saving of many lives.

Harry Hicks, Police Sergeant, Portsmouth City Police Fire Brigade.

At fires, resulting from enemy action, Sergeant Hicks has shown leadership and devotion to duty.

Although H.E. bombs have dropped nearby and members of his crew have been killed and wounded, Hicks has continued his supervision of the work and has been instrumental in saving a considerable amount of property.

Terence Donald Johnstone, Member, A.R.P. Rescue Party, Worthing.

Adrian Edric Andrews, Member, First Aid Party, Worthing.

A house was damaged by a H.E. bomb and people were trapped in the wreckage on the edge of a crater. A small hole was made, a scaffold pole was placed as a lever under the roof and the weight taken by three members of a Rescue Party.

Johnstone then crawled underneath and found a girl pinned down by debris. While he helped to rescue two other people, Andrews slithered under the debris and lay beside the casualty comforting and supporting her for two hours. Andrews was well aware that a heavy concrete block and the roof were liable to collapse on him.

Johnstone again crawled beneath the debris, carefully raised beams which had been sawn through, and gave necessary orders for the girl's removal. After her release, the roof dropped slightly and pinned Johnstone by the shoulder, but his colleagues were able to lever the pole a little more which enabled him to work his way out.