

Whilst these rescue operations were developing in the Old Mine, Corporal Rock and Corporal Peters made their way to an airshaft in the New Mine, which they reached about an hour and a quarter after the explosion. They had found twenty workmen cut off in this part of the mine. They had endeavoured to make their way out by a road passing the ventilating shaft, but ran into noxious fumes and five of them died. The remainder retraced their steps to the ventilating shaft. Their calls for help were heard by Corporals Rock and Peters. Both repeatedly went down the iron ladder in the shaft into the gas-filled chamber, rescued the men who were still alive, and recovered a number of dead.

*Air Ministry, 10th April, 1945.*

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

*Bar to Distinguished Flying Cross.*

*Acting Squadron Leaders.*

Kenneth Jack FOSTER, D.F.C. (77915), R.A.F.V.R., 97 Sqn., with effect from 23rd September, 1943 (since deceased).

Robert Alexander MCKINNA, D.F.C. (69440), R.A.F.V.R., 97 Sqn., with effect from 23rd September, 1943 (since deceased).

*Flight Lieutenants.*

Geoffrey Robert CRAKANTHORP, D.F.C. (67057), R.A.F.V.R., 542 Sqn.

Guy CRIBB, D.F.C. (138108), R.A.F.V.R., 16 Sqn.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

*Acting Wing Commander.*

William Joseph Herepath TUCKER (65994), R.A.F.V.R., 18 Sqn., with effect from 18th January, 1943 (since deceased).

*Acting Squadron Leaders.*

William Radclyffe ASSHETON (41979), R.A.F.O., 540 Sqn.

John Isaac PENGELLY (60295), R.A.F.V.R., 605 Sqn.

*Flight Lieutenants.*

Alexander Shelley BAKER (89788), R.A.F.V.R.

Alan William BOWER (80435), R.A.F.V.R., 33 Sqn.

Arthur James EVANS (141401), R.A.F.V.R., 502 Sqn.

Charles Henry Llewelyn FOSTER (143455), R.A.F.V.R., 464 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

Frank Ernest George MELENER (119805), R.A.F.V.R., 220 Sqn.

Francis Mellard READE (103040), R.A.F.V.R., 613 Sqn.

Frank Harry SILK (111979), R.A.F.V.R., 4 Sqn.

George Warwick TOPLISS (31167), R.A.F., 613 Sqn.

Ronald Geoffrey WEST (49625), R.A.F. (Lieutenant, Royal Regiment of Artillery), 2 Sqn.

*Acting Flight Lieutenants.*

Stephen Clifford Paul GODFREY (130595), R.A.F.V.R., 156 Sqn., with effect from 3rd October, 1943 (since deceased).

Canal Brendan Thomas MCSWEENEY (144212), R.A.F.V.R., 156 Sqn., with effect from 3rd October, 1943 (since deceased).

Horace Percival WOODWARD (52719), R.A.F., 464 (R.A.A.F.) Sqn.

*Flying Officers.*

Frank CHADWICK (177964), R.A.F.V.R., 58 Sqn.

James DUNN, D.F.M. (171076), R.A.F.V.R., 139 Sqn., with effect from 26th July, 1944 (since deceased).

Ronald Stanley FLIGHT (159876), R.A.F.V.R., 140 Sqn.

Norman John FURLONG (142880), R.A.F.V.R., 10 Sqn., with effect from 8th October, 1943 (since deceased).

Ernest Samuel GATES (146596), R.A.F.V.R., 613 Sqn.

Arnold LIVESEY (155091), R.A.F.V.R., 405 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn., with effect from 27th September, 1943.

Brian Douglas MACKINS (170604), R.A.F.V.R., 140 Sqn.

Frederick James PILE (102299), R.A.F.V.R., 47 Sqn., with effect from 13th January, 1943 (since deceased).

Henry James PRINGLE (118900), R.A.F.V.R., 196 Sqn., with effect from 15th September, 1943 (since deceased).

Eric Charles STANYARD (144460), R.A.F.V.R., 98 Sqn.

Ralph Charles WILLIAMS (145345), R.A.F.V.R., 2 Sqn.

*Pilot Officers.*

John Dennis BRADFORD (156591), R.A.F.V.R., 97 Sqn., with effect from 23rd September, 1943 (since deceased).

George Desmond EVERSON (190266), R.A.F.V.R., 613 Sqn.

John Alan Dyce MEECHAN (185731), R.A.F.V.R., 247 Sqn.

James HAMILTON (56162), R.A.F., 86 Sqn.

Robert Joseph Shaw ROBERTSON (188732), R.A.F.V.R., 540 Sqn.

Jack WHITE (184793), R.A.F.V.R., 613 Sqn.

*Warrant Officers.*

Sydney CROFT (1375859), R.A.F.V.R., 247 Sqn.

Francis Harold MOSELEY (1576862), R.A.F.V.R., 544 Sqn.

Louis STEVENSON (1349576) (later Pilot Officer), R.A.F.V.R., 97 Sqn., with effect from 23rd September, 1943 (since deceased).

*Distinguished Flying Medal.*

*Flight Sergeants.*

751451 George Edward ANDREWS (later Pilot Officer), R.A.F.V.R., 57 Sqn., with effect from 8th November, 1942 (since deceased).

1021538 James CURRY, R.A.F.V.R., 97 Sqn., with effect from 3rd October, 1943 (since deceased).

746829 John Henry DWYER, R.A.F.V.R., 57 Sqn., with effect from 10th November, 1942 (since deceased).

1382045 Albert Victor FORSYTH, R.A.F.V.R., 35 Sqn., with effect from 27th September, 1943 (since deceased).

1095194 Frederick Gerard METCALFE (later Pilot Officer), R.A.F.V.R., 619 Sqn., with effect from 27th August, 1943 (since deceased).

656624 Edward MILLING, R.A.F., 103 Sqn., with effect from 26th September, 1943 (since deceased).

1271268 Kenneth Herbert MUDE, R.A.F.V.R., 502 Sqn.

1383995 Terence Michael TWOMEY, R.A.F.V.R., 97 Sqn., with effect from 16th August, 1944 (since deceased).

*Acting Flight Sergeants.*

1100777 Richard Munro HOGG (later Pilot Officer), R.A.F.V.R., 196 Sqn., with effect from 3rd October, 1943 (since deceased).

1395407 John Timothy SULLIVAN, R.A.F.V.R., 97 Sqn., with effect from 3rd October, 1943 (since deceased).

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN AIR FORCE.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

*Flight Lieutenants.*

Colin LEAGH-MURRAY (Aus.404616), 16 Sqn.

Roderick Maton MACKENZIE, M.B.E. (Aus.413242), 168 Sqn.

*Flying Officer.*

Robert Eyre MACKIE (Aus.409562), 541 Sqn.

ROYAL CANADIAN AIR FORCE.

*Distinguished Flying Cross.*

*Flight Lieutenants.*

John BENDIXSEN (Can/J.13401), 541 Sqn.

Malcolm James GORDON (Can/J.7908), 421 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

Douglas Irving HALL (Can/J.12193), 414 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

*Acting Flight Lieutenant.*

John CARR (Can/J.37846), 439 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

*Flying Officers.*

Clifford Carlyle HAZLETT (Can/J.28382), 422 Sqn.

Frederick Charles LANSDALL (Can/J.18447), 407 (R.C.A.F.) Sqn.

John William David PUDNEY (Can/J.37039), 98 Sqn.

Ralph Wilbert TULLY (Can/J.18180), 35 Sqn., with effect from 24th September, 1943.