

To be an Additional Officer of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

James Brewis WOODERSON, Esq., Chief Officer.

To be Additional Members of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

George Ronald GLEN, Esq., Radio Officer.
Gilbert RICHARDSON, Esq., Second Radio Officer.

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

William TAYLOR, Motorman.
Richard DIBNAH, Motorman.
John JONES, Motorman.
George SMITH, Donkeyman.
John WARDELL, Able Seaman.

For gallantry and initiative in hazardous circumstances.

To be Additional Members of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire:—

Harry Reginald SIMPSON, Esq., Chief Officer, s.s. "Nellore" (Eastern & Australian Steam Ship Company Ltd.).
William Arthur CHURCHILL, Esq., Third Engineer Officer, s.s. "Nellore" (Eastern & Australian Steam Ship Company Ltd.).

Awarded the British Empire Medal (Civil Division):—

Jack SHEATHER, Boatswain, s.s. "Nellore" (Eastern & Australian Steam Ship Company Ltd.).

The s.s. "Nellore," sailing alone, was torpedoed in the Indian Ocean. The ship was badly damaged and when it was seen that she was likely to sink, the majority of the crew and passengers were safely got away in the ship's lifeboats and on rafts.

The Chief Officer displayed conspicuous courage and devotion to duty throughout. When the ship was hit and began to sink, he immediately made a search of the crew's quarters for survivors. With great difficulty and in a smoke laden atmosphere, he rescued one of the crew who was severely injured. He also took a leading part in getting boats and rafts launched and remained at his post until ordered by the Master to leave the ship. He then took charge of one of the boats and, although it was considerably overcrowded, brought all the occupants to safety.

The Third Engineer Officer showed outstanding courage and skill. After he had been forced to abandon the ship he took charge of one of the boats. Strict rationing was introduced and life in the boat was organised and disciplined under his directions. It was undoubtedly due to his leadership and example during a trying voyage of nine days that the survivors eventually reached safety.

Boatswain Sheather was in the Third Engineer Officer's boat and displayed exceptional courage and coolness during the whole of the difficult boat voyage. His determined efforts and skilful seamanship contributed greatly to the eventual saving of the survivors.

COMMENDATIONS.

Those named below have been Commended for brave conduct when their ships encountered enemy ships, submarines, aircraft or mines:—

Captain Cyril ALLISON, O.B.E., Master, s.s. "San Roberto" (Eagle Oil and Shipping Company Ltd.).

Captain Neil CAMPBELL, Master, s.s. "Gem" (Wm. Robertson).

Captain Leslie William COOPER, O.B.E., Master, s.s. "Samtucky" (Prince Line Ltd.).

John Craven DACEY, Second Cook, s.s. "Birker Force" (West Coast Shipping Company Ltd.).

James Kirkhope DUNCAN, Esq., O.B.E., Chief Engineer Officer.

Captain Robert Richard FRANCIS, Master, s.s. "Birker Force" (West Coast Shipping Company Ltd.).

Martin FROBISHER, Esq., Second Engineer Officer.

George Edward HARWOOD, Esq., Chief Engineer Officer, s.s. "Samtucky" (Prince Line Ltd.).

Eric HODGSON, Esq., M.B.E., Chief Radio Officer.

Richard Henry HUGHES, Esq., Chief Officer, s.s. "Birker Force" (West Coast Shipping Company Ltd.).

Owen JONES, Boatswain, s.s. "Birker Force" (West Coast Shipping Company Ltd.).

Archie William LISTER, Able Seaman, s.s. "Nellore" (Eastern & Australian Steam Ship Company Ltd.).

Murray Fleming McCULLOCH, Able Seaman, s.s. "Nellore" (Eastern & Australian Steam Ship Company Ltd.).

William John OWENS, Able Seaman, s.s. "Birker Force" (West Coast Shipping Company Ltd.).

Kenneth Gordon PHILLIPS, Able Seaman, s.s. "Birker Force" (West Coast Shipping Company Ltd.).

Charles Meryon PROCTER, Esq., O.B.E., Chief Engineer Officer, s.s. "City of Lincoln" (Ellerman Lines Ltd.).

Captain Herbert SPENCER, O.B.E., D.S.C., Master, s.s. "City of Lincoln" (Ellerman Lines Ltd.).

Captain David Alexander STOKES, O.B.E., Master.

Captain Harry WHITFIELD, O.B.E., Master.

James Alexander WINTON, Esq., M.B.E., Second Engineer Officer.

The appointment of Captain Thomas Joseph Lacey announced in Gazette No. 37149 of 26th June, 1945, page 333I, is now dated 19th May, 1945.

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