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CENTRAL CHANCERY OF
 THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.
 5th July 1960.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned awards of the British Empire Medal, and for the publication in the *London Gazette* of the names of those specially shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for their brave conduct.

*Awarded the British Empire Medal for Gallantry
 (Civil Division):*

Rupert James Cairncross, Senior Constable, New South Wales Police Force.

John Brayshaw, Special Constable, New South Wales Police Force.

A man armed with a tomahawk ran amok in a theatre and, after having struck and injured a number of people, left the theatre in pursuit of a fleeing woman, striking powerful blows at persons within his reach. Brayshaw, an incapacitated ex-serviceman of small stature, saw people running from the theatre and, although not armed, he ran towards the offender, seized him and attempted to take away the tomahawk. The man, who was much stronger and more powerfully built than the Special Constable, delivered a vicious and powerful blow to his right temple. The blow cut through the Constable's cap, inflicted a wound which subsequently required five sutures, and knocked him to the ground where he was again attacked. Senior Constable Cairncross, who was directing traffic nearby when told of the occurrence, immediately ran to the laneway adjoining the theatre where he saw Brayshaw being attacked. On the approach of the Senior Constable the attacker ran at him with the tomahawk raised to strike.

Cairncross closed with the man and overpowered him. Twelve persons had been attacked and injured by the offender, one fatally. Senior Constable Cairncross and Special Constable Brayshaw displayed courage and outstanding devotion to duty.

Walter Herbert Claridge, Driver Mechanic, Bradwell-on-Sea.

Horace George Warner, Motor Mechanic, Thundersley.

An elderly man was driving a motor car when it ran off the road, knocked over several posts and a lamp standard, crashed through a brick wall and finally ended upside down in a ditch. Several men went to the assistance of the two people in the car and managed to get the driver out through the offside door which was upper-most, but it was found that the passenger, his wife, was trapped by her foot in the nearside seat. Owing to the damage by the collisions, and the position of the car, petrol was pouring from it and the danger of fire was apparent to all the helpers. Warner, ignoring the danger from the petrol, climbed inside the car and started to release the woman's foot whilst Claridge leaned into the car to support her. Just as Warner released her foot and the men started to lift her out, the whole car exploded and burst into flames. Claridge, who was badly burned on the arms and face, retained his grip on the woman, and Warner, who was still in the car and received severe burns to his hands, arms, face and ankles, supported her until she was pulled clear. Warner did not attempt to get out until he had seen that the woman was clear, and only then did he jump out himself. Claridge helped to get the woman clear of the car although the skin had been burned completely off his wrist.