

SUPPLEMENT TO

The London Gazette

of Friday, 22nd June 1962

Published by Authority

Registered as a Newspaper

TUESDAY, 26TH JUNE 1962

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1. 26th June 1962.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned appointment to the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for the following awards of the George Medal and 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.

To be an Additional Member of the Civil Division of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, for Gallantry:

Miss Jean Patricia Eleanor Turnbull, Headmistress, Sydney Church of England Grammar School for Girls, Moss Vale, New South Wales.

Miss Turnbull, Headmistress of a Grammar School for Girls was conducting the morning service of the Chapel of the School when she saw a man armed with a rifle standing near the door. Miss Turnbull walked towards him and he informed her that he had committed a murder and was holding her as hostage until he could escape. He then threatened to shoot one of the girls if any person approached, and fastened the door with some rope to prevent it being opened. Whilst he was doing this Miss Turnbull threw a note out of the window She again went down the calling for help. aisle to the man who indicated that the Police would be searching for him for murder, he was going to hold the girls for a few hours, he was heavily armed with a high-powered automatic rifle and that he would shoot one girl through the head if any tried to enter the Chapel. Miss Turnbull tried to reason with him and kept talking to him until two policemen were seen approaching. The murderer

then raised the rifle and pointed it towards Miss Turnbull, who seized the barrel of the weapon and pushed it upwards in an attempt to divert his aim. The man began firing the rifle and at the same time forced the barrel down. Miss Turnbull tried to bring it to the floor and whilst struggling the barrel swung and a shot was fired which struck a girl in the heart and proved fatal. During the struggle five shots were fired and Miss Turnbull suffered burns to the right hand, a cut left thumb and one of the bullets entered the left side of her dress. On hearing the shots the two policemen rushed to the Chapel where they saw the murderer with the rifle and Miss Turnbull grasping the barrel. They smashed a hole in the glass and when Miss Turnbull pushed the barrel of the rifle towards the hole they immediately caught hold of the end of the barrel and pulled the rifle out of the man's grasp. The weapon then dropped to the floor. The two policemen opened the door, closed with the man and after a struggle effected his arrest.

Awarded the George Medal

Walter James REID, First Constable, Victoria Police Force, Australia.

Constable Reid was one of two members of the Force, both unarmed, who were called to a factory in South Melbourne as a result of an employee becoming violent. The employee, who was later committed to a mental hospital, had produced a revolver and threatened to shoot a number of people. A shot was heard and while his companion sought the assistance of armed police, Reid, fearing that the lives of the factory staff were endangered, ordered certain of them to take cover while he went in search of the deranged man. Reid managed to waylay him and immediately closed with him. Another shot was fired during the ensuing struggle, but eventually Reid disarmed the man and held him until help arrived.

Awarded the British Empire Medal for Gallantry (Civil Division)

Hubert Melville REES, Detective Chief Inspector, Metropolitan Police. (London W.3).

A man, entering the premises of his firm about 9 a.m. was shot in the face with a sawn off shotgun and received severe injuries. Detective Chief Inspector Rees was in charge of the investigation and as a result of enquiries decided to interview an employee of the firm. At 10 p.m. on the same day the Chief Inspector, who had with him three other officers, knocked on the door of a front ground floor room occupied by the employee. The room was in darkness but the officer heard a voice telling him to go away. A movement was then heard in the room, the light was switched on and the key was turned in the lock of the door. Chief Inspector Rees then pushed the door open and found himself confronted by the man who was pointing a sawn off double-barrelled shotgun towards him. The Chief Inspector immediately rushed at him, forcing the gun behind his back, and at the same time the other officers ran into the room and helped overpower and disarm him. The gun was found to be loaded in both barrels, with the safety catch off. The Chief Inspector behaved with outstanding leadership and courage in a most dangerous situation.

John Thomas Scrimshire, Farm Foreman, Home Farm, Stubton, Newark, Lincolnshire.

An aircraft crashed on a farmhouse completely demolishing it, killing two occupants and two of the aircrew. Mr. Scrimshire was in his house on the opposite side of the road and reached the front door as the aircraft hit the farmhouse thirty yards away. The scene was immediately one of great confusion, the air being full of flying debris from the demolished farmhouse, and fire had broken out. The whole area was saturated with large quantities of jet fuel and the risk of a major explosion was made even greater by the fact that the blazing wreckage had fallen on top of the farm bulk fuel storage tank. Under these most frightening circumstances, and with complete disregard for his own personal safety, Mr. Scrimshire dashed across the road to the scene of the crash. He heard the farm owner calling for help and discovered him about ten feet from the blazing aircraft buried up to his armpits in wreckage. Scrimshire managed to drag him free and carry him to a place of safety where he was screened by a low wall from the danger of an explosion.

Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct:

John Bennetts, Works Engineer, Neepsend Works, Sheffield, East Midlands Gas Board. (Sheffield).

For services when escaping gas ignited and set fire to a building.

Wilfred John Clarence CARTER, Sub-Officer, Cornwall Fire Brigade. (Camborne).

For rescuing two youths from a flooded cave.

Herbert John GILMOUR, Detective Senior Constable, Moss Vale Police, New South Wales.

Arthur Frederick MATHERS, Senior Constable, Moss Vale Police, New South Wales.

For grappling with and disarming a murderer armed with a rifle.

Robert Stanley Edwin Johnston, Sergeant, 3rd Class, New South Wales Police Force.

For services when arresting an armed and violent youth.

William Power, Galon Uchaf, Merthyr Tydfil.

For rescuing a boy from an ice covered pond.

John Wallwork, Sergeant, Lancashire Constabulary. (Thornton).

John Jack FLEMING, Constable, Lancashire Constabulary. (Thornton).

For apprehending a drunken man armed with a shot gun.

Miss Valerie Anne Weeds, S.R.N., Staff Nurse, The Middlesex Hospital, London.

For services when dealing with a mentally disturbed patient in an extremely dangerous situation.

Arthur John Wharton, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (London N.1).

Robert Alfred Woodnow, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (London E.5).

For pursuing and arresting an armed criminal.

Wong Kah-wah, Fireman, Hong Kong Fire Service, Kowloon.

For rescuing a man overcome by fumes in the hold of a ship.

Maurice Walter Young, Leading Fireman, Kent Fire Brigade. (Dover).

For attempting to rescue a child who had fallen down a deep well.

n.