

*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 WOODROW, 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.

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