

decided they must go and help him and ran to the street. The van, which had left the scene, then returned and was followed into the next turning by Smith. In an attempt to stop the van, Smith banged on the side and the van stopped. He grabbed a youth who was sitting next to the driver. This resulted in a cry for help, the rear door of the van opened and several of the youths attacked Smith until they had kicked him senseless. Smith was a mere onlooker who could have stayed in the safety of his home, but without thought for himself went to the assistance of Griffiths who exposed himself to great danger in an attempt to prevent further trouble.

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

Derek Brian CALLOW, Milk Roundsman, Woking.

A fire broke out in a first floor bedroom occupied by an elderly lady. Attempts had been made to enter the room but the dense smoke had prevented the would-be rescuers from reaching the occupant. Mr. Callow then entered the house, went to the bedroom and groped his way to the bed. He was almost overcome with the heat and smoke and had to come out. He then tore down a curtain in a downstairs window, soaked it in water and ran back upstairs. He covered his head with the curtain, crawled in the room, got to the bed and half carried and half pulled the woman to the floor. He then picked her up and carried her on to the landing.

William James CLARKSON, Constable, Liverpool City Police.

Robert DICK, Driver, Liverpool Corporation Passenger Transport. (Huyton.)

Leslie Wyn EDWARDS, Constable, Liverpool City Police.

Brian FELTON, Constable, Liverpool City Police.

Harold William LEWIS, Constable, Liverpool City Police.

A woman who had been suffering from a nervous disorder, and had been drinking heavily during the evening, was seen to climb over the railings of a river wall and jump into the river. She was wearing a heavy fur coat. Constables Felton and Clarkson who were on duty nearby, ran along the river wall and saw the woman floating in the water about 10 yards away. Both Constables took off their uniform caps, jackets and boots, and jumped into the water, the surface of which was then about 20 feet from the top of the wall. The water and the side of the river wall are heavily contaminated at this point with mud, slime and waste oil. The officers swam to the woman and supported her in the water. They were then joined by Mr. Dick, who had jumped into the water shortly after the officers. He assisted in supporting the woman who commenced to scream and struggle violently. They swam with her to the wall and eventually found a ringbolt attached to the wall about 4 feet from the surface of the water, which they grasped, and supported the woman between them. A crowd of persons, many of whom were of the hooligan element, gathered at the top of the wall. Some of them shouted and jeered at the rescuers, threw cups and other missiles and poured hot tea on them, which had been obtained from a nearby coffee stall. Constable Clarkson was struck by a cup, but fortunately was not injured. Constable Edwards, saw his colleagues struggling

with the woman in the water. He removed his jacket and boots and then jumped into the water to help support the struggling woman. Constable Lewis, hearing shouts and screams, went to the south side of the river removed his jacket and boots and dived in from the landing stage. He swam to the river wall and assisted in supporting the woman. There is little doubt that but for the action of Constables Felton, Clarkson, Edwards, Lewis, and Mr. Dick, this unfortunate woman would have drowned. They entered a tidal river on a cold night and risked their lives by continuing to retain their hold on her, despite her maniacal efforts at self destruction, and in the face of the shameful conduct of a number of hooligans, whose actions could well have prevented her rescue. In spite of the fierce struggles of the drowning woman and the considerable obstruction caused by the actions of hooligans, they persisted in their rescue efforts and with great courage and tenacity retained their hold upon her.

Cyril Charles CROSSINGHAM, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (Mitcham, Surrey.)

A man became mentally ill, assaulted his wife and children and then went berserk, brandishing a carving knife in each hand and threatening anyone who went near him. The Police were called and tried to reason with the man who was standing in the doorway. He charged at the officers, however, and threatened to kill them and his children. He then rushed back into the house, slamming and bolting the front door. As it was believed that three children were still in the house officers tried to gain access from the back. Constable Crossingham, stayed near the front door and after trying unsuccessfully to open it through the broken window he managed to kick the door open. Holding a dustbin lid as a shield to protect himself the officer advanced on the man who was in a small lobby still brandishing the knives. The man kicked at the lid, knocking it to one side, and lunged at Crossingham with one of the knives, which struck the officer near the right breast pocket and was deflected into his armpit. The officer stumbled backwards, dropping the dustbin lid and was pulled away by another officer. At the same time two constables rushed at the man knocked him off balance and forced him into a corner and after a violent struggle succeeded, with the help of Crossingham and other officers, in disarming him. Constable Crossingham acted with great courage in making the initial move that was so vital in effecting the capture.

Stanley Charles FULLER, Constable, Somerset Constabulary. (Weston-super-Mare.)

Information had been received that a group of criminals intended to break into a grocery store at Weston-super-Mare. Constable Fuller and three other Constables were detailed to keep observation on the store. At 8.50 p.m., a knock at the side door of the building was answered by the Storekeeper who was faced with a man holding a shot gun. Constable Fuller immediately tackled the armed man and brought him to the floor. The other intruders were overpowered and arrested.

John Thomas HODGSON, Overman, Silksworth Mine, County Durham, National Coal Board.

During a night shift at the Silksworth Mine three men were employed on withdrawing waste edge supports. There was a sudden fall of stone