



SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO

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**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF  
THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD**

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.  
14th May 1968.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders for the undermentioned awards of the George Medal and 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 brave conduct.

*Awarded the George Medal:*

Alan Gerald Lewis-Ashley, Guard, Security Express Ltd. (Waltham Abbey, Essex).

John Reeves, Guard, Security Express Ltd. (Beckenham, Kent).

Mr. Lewis-Ashley and Mr. Reeves were members of the crew of a security van sent to collect valuables from a council office. The two men entered the building and collected two bags containing cheques, postal orders and cash which were attached securely to a body chain worn by Lewis-Ashley. As they left the building and walked towards the waiting van, Lewis-Ashley heard a shout, a shot was fired and a man rushed between himself and the van. Lewis-Ashley dashed forward and managed to reach the van and throw one bag safely into it. The man then shot Lewis-Ashley in the thigh and he fell into the van. The armed man snatched the remaining bag which was dangling on the body chain and made good his escape. Meanwhile Reeves was engaged in a fierce struggle with two other members of a gang of five, and succeeded in knocking one of them to the ground. A shot had been fired at Reeves which missed its target: he had also been sprayed with tear gas. Lewis-Ashley, now safely in the van, saw the man attacking Reeves and although wounded in the thigh, went to his aid. Picking up a riot stick he followed Reeves, who, by now, was chasing the robbers into an adjoining street, and on turning the corner saw a man running to-

wards the getaway car. However a member of the public drove his own car along the pavement and succeeded in hitting the man with his front bumper. Reeves then caught up with the man and struggled to hold him down until Lewis-Ashley struck the man with the riot stick and knocked him unconscious.

Miss Marion Young, Pupil Nurse, Dundee.

A soldier entered the needlework room of St. John's School, Dundee and threatening the girl pupils, all in the 14-15 age group, with a shot gun, forced them and their teacher to barricade, with tables and sewing machines, the two doors forming the only access to the room, and to draw the curtains along the window wall of the classroom. Thereafter, he herded the pupils and their teacher into a small fitting-room situated at one end of the classroom. Before sending a pupil to the headmaster to warn him that he did not want to be disturbed, the man fired a shot at the barricaded door, slightly injuring a teacher from the adjoining classroom who had come to investigate the disturbance. In the hour that followed the man continued to fire shots at the door. The headmaster and other teachers pleaded with the man to release the girls, and these pleas were reinforced by the police and others, but all their entreaties met with gunfire. In the course of conversation the man said he was acquainted with Miss Young and the teacher persuaded him to ask those outside the classroom to bring Miss Young to see him and in return secured a promise from him that if Miss Young came, he would set the children free. The police brought Miss Young to the school where she was made fully aware of the circumstances. Without hesitation she volunteered to go into the room and to do what she could to pacify the man and to persuade him to give himself up. In view of the reaction to earlier attempts at assistance this was a most courageous act. Miss Young entered the classroom and the man was persuaded to release the school children without further

harm. Miss Young continued to act calmly in the face of extreme danger, tried to dissuade the man from further violence and to give himself up, but it would seem that in his deranged state of mind he felt compelled to shoot someone. His ultimate victim was the teacher. As she turned to close a window at the man's request he shot her in the back killing her immediately. Miss Young pulled the barricade aside and let others in. The man then gave himself up.

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

Derek Charles Bird, Lens Maker, New Barnet.  
Dennis David Nathan, Hairdresser, New Barnet.

Two men broke a glass window at a store and stole four bags of money. Mr. Nathan, who was driving in the vicinity, heard the sound of breaking glass and saw the men run from the store and enter the van. He drove his car across the road and tried to box the van in. However, it evaded him so he turned around and gave chase. Mr. Bird was also in a car nearby and he too started to follow the van. The chase continued along various roads at speed when Mr. Bird saw the passenger in the van point a gun which he fired through the back window of the van. Shots were fired at Bird's car, who then shouted to Nathan that he was going to telephone the police. Nathan continued the chase in spite of being shot at and when the van stopped he remained at the entrance to the road with his car across the road to prevent the two men from escaping that way. However, the men left the van and made off in another direction, leaving behind all the stolen money.

Terence Michael Cox, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (Cranham, Essex.)

A forest keeper heard shooting and on going to investigate, an air gun was fired at him several times by a youth. Police assistance was requested and shortly afterwards Constable Cox arrived and followed the youth into the forest. During the chase the youth fired at Cox six times, but the officer continued the chase until he was about six yards behind him. Cox then sprang at the youth, caught hold of the rifle and in the ensuing struggle both fell to the ground. Another police officer arrived and although the youth drew a sheath knife, he was disarmed, overpowered and taken into custody.

Samuel Simon Cross, Jeweller, Beckenham, Kent.

Three armed men attempted a robbery at a jewellery shop. The owner of the shop, Mr. Cross, was behind the counter when the three men entered. One armed man stood in the centre of the shop, another at the door and the third went up to the counter and squirted tear gas into Cross's eyes. Cross straight away set off an alarm whereupon all the men ran out of the shop empty handed. Although he was partially blinded Cross ran after the men and was met by a police officer who, whilst patrolling in a car, had heard the siren. Both went in the car and began to search the vicinity. Cross saw two of the men and the officer drove up to them. He and Cross got out of the car whereupon one man ran off chased by the officer while Cross tackled the other. Cross pulled the man's jacket over his shoulders and trapped his arms and with the assistance of a woman who

had heard the alarm, managed to disarm the man. When the police officer returned the man was taken into custody.

Terence John Charles Davenport, Fireman, London Fire Brigade. (London S.E.27.)

Fireman Davenport was a member of the crew of a fire appliance called to a house fire in Brixton. On arrival, flames were seen coming from a basement window and the firemen were told that there were two children in the top floor room at the rear of the house. A ladder was pitched to a top floor window at the front of the house but the conditions there were so bad that, without breathing apparatus, it was impossible to proceed any further. Jets of water were provided to attack the fire while firemen attempted a rescue from the rear. Entry was made through the first floor window of the neighbouring house but it was not possible to pass a ladder through to the rear window. Fireman Davenport, without waiting for alternative ladders, decided to make an immediate attempt at rescue. He dropped to the ground from the first floor window, scaled the dividing wall of the two houses and climbed the drainpipe to the top floor window of the burning house. He broke the window and made his entry into the room. Owing to the heavily smoke-logged conditions and extreme heat in the room, Davenport was forced to worm his way round on his stomach. He found a cot containing a child whom he lifted out and handed to a fireman at the window, at which it had now been possible to mount a hook ladder. Davenport then returned to look for the other child but was soon overcome by the smoke and heat. On reaching the window he was helped down the ladder to the first floor window-sill where he was supported by two firemen while scaling ladders were pitched. He was then assisted to the ground.

Brian William Fletcher, Sub-Officer, Hampshire Fire Brigade. (Fareham.)

Sub-Officer Fletcher was a member of the crew of a fire appliance called to a Hospital where a woman mental patient was standing on the edge of the roof of a water tank seventy-five feet above ground. The weather was cold and damp and the surface of the metal roof was wet. Whilst the woman's attention was distracted Fletcher climbed a vertical ladder to the access door of the tank and forced it open. He then removed his boots and tunic and manoeuvred along a nine-inch plank above water twenty-five feet deep eventually gaining access through a small hatch to the pitched roof of the tank. At this time the woman was in a confused state of mind and was threatening to throw herself off the roof. By watching her reactions Fletcher was able to judge the moment to clasp her from behind. He spent approximately thirty-five minutes on the roof holding the woman in case she should break away before the rescue was completed.

John James Hughes, Rigger, London E.14

At a sugar processing factory a man was found to be missing when the time came to stop work. Hughes saw him lying on the sloping corrugated metal roof of a 135-foot structure containing a dust extractor plant. There was no means of access to the roof from inside the building so Hughes ran to the ground floor and after raising the alarm went to the boiler

house roof from which he crawled along a 24-inch diameter vacuum pipe to the roof on which the man was lying, and catching hold of him with one hand he held on to a flange of the pipe with the other. He was then joined by others and between them they managed to secure the man with a safety belt and life line which had been thrown to them. During this time the man was struggling and had to be restrained. A hole was then made in the roof and a stretcher passed through it to which the man was secured. He was later conveyed to hospital.

**Terry Francis Price, Constable, Queensland Police Force.**

A man, his wife and young children were driving in a car when an argument developed between the man and his wife. He stopped the car but the argument continued and the woman walked on to the roadway. An approaching car struck her, injuring her so severely that she died before reaching hospital. Another vehicle then collided with the rear of the first car. The woman's husband, armed with a rifle, approached the driver and there was the sound as of a firing pin striking, but the rifle did not fire. He then re-loaded his rifle and shot the second driver, who subsequently died. Others arrived on the scene, including Constable Price who walked towards the man. The rifle was in the ready position and pointed at Price, but the Officer ignored the danger and ran towards the man pushing him off balance and on to the ground. A violent struggle ensued and another Constable rushed to his aid. The rifle was wrested from the man and he was later arrested and charged with the wilful murder of the driver.

**John Anthony Grant Robb, Constable, Metropolitan Police. (London S.E.5.)**

A message was received that a man was on the roof of a building and threatening to jump off. Constable Robb immediately went to the building where a man was standing on a narrow ledge around a dome about 90 feet above the ground and shouting that he was going to jump. Robb stepped on to the ledge on the north side of the dome to the right of the man and started talking to him but he moved away and threatened to jump if the officer came any nearer. Robb started to edge towards the man who by that time was on the outermost part of the ledge immediately above some spiked railings. All this time the officer was talking to the man who continuously kept up his threats to jump if he came any nearer. When he saw a turntable ladder was being raised towards him he became very excited, made further threats to jump and when the ladder was half-way up he went limp and fell forward in a dive-like position. Robb immediately stepped towards him and pulled him back towards the dome. The man at first struggled violently and the Constable, while being held by other officers, had to use considerable force to restrain him and keep him on the ledge. The man then collapsed and Robb, still supported by the other officers, had to hold him to prevent him falling to the ground. The turntable ladder eventually reached the ledge and the man was lowered to safety.

**Malcolm Sheret, Sub-Postmaster, Acklam Sub-Post Office, Middlesbrough.**

Following a knock at the door Mr. Sheret's wife opened it and was confronted by a man

who pushed a sawn-off double-barrelled shot gun into her stomach. The man told her to move back and followed her into the room. The man forced Mr. Sheret at gun point into the passage leading to the Sub-Post Office and kept jabbing the gun at him. Before they reached the office Sheret grabbed the gun turning the barrels away from himself and one barrel was immediately discharged. A violent struggle then ensued during which the second barrel was fired. Both men fell to the floor but the assailant managed to break loose and aimed repeated blows at Sheret and kned him in the groin. Despite this Sheret pursued him back to the kitchen and managed to bolt the door but after a further struggle the raider succeeded in getting out of the house. Having wrested the gun from the attacker Sheret followed him for some 100 yards but then had to give up the chase. The man was subsequently brought to trial and convicted.

*Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct*

**David Allan Lyne Abrahams, Constable, British Airports Authority Constabulary.**

For rescuing a man in danger of falling from an airport control tower.

**Norah Mary, Mrs. Ambrose, Beckenham, Kent.**

For assisting in the capture of an armed robber.

**Charan Singh-Attwal, Pedlar, London, S.E.18.**

For overpowering an armed man who attempted to take away his van.

**Derek Edward Baker, Bank Clerk, Ashford, Kent.**

**Alan Victor Bull, Bank Clerk, Hounslow, Middlesex.**

**Anthony Robin Fletcher (deceased), Contractor, London S.W.19.**

**John Charles Morriss, Senior Bank Clerk, Sevenoaks, Kent.**

**Robert Harwood Scott, Bank Clerk, Carshalton Beeches, Surrey.**

**Terence Martin-Young, Bank Clerk, London S.E.27.**

For services when an armed man attempted to rob a bank.

**Alan Keith Bouchier, Constable, Cheshire Constabulary.**

For rescuing a man in danger from a train on a railway line.

**Ronald Frederick Boulstridge, Fireman, Kent Fire Brigade (Rochester).**

**Howard Myers, Fireman, Kent Fire Brigade (Canterbury).**

For attempting to rescue a woman who had fallen in a hole caused by ground subsidence.

**Joseph Brazitis, Machine Operator, London E.16.**

**Albert Frederick Copping, Electrician, Wickford, Essex.**

**William Robert Stoddart, Maintenance Fitter, Stanford-le-Hope, Essex.**

For rescuing a man from the roof of a dust extractor plant.

**Frank Clifford Crockett, Mental Welfare Officer, Southampton Corporation.**

For services when a psychiatric patient was rescued from a hospital water tower.

Christopher Matthew Davies, Student, University of Liverpool.

Edward Grogan, Motor Driver, Liverpool.

William Marshall, Constable, Liverpool and Bootle Constabulary.

For rescuing a man from a burning house.

James Gerald Forrest, Constable, Lancashire Constabulary.

For services during floods at Wray in Lancashire.

Norman Finlay Jones, Constable, New South Wales Police Force.

For rescuing a man in danger of being killed on a railway line.

Brian George Killest, Constable, Suffolk Constabulary.

For disarming and arresting a violent man.

Robert Anthony Lane, Greaser/Cleaner, m.v. "Temple Main" (Hornchurch, Essex).

For rescuing a member of the crew who was in danger of drowning.

John Henry Lighton, Sub-Postmaster, Evering Road, Sub-Post Office, London N.16.

For services when two men raided a sub-post office.

Joseph McGrath, Night Porter, London S.E.1.  
Ian Donald Thornton Mitchell, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

Reginald James Young, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

For rescuing a man from the roof of a building.

Vera Ann, Mrs. Mayo, Kings Stanley, Gloucestershire.

For taking a sheath knife from a man and preventing a possible assault.

Vivian Newman, Labourer, Port Talbot, Glamorgan.

For attempting to save the life of a man who had fallen into an effluent pit.

Keith Park, Constable, Bolton Constabulary.  
Donald Thomas Taylor, Police Sergeant, Bolton Constabulary.

For rescuing a man who was in danger of drowning.

Royston Nickle Price, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

For assisting in the arrest of an armed youth.

David William Purser, Schoolboy, Wallaston, Stourbridge.

Michael Ian Taylor, Schoolboy, Wallaston, Stourbridge.

Paul Weston, Schoolboy, Wallaston, Stourbridge.

For rescuing four young children from a burning house.

David Squires, Brisbane, Queensland.

For assisting in the capture of an armed man.

#### HOME OFFICE

Whitehall,

14th May 1968.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to make the undermentioned award:

#### *Albert Medal*

Nanette Mrs. HANSON (deceased), Teacher, St. John's School, Dundee.

Mrs. Hanson was taking a needlework class of twelve girls at St. John's School when a soldier, armed with a shot gun, entered the classroom, ordered her and the girls to barricade the doors, and then herded them into a small fitting room which adjoined. During the period that followed the man fired several blasts from the shot gun at the classroom door, on the other side of which the headmaster and members of the staff had gathered. Mrs. Hanson was then brought out of the fitting room and showing complete calm, engaged the man in conversation, during which he expressed a wish to see a young nurse and agreed that if she could be brought the children would be set free. Mrs. Hanson persuaded those outside to leave her to handle the situation; this despite the fact that the soldier had already once attempted to shoot her at point blank range and would have done so had the gun not misfired. The nurse had meanwhile been brought to the school, and quite voluntarily entered the room in an attempt to pacify the man and secure the release of the girls. This was eventually accomplished through the joint efforts of Mrs. Hanson and the nurse who were then left alone in the room with the man trying to persuade him to give himself up. Before he did so, however, he shot Mrs. Hanson in the back killing her immediately.

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