

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