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TUESDAY, 12TH MAY 1970

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF  
 THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.

12th May 1970.

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 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.

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

Philip Patrick SMITH, Captain, Bristow Helicopters Ltd., Great Yarmouth.

Captain Smith took off in a Wessex 60 helicopter to attempt to evacuate the crew of the drilling rig Constellation which was being towed to Holland for repairs and which was encountering very rough seas and high winds. Captain Smith, flying through heavy snow, sleet and showers on a pitch black night, located the Constellation and, in spite of the deck rolling and pitching and the hazard presented by the raised legs of the rig towering some hundred feet above, was able to land on the rig (tail first in order to keep the aircraft into wind) and evacuate 11 of the 19 men on board to the rig Britannia, some thirty miles away. Conditions deteriorated and Captain Smith set off again to complete the evacuation. The Constellation was now rolling and pitching and shipping water into the machinery compartments. Captain Smith again landed his helicopter on the flight deck, took on board the remaining 8 members of the crew and evacuated them to the rig Britannia. The rig Constellation subsequently capsized and sank. Captain Smith, with great

skill and airmanship twice landed his helicopter on a pitching and rolling flight deck despite obstruction hazards and in extreme weather conditions.

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

Alun David CHALK, Constable, Nottinghamshire Combined Constabulary.

Police officers were called to business premises late at night when an audible alarm began to operate. One policeman climbed on to the roof at the point where access had been gained and disturbed the offender who made off over the roof tops away from the attacked premises. Constable Chalk, who had seen the man on the roof top gained access to the roof from an attic window. Chalk recognised the burglar and shouted his identity to the other officers. When making towards him, along the apex of the roof, the man threw a piece of masonry which struck Chalk a severe blow behind the left ear, causing a head wound. The officer, nevertheless, closed with the man who struggled violently, punching Chalk about the head and body. Constable Chalk at this time was still slightly dazed by the blow he had received and he lost his grip on the roof. He slipped down the side and came to rest between the eaves of two roofs. The burglar then jumped on to a flat roof some ten feet below and Chalk again gave chase, closed with the criminal, who became very violent, and during the struggle both men fell. On being overpowered the man assured Chalk that he would give no further trouble, but when allowed to stand up he immediately reverted to violence. Chalk managed to restrain him until the arrival of other officers, whereupon the prisoner was taken to the police station. Chalk lost consciousness shortly after this and was taken to hospital where he was treated for concussion, a head wound, facial abrasions and a bruised chest.

John MILLER, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

Constable Miller saw four youths carrying haversacks in a private service road. He stopped the first youth, and asked him what was in his bag, whereupon the youth dropped the haversack and ran away. The other three also fled. Constable Miller chased and caught one but he broke away and ran off. The officer again chased after the youth, who then pulled a pistol from his pocket, pointed it at Constable Miller and threatened to shoot. The officer who was by this time about ten feet away walked towards the youth who again ran away, and while still running pointed his pistol at Miller and fired it. Undeterred the constable continued the chase through a number of streets finally cornering the youth behind some parked cars. He then arrested him.

Roger BAMBRIDGE, Well Sinker, Hendringham, Norfolk.

Mr. Bambridge and two other men were working as a team sinking a well in a field. One man had been winched down to the bottom of the well (some 32 feet) to commence work. He had taken off his safety chain by which he had been lowered when he realised that the air was foul and managed to shout a warning to his colleagues. Mr. Bambridge's fellow workman then slid down the windlass cable and in attempting to secure the safety chain was also overcome by the foul air. On seeing this happen Mr. Bambridge ran to a nearby cottage and summoned the occupants to come to his aid. On returning to the well Bambridge volunteered to go down to rescue his colleagues. He was lowered to the foot of the well where he managed to get a secure hold of one of the men and together they were cranked to the top by the family from the cottage. Although he was very groggy from the effects of the foul air, Bambridge insisted on being lowered a second time to rescue the second man which he managed to do successfully. The prompt action of Mr. Bambridge in summoning help and insisting immediately, to go to the rescue of his colleagues, undoubtedly saved their lives. This risk to his own life was obvious, since his colleagues had been overcome so quickly, and there was some doubt as to whether it would be possible to crank the combined weight of two men to the top of the well.

*Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct*

John Lomer ADAMSON, Administrative Officer, Wembley, Middlesex.

Roy Albert THOMPSON, Carpenter, New Cross, London S.E.14.

For rescuing a child from drowning in the River Thames.

Rodney Stuart ALEXANDER, Boat Builder, Northam.

Arthur Malcolm RENDELL (deceased), Shipwright, Bideford.

For attempting to rescue a man from drowning.

Stanley BOOTH, Constable, Manchester and Salford Police.

Jeffrey Richard OWEN, Constable, Manchester and Salford Police.

For preventing a mentally deranged man from throwing himself from the roof of a five-storey building.

Ronald Cedric BUTLER, Prison Officer, H.M. Borstal, Rochester.

For rescuing three trainees from a burning cell.

John Edward FUNNELL, Constable, Sussex Constabulary.

Kenneth Norton HUMPHRYS, Constable, Sussex Constabulary.

John George Edward LIPSHAM, Constable, Sussex Constabulary.

Anthony Gordon THOMAS, Constable, Sussex Constabulary.

Peter Graham WALKER (since deceased), Police Cadet, Sussex Constabulary.

Michael John WOODHAMS, Constable, Sussex Constabulary.

For services in connection with rescues from a rough sea.

Marion Suzanne Mrs. HEMSLEY, Housewife, Camberley, Surrey.

For services when school children were in danger of attack by a rabid dog.

Frederick Edward LLOYD, Head Porter, St. George's Hospital, Tooting, London S.W.17.

Cornelius WALSH, Porter, St. George's Hospital, Tooting, London S.W.17.

For rescuing a patient from the roof of a hospital.

Ernest PENNEY, Sergeant, Lincolnshire Constabulary.

Ian MORTON, Constable, Lincolnshire Constabulary.

For services when arresting an armed man who threatened to shoot his family and police.

Leonard John PHILLIPS, Inspector, Surrey Constabulary.

Gordon Goulder SMITH, Sergeant, Surrey Constabulary.

Gerald Keith QUEEN, Constable, Surrey Constabulary.

David William SHEPHERD, Constable, Surrey Constabulary.

For services when arresting a violent man armed with a shot gun who fired at police and public to avoid arrest.

David Henry PRICE, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

Michael Ronald TARLING, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

For services when arresting a criminal armed with a loaded pistol.

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