

Mr. Callender meanwhile had tried to get out of the car, but the gunman had put the pistol to his head and told him not to move. Undeterred, he got out of the car at the first opportunity and grabbed the man's arm in an attempt to remove the gun. Although the gunman threatened to shoot him, Mr. Callender clung to the man's arm until he was shot in the chest.

Mr. McConnell was travelling in a taxi along the Mall when he heard shots. As a Royal car appeared to be involved, he stopped the taxi and ran back to the scene, where he found the gunman shouting at the occupants of the car. Seeing the gun in the man's hand, Mr. McConnell went up to him in a placatory manner and asked him to hand over the gun. The man told him to get back, but when Mr. McConnell continued to approach he took aim and fired, wounding him in the chest. Mr. McConnell staggered away and collapsed.

Constable Hills was on duty at St. James's Palace when he heard a noise and saw the cars stationary in the Mall. Thinking there had been an accident, he reported by personal radio and went to the scene. He saw a man trying to pull someone from the back of the car and touched his arm, whereupon the man spun round, moved a few feet away and pointed the gun at the officer. As Constable Hills moved forward to take the gun, the gunman shot him in the stomach and returned to the rear of the car. The officer staggered away and, using his personal radio, sent a clear and concise message to Cannon Row Police Station reporting the gravity of the situation and calling for assistance. As he walked round the back of the car he saw Inspector Beaton's discarded gun, and picking it up returned to the offside of the vehicle intending to shoot the gunman. However, he felt very faint and did not use the weapon as he could not be sure of his aim. He was assisted to the side of the road where he collapsed.

Mr. Martin was also driving along the Mall and when he saw the situation, he drove his motor car in front of the gunman's car to prevent any possible escape. He then went to the Royal car to render assistance, but the gunman pushed a gun in his ribs. At this point Constable Hills intervened and was shot and it was Mr. Martin who assisted him to the side of the road.

Mr. Russell was driving along the Mall when he saw the gunman attempting to open the door of the Royal car. He stopped and as he ran back he heard shots. Arriving at the car, he saw the man with the gun in his hand and Police Constable Hills being assisted to the side of the road. Regardless of the obvious danger, and seeing that the gunman was holding Princess Anne by the forearm and trying to wrest her from the car, Mr. Russell ran up and punched him on the back of the head. The man immediately turned and fired at him, but fortunately the shot missed. Mr. Russell then tried to get Constable Hills' truncheon, but hearing more commotion he returned to the Royal car from which the gunman was still trying to drag Princess Anne with one hand, while pointing a gun at her with the other and threatening to shoot if she refused to come. While maintaining her refusal, Princess Anne managed to delay the gunman and to distract his attention by engaging him in conversation. Captain Phillips kept his arm firmly round her waist and was trying to pull her back into the car. Mr. Russell now ran around to the other side of the car, and saw that Princess Anne had broken free from the gunman and was about to leave by the nearside door. She was almost out of the car when the gunman came

up behind Mr. Russell and once again tried to reach Princess Anne. Captain Phillips promptly pulled her back into the car and Mr. Russell punched the man on the face. At this point other police officers began to arrive in response to Constable Hills' call for assistance and the gunman ran off.

Constable Edmonds was one of the first police officers on the scene, and he saw the gunman running away with the gun still in his hand. Without hesitating the Constable gave chase shouting to the gunman to stop, but the man continued to run and pointed the gun directly at the officer. Completely undeterred, the Constable charged the man and knocked him to the ground. Other police officers who had also given chase immediately threw themselves on the man and disarmed him.

The wounded men were all taken to hospital, where bullets were removed from Inspector Beaton, Mr. Callender and Mr. McConnell. Constable Hills received treatment for his wound, but no attempt has been made to remove the bullet from his liver.

All the individuals involved in the kidnap attempt on Princess Anne displayed outstanding courage and a complete disregard for their personal safety when they each faced this dangerous armed man who did not hesitate to use his weapons. It is entirely due to their actions—as well as to the calmness, bravery and presence of mind shown both by Princess Anne and by Captain Mark Phillips in circumstances of great peril—that the attack was unsuccessful.

Awarded the George Medal

Henry George James BAKER, Borough Security Officer, London Borough of Enfield.

Awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal

Wilfred Frank TOWNSEND, Security Officer, London Borough of Enfield.

At 4.45 p.m. on 1st June 1973, a security van driven by Mr. Townsend arrived at the rear of Enfield Town Hall to deliver cash. Mr. Townsend was accompanied by two cashiers and was escorted by Mr. Baker, who was driving his own car.

On arrival Mr. Baker and Mr. Townsend checked the safety of the immediate area and, seeing nothing suspicious, signalled that the money could be passed through the security hatch of the van. A cashier took the money and was entering the Chief Cashier's Office with Mr. Townsend when three or four masked men brandishing firearms ran up to them. One man pointed a revolver at Mr. Townsend, demanded the money and then fired twice. The cashier, who was fortunately unhurt, rushed to safety inside the building with the cash. Mr. Townsend was unhurt at this stage although one of the shots had torn a hole in his trousers. Without hesitation he rammed his truncheon into the raider's stomach and forced the gun into the air; after a brief struggle the man ran off, with Mr. Townsend in pursuit. One of the raiders turned and fired a shot-gun, wounding Mr. Townsend in the right leg and in the right thumb, but he continued to give chase.

Meanwhile Mr. Baker, who had been a short distance behind his colleague, tried to prevent the escape of the raiders. Despite the danger he rushed at the gunman with whom Mr. Townsend had been struggling.