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HONOURS AND AWARDS

**CENTRAL CHANCERY OF
THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD**

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

17th December 1974.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to give orders for the following awards of the George Medal and the Queen's Gallantry Medal and for 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

John COLLEY, Leading Fireman, Devon Fire Brigade.

In the early hours of the morning the Devon Fire Brigade answered a call to a fire at a three-storey guest-house where it was reported that a number of people were trapped on the top floor.

The ground floor and the first floor were on fire and flames were licking at the face of the building. A fire escape was pitched immediately to the second floor and a breathing apparatus team made an attempt to gain access to the upper floor by the main staircase, but were unsuccessful. A covering jet of water was played over the first and second floor windows to protect the escape from the flames and as the escape was pitched to a top-storey bedroom window cries for help were heard from the trapped people. By this time the head of the escape was enveloped in thick smoke and threatened by flames, but Leading Fireman Colley, without breathing apparatus, reached the level of a narrow window to the room and assisted a man to escape. Although by this time the fire was spreading rapidly and the heat and smoke were intensifying, he returned to the head of the ladder and rescued a girl.

Leading Fireman Colley then went back again to rescue the third person who was known to be trapped in the room. By this time the whole of the first floor of the building was incandescent and the floor of the top-storey was seen to be glowing with heat and cracking. The officer managed to locate the man who was unconscious and trapped. After releasing the man he tried to drag him towards the window, but was overcome by heat and smoke and forced to leave the room. Personnel equipped with breathing apparatus then tried to gain access, but were unsuccessful because of the narrowness of the window.

Despite the deteriorating situation and in full knowledge of the dangers that awaited him, Leading Fireman Colley decided to make yet another attempt to rescue the man.

After persistent and determined efforts, he managed to drag the victim towards the window and to manoeuvre him on to the back of another fireman waiting at the head of the escape. The Leading Fireman did not leave the building until after the carry-down had begun.

With a complete disregard for his own safety, Leading Fireman Colley displayed courage of the highest order in an extremely hazardous situation. He played a vital role in the rescue of two persons and was solely responsible for saving a third at great risk to his own life.

Awarded The Queen's Gallantry Medal

Godfrey Henry CHAFFEY, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

Barry Neil GAGE, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

Alan Kenyon POINTER, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

At about 1 a.m., shortly after a restaurant had closed for business, an armed man entered the door which was shut, but not locked. He took a handbag containing cash, jewellery and cheques, the property of the proprietor's wife. The man's accomplice remained at the wheel of their getaway car which was stolen.

The owner of the restaurant who was in the street at the time, saw the man enter and then leave his premises and instantly recognised his wife's handbag. He immediately challenged the man and chased him, whereupon the man shot at the restaurateur and the shots were heard by Constable Chaffey and Constable Gage who were on duty in a Police car. They stopped their car and heard shouting. They then saw the stolen car turn into the road in front of them, driven at slow speed, without lights and with the passenger door wide open. A man was running after the car.

Constable Gage opened his door intending to stop the man, who immediately saw him, slowed and pointed the gun at the officer and threatened to shoot him. The man then ran to the open door of the car.

Constable Chaffey joined his colleague and together they ran towards the stolen car. As they did so, the gunman again pointed his weapon at Constable Gage and threatened to shoot, the Constable ducked and the car drove off. Constable Chaffey ran a short distance after the car and then returned to the Police car. The officers chased the stolen vehicle in their car, Constable Chaffey giving a commentary of their progress by radio. When the police car was within 10 yards distance of the getaway car the gunman put his right arm out of the passenger's window and shot at the pursuing officers who were not hurt because Constable Gage swerved to the offside of the road.

Meanwhile Constable Pointer who was in a Police van with another officer had heard about the robbery over the Police radio. They saw the stolen car turn at a road junction and immediately followed it. Constable Pointer tried several times to overtake the car, but was unable to do so. Eventually the stolen car crashed into a heap of sand by some roadworks and stopped. The Police van pulled up close to the nearside of the stolen car and Constable Pointer and his colleague got out and chased the gunman and his accomplice who each ran in a different direction. Constable Pointer chased the gunman who was still carrying the stolen handbag and as the Constable closed the distance between them the man turned, shouted and attempted to fire his weapon. Constable Pointer knocked the pistol away and grabbed the man round the neck. The man was eventually overcome after a violent struggle and arrested. The accomplice was caught and arrested by other police officers one of whom was Constable Chaffey.

The three officers involved in the action displayed outstanding courage when, with a complete disregard for their own safety they chased and caught these highly dangerous men.

Colin James DAWE, Constable, Leicestershire Constabulary.
Howard Alan STEVENS, Constable, Leicestershire Constabulary.

On the evening of 3rd January 1974, a party, which was being held by a group of "Hells Angels" took a violent turn and fighting broke out. Shortly afterwards three people left the party and went into a nearby street where they addressed derogatory remarks to a group of Asians. One of the group then attacked an Asian. Hearing of this eight more "Hells Angels" armed with a variety of weapons such as hammers, motor-cycle chains and bottles joined in the fight. In the general mêlée that followed two Asians were stabbed by a man who was armed with a knife. One badly injured man was dragged into a nearby house and a call was made to the police.

Constable Dawe, Constable Stevens and another police officer who were on patrol duty in plain clothes in an unmarked police car received a radio call and went immediately to the scene. On arrival they saw another Asian being chased along the street. As the Asian neared their car a bottle was thrown by one of the pursuing men and Constable Dawe and Constable Stevens got out of the car. Constable Dawe reached the group first, followed by Constable Stevens and both identified themselves as police officers. Hearing this the Asian stopped and was immediately confronted by two "Hells Angels". Constable Dawe saw that one of the men was holding a knife and he warned him to stop fighting. As the armed man made a move towards the Asian, Constable Dawe tackled him from behind in an effort to restrain him whereupon the man turned and stabbed the officer in the stomach. Although seriously injured the Constable held on to the man until weakness from loss of blood made him call out that he could hold on no longer.

Constable Stevens, who had seen his colleague stabbed, immediately rushed to his assistance and joined in the struggle to disarm the man who was trying to stab Constable Dawe again. Constable Stevens managed to take the knife away from the man, and was immediately struck on the head by a motor-cycle chain wielded by another "Hells Angel". Constable Stevens then went to arrest his assailant and saw the same man hit another policeman who was struggling with four youths who had closed in on the police officers in a menacing manner. Constable Dawe attempted to arrest another of the "Hells Angels" and was almost immediately hit again with the chain. The man who had stabbed the Asians and Constable Dawe escaped, but was later arrested. Constable Dawe sustained a serious stab wound and had to undergo major surgery, his life was endangered by the wound and he was very ill for three months. Constable Stevens sustained cuts and bruising, but was able to resume duty after three days.

Constable Dawe without hesitation tackled a man whom he knew to be armed with a knife and even after he had received a serious wound he grappled with his assailant, pulled him to the ground and hung on to him until he was disarmed. Constable Stevens did not hesitate to grapple and disarm the man who he knew had already badly wounded his colleague. Both these police officers displayed devotion to duty, courage of a very high order and a complete disregard for the safety of their own lives.

William Edward HAMILL, Messenger.
For gallantry in Northern Ireland.

Frank Henry HUMM, Constable, Metropolitan Police.
Gordon USHER, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

Constable Humm and another police officer were called to the scene of a domestic dispute at a block of flats. After a brief discussion with the officers, the man who had opened the door suddenly produced a large carving knife and without warning or provocation stabbed Constable Humm in the left side of the neck and pushed him to the ground. The man then attacked the other police officer who, although he tried to grapple with his assailant and parry the blows, was stabbed repeatedly in the head, neck and face receiving serious wounds which bled profusely. Realising that his fellow officer had been gravely injured Constable Humm quickly regained his feet and oblivious of his own injury, went to the officer's assistance with his truncheon drawn. Although he hit the man with his truncheon, it had no effect, and to save his colleague from further injury he grappled with the man at close quarters, at the same time shouting to the injured man to get away. However, the officer was unable to escape and eventually the three men tumbled down the stairs on to the landing below. At this time the other police officer managed to break away from the man who was still fighting furiously, but he collapsed on reaching the police car. Constable Humm continued the violent struggle with the man who, as they rolled further down the stairs, dropped the knife. Breaking away, the man ran out of the entrance to the flats, closely followed by Constable Humm, but seeing the other police officer lying by the police car and realising that his life would be in danger if he did not receive immediate medical attention, the officer wisely summoned assistance on the car radio and rendered first aid.

Constable Usher was patrolling in a panda car. He heard of the incident on his personal radio and having been informed that one officer was seriously wounded, was well aware of the danger in tackling this man who had retrieved the knife and made good his escape. By skilful use of his local knowledge Constable Usher anticipated the man's avenue of escape and found him walking along the footway. Stopping the car, Constable Usher approached the man and began to question him. The man immediately pulled the knife from his sleeve and made threatening gestures at the officer who grasped his right hand and a violent struggle took place. Constable Usher could not get a firm grip on the man's clothing, which was still slippery with blood and the man was able to break away. He ran off still clutching the knife. The officer set off in pursuit, at the same time calling for assistance on his personal radio, and he saw the man enter a house. The man stood in the doorway facing Constable Usher brandishing the knife and, after threatening the officer, he slammed the door. The Constable immediately kicked the door open and saw the man enter the kitchen at the rear of the house, again slamming the door shut. Kicking this door open, the Constable found himself facing the man who was still armed with the knife. With other police officers who had just arrived on the scene Constable Usher rushed at the man and overpowered him, but only after another violent struggle.

In facing this armed, dangerous and mentally unbalanced man who did not hesitate to use his weapon, Constable Humm and Constable Usher displayed great courage, determination and devotion to duty.

William Stewart McBRIEN, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Ernest MADILL, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.
For gallantry in Northern Ireland.

Noel Michael McCABE, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Laurence Winston TESTER, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For gallantry in Northern Ireland.

John Maxwell WHITBREAD, Inspector, South Australian Police.

In the early hours of the morning Inspector Whitbread, who was unarmed, entered a house where a deranged man armed with a rifle was holding a woman hostage and threatening to shoot her.

For more than an hour Inspector Whitbread held the man in conversation. He met his demands to remove all Police from the area and, despite the man's highly agitated state and being himself threatened with the rifle, he continued to reason with him. At no time did the threat to the woman's life lessen, but the Inspector was able to calmly control the situation and managed gradually to edge towards the man in spite of periodic threats not to approach any closer. Finally when putting out a cigarette the Inspector reached across the rifle for an ashtray. At this stage the gun was pointing at the woman's chest and was two inches from it. On withdrawing his hand from the ashtray Inspector Whitbread grabbed the barrel of the rifle, swung it in the air with one hand and pushed the man off balance with the other. They both fell against a cabinet and the Inspector struggled to hold the barrel in the air and force the man backwards. Other police rushed into the house and, during the fight that followed, the rifle discharged into the wall.

In a situation which at all times was highly dangerous, Inspector Whitbread displayed devotion to duty and outstanding courage.

John Raymond YOUNG, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

In the early hours of the morning Constable Young, with another officer, was on duty in plain clothes in an unmarked police van when they saw three men in a car who were acting suspiciously.

The two policemen decided to follow the car which accelerated away quickly when the occupants realised they were being followed. The officers continued the pursuit for some distance until the men abandoned their car and ran off. Constable Young chased one of the men into a school playground; he shone his torch on the man and shouted "Stop, Police". The man stopped, turned round and the Constable saw that he was armed with a double barrelled sawn-off shotgun. The man fired at the officer from a distance of 15 yards and wounded him in the left leg. Constable Young took cover behind a nearby pile of sand and the man ran away once more. In spite of his wound, the officer took up the chase again, shining his torch on the offender. While still running, the gunman turned and fired a further shot but fortunately missed Constable Young. The Officer switched off his torch and continued to follow the man until he lost sight of him. All three men escaped, but the gunman was subsequently caught and arrested.

In his determined pursuit of a man who had already shot and wounded him Constable Young displayed devotion to duty and courage of a very high order.

Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct

Edward Arthur BARTON (Deceased), Foreman, C. Neilson and Sons Ltd., East Molesey.

For attempting to prevent the escape of two thieves who had attacked and robbed him of his firm's wages.

James Anthony Roy BEER, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

For services leading to the arrest of an armed criminal who had fired his weapon at two police officers.

Philip BOVILL, Manager, Messrs. Bucknall and Sons Ltd., Liverpool.

For tackling and foiling an attempt by two men to carry out an armed robbery.

George DICKSON, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

Derrick Oswald HAMMOND, Constable, Metropolitan Police.
Walter O'DRISCOLL, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

For tackling and arresting an armed man who had robbed a bank.

Richard Anthony DUFFIELD, Constable, Sussex Constabulary.

For arresting a shopbreaker armed with a pistol.

David GILL, Constable, Durham Constabulary.

William ROSS, lately Constable, Durham Constabulary.

William Kennedy STABLEFORTH, Constable, Durham Constabulary.

Arthur STOREY, lately Sergeant, Durham Constabulary.

For restraining and disarming a man who attacked and wounded them following his arrest on suspicion of theft.

David Michael HACKETT, Constable, Sussex Constabulary.

Barry Roger OFFEN, Sergeant, Sussex Constabulary.

For rescuing a mentally disturbed man who had climbed 150 feet on to the guttering of a hotel and was in danger of falling on to the road below.

George HARVEY, Constable, City of Glasgow Police.

William NEIL, Constable, City of Glasgow Police.

Eric NEISH, Constable, City of Glasgow Police.

James OSWALD, Constable, City of Glasgow Police.

For services leading to the arrest of an armed criminal who had fired his weapon to avoid capture.

Anthony John HILTON, Sergeant, Sussex Constabulary.

Edward Albert STREET, Sergeant, Sussex Constabulary.

For arresting a drunken man who was armed with a loaded air pistol.

Wayne Martin HORE, Senior Constable, New South Wales Police Force.

George William JONES, Senior Constable, New South Wales Police Force.

John William MILLWARD, Senior Constable, New South Wales Police Force.

John Kenneth SNEDDEN, Detective Senior Constable, New South Wales Police Force.

For services leading to the arrest of two armed murderers who were driving a stolen car and fired many shots at the officers who were pursuing them.

William John JOHNSTON, Inspector, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Vincent Hyland George LINDSAY, Company Director.

For bravery in Northern Ireland.

Charles LERPINIÈRE, Constable, Avon and Somerset Constabulary.

For services leading to the arrest of a drunken motorist who caused him bodily harm by dangerous driving.

Lindsay LOCKHART, Office Clerk.

Paul PARTINGTON, Schoolboy.

For bravery in Northern Ireland.

Thomas Henry McNAUGHTON, Constable, British Transport Police.

For rescuing a drowning seaman who had fallen from a ship's gangway into the water of a dock.

James Thomas MATHIESON, Teacher, Leicester.

Michael John PERRY, Detective Sergeant, Leicestershire Constabulary.

For services during an affray when they each intervened and prevented further injuries to two men who had been stabbed.

Alwyn Glyndwr PRICE, Constable, Dyfed-Powis Police.

For disarming an armed man who had fired a double barrelled shot gun at another police officer.

George Robert SINCLAIR, Sergeant, City of Aberdeen Police.

For attempting to save the life of a schoolboy who fell through an open shaft into the water beneath a quay in Aberdeen Harbour and was drowned.

John Percival WILLIS, Draughtsman, Ashstead, Surrey.

For assisting in the capture of a man armed with a knife who went berserk, stabbing and seriously injuring three women.

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