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HONOURS AND AWARDS

CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

St. James's Palace, London S.W.1.
16th February 1979.

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve 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 shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for Brave Conduct.

Awarded the George Medal

Mervyn BRYANS, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.
David Edward STEWART, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For gallantry in Northern Ireland.

Bruce Dickson CARLISLE, Sergeant, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For gallantry in Northern Ireland.

John Brian McVICKER, Sergeant, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Robert Howard MING, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Albert Edward NEILL, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For gallantry in Northern Ireland.

Awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal

Reverend Prebendary Riou George BENSON, Clun, Craven Arms, Salop.

James Daniel O'SULLIVAN, lately Constable, West Mercia Constabulary.

On 28th July 1977, a young man, whose behaviour had been disturbed for some months, informed his mother that he had taken a dose of weedkiller and left his home carrying a loaded shotgun. He later visited a local shop openly carrying his weapon and then went to the nearby ruins of a castle.

The Police were alerted and Constable O'Sullivan who was on patrol, was sent to the scene where he found the man, who was well known to him, sitting in an opening high in the tower of the ruins and drinking from a flagon of cider. The Constable approached the tower, tried to calm the man, saw he was carrying a single barrelled shotgun under his right arm and cleared the castle grounds of all members of the public. The Constable tried to reason with the man who was handling his weapon recklessly, threatening to shoot anyone who might approach him too closely. After some time the gunman, who still kept his weapon trained on the officer, demanded a hostage; Constable O'Sullivan offered himself and they both left the castle and went towards the Parish Church. At this stage the man asked to see the vicar, the Reverend Prebendary Benson.

Mr. Benson went to the church and tried to talk to the young man to calm him, but after a short while he moved towards the man who became angry and pushed the barrel of the gun against Mr. Benson's chest. Mr. Benson grabbed the gun and was quickly joined by Constable O'Sullivan; during the fierce struggle which ensued as they tried to wrest the gun away, the man pulled the trigger four times and each time the gun's hammer struck the pin of the cartridge, fortunately without firing. At all times they were in great danger of being shot until the gunman was finally overcome and arrested.

Reverend Prebendary Benson and Constable O'Sullivan displayed gallantry of a high order, with a complete disregard for their own safety when they tackled and disarmed the youth whom they both knew to be irrational and in possession of a loaded shotgun.

Barnett Russell BREWSTER, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Mervyn Wesley GIBSON, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For gallantry in Northern Ireland.

Robert HELM, Constable, Lancashire Constabulary.

During the early hours of 19th December 1977, Constable Helm was called to a fire in an old terraced house. On arrival he found the premises filled with dense smoke and the ground floor in flames. The house was in total darkness and he was unable to see without the aid of his hand torch. He told one man to leave the house and was then informed that the building was divided into bedsitting rooms and that some of the tenants were still in their rooms. The officer immediately went up the stairs, forced open one of the doors and carried the occupant down into the street.

By this time the flames had intensified and the whole building was filled with smoke but Constable Helm re-entered the house where he found another man on a landing whom he guided through the smoke down the stairs to safety. The officer again returned to the house and entered a room on the first floor where he found another man who appeared too terrified to move; he had to force the man from the room and down into the street.

Constable Helm was by now suffering from the effect of the smoke and fumes and obliged to rest for a short time, but after recovering slightly he went back into the hallway and kicked open the door of one of the ground floor flats; he was met by a sheet of flame and forced to leave the house. He then tried to crawl on his hands and knees back to the flat, but the room was a mass of flame and he was finally forced to leave the premises.

Constable Helm displayed courage and devotion to duty of a high order when he risked the possibility of being trapped by fire and fumes to effect the rescue of the three men who would otherwise have died in the flames.

Gordon HEYES, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

Late in the evening on 14th November 1976 a man armed with a loaded double-barrel sawn-off shotgun entered a petrol station and demanded money from the till. The cashier on duty handed over a small amount of cash, but the man was not satisfied and demanded to enter the showroom. Once inside the gunman again threatened the cashier, but when he realised that the man did not have the safe keys he released the safety catch on the gun and fired a shot narrowly missing the cashier. A large hole was blasted in the office door.

Two customers who had seen the intruder, noticed the gun, left the garage and summoned help; on leaving they heard the noise of the gun being fired. These witnesses reported what they had seen to an officer on duty in a nearby police vehicle, with the result that Constable Heyes was among the first to arrive on the scene. He saw the man who had now left the garage office and ordered him to stop, whereupon the man tried to escape by jumping over a small fence leading to a side street. Constable Heyes immediately gave chase followed by other officers. The gunman then stopped, turned in his tracks deliberately aimed the shotgun and fired at the officer who fell to the ground injured in the right thigh. Despite his wound, Constable Heyes got up immediately and continued the pursuit until he was

able to tackle the man and brought him down. With the assistance of other officers he arrested the man.

Constable Heyes displayed a complete disregard for his own safety and bravery of a very high order when, despite his wound, he successfully tackled this violent and dangerous criminal.

Ho Hing-chuen, Constable, Royal Hong Kong Police Force.

On 5th November 1977, three men, two armed with revolvers and the third with a meat cleaver, entered a bank. One of the men stood by the door and covered the some forty customers who were inside while the other two forced their way behind the counter and made the manager open the strong room from which they took large sums of money.

During the robbery the bank guard, unseen by the robbers, activated the silent alarm. As a result Constable Ho, who was patrolling nearby with two other officers, was directed to the incident. They had been alerted that they were dealing with dangerous and armed criminals and instructed not to enter the bank until supporting reinforcements arrived.

However, as soon as the officers arrived the robbers came out of the bank. Constable Ho and another officer immediately pursued them and about seventy-five yards from the bank premises Constable Ho caught up with the criminal armed with the meat-cleaver and brought him to the ground.

At this point one of the fleeing gunmen turned and fired at Constable Ho, seriously wounding him in the abdomen. The Constable returned the fire with his revolver but did not hit his assailant. The robber caught by Constable Ho managed to struggle free and tried to join his companions, but his escape was blocked by other police and after a brief struggle he was arrested. The other gunmen were arrested later that day and their weapons and the bulk of the stolen money was also recovered.

Constable Ho was taken to hospital and was finally discharged after several surgical operations.

Constable Ho displayed bravery of a high order when, without regard for his own safety, he knowingly tackled an armed and dangerous criminal.

William David LEMON, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For gallantry in Northern Ireland.

Michael John MURDEN, Constable, West Midlands Police.

Ian Robert TALBOT, Constable, West Midlands Police.

During the evening rush hour period on 27th May 1977, a passenger on board a bus became abusive when asked to pay his fare. The Police were summoned and Constable Murden with another Constable arrived at the scene. They approached the man and asked him to leave the bus, but he became extremely agitated and excited, produced a sheath knife and threatened the officers. Constable Murden cleared the other passengers from the bus then attempted to remove the knife, but the passenger struck out with vicious and deliberate thrusts at potentially fatal areas of the body. The man appeared to have lost all self control but the Constable struggled with him until they stumbled and fell down the stairs of the bus; by this time he was on top of Constable Murden stabbing at him with the knife. A bus inspector came to the officer's aid and tried to wrest

the knife from the attacker's grasp, but was unable to prevent him from stabbing Constable Murden in the arm. The Constable was then pulled from beneath the man who stabbed at his colleague in the region of the heart; luckily the blow was deflected by the officer's leather wallet. The Officers managed to pull the man from the bus and were anxious to keep him from coming into contact with other members of the public. They struggled with him as he tried to walk away.

Meanwhile, Constable Talbot was among other police officers who had been alerted and arrived at the scene. He joined Constable Murden and another officer as they tried to get possession of the knife; during the violent struggle that followed the man continued to strike out wildly with the knife, Constable Murden received a second wound and fell to the ground. Constable Talbot continued to take part in the struggle and struck at the man and, as he was distracted, tackled him and attempted to grab his arms. A violent fight followed as the officer managed to pin both the man's arms behind his back; another policeman tried to disarm him, but he struggled, broke Constable Talbot's hold, swung round to face him and deliberately stabbed him in the chest. The police cordon was now broken and the man began to move away, but Constable Talbot turned to tackle and pursue him again. He was only able to go a few yards when he collapsed in the gutter.

The man who had taken advantage of the fact that some of the officers were incapacitated to make good his escape was followed and later arrested after a violent struggle.

Both Constable Murden and Constable Talbot displayed gallantry of a very high order and a total disregard for their own safety when in spite of their wounds they continued to attempt to arrest and disarm this extremely unstable and dangerous man.

Robert PEACOCK, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.
William Joseph THOMPSON, B.E.M., Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For gallantry in Northern Ireland.

George Kenneth POWER, Constable, Merseyside Police.

During the late evening of 24th November 1977, a fire believed to have been caused by a small boy, broke out in the upper floor of a house with the result that he and a six month old baby were trapped in separate rooms. A neighbour alerted by the children's mother, succeeded in getting into the boy's bedroom, but was beaten back by the intense heat; she tried twice more to get inside the room only to be driven back. Other unsuccessful attempts to rescue the children unfortunately, although well intentioned, had resulted in broken windows which had increased the intensity of the fire.

By the time Constable Power and another officer arrived at the scene the fire had increased; the floorboards and carpet in the room were burning and thick black smoke billowed out. The fire had spread to the ceiling above the landing, the wooden loft entrance was well alight and they could hear a child screaming. Constable Power, closely followed by his colleague, ran into the house and up the stairs. The officer with Constable Power entered the front room to search for a child but was driven out by the heat and smoke. Constable Power then entered the room and, after feeling his way, found the baby which he handed to the other

officer who took it to safety and then returned to the landing to help her colleague.

Regardless of the now appalling condition in the back room Constable Power entered the room. The fire had been fanned to greater intensity by draught from the broken windows and the heat was fierce. The officer fought his way through the smoke and flames to rescue the now badly burnt child from a bunk bed in the furthest corner of the room. Both officers then left the house with the boy.

Constable Power displayed outstanding courage, determination and a total disregard for his own safety when, in spite of worsening conditions, he rescued both children and succeeded where the rescue attempts of others had failed.

Charles SHRED, Constable, Leicestershire Constabulary.

In the early hours of 1st January 1978, a man, who had earlier been involved in a fight outside a public house, returned to his home, armed himself with a loaded shotgun and then left his house. He fired a shot and wounded a neighbour who attempted to take the gun from him, threatened another man who managed to escape uninjured and then fired two shots at a passing car. By this time the police had been alerted and the man fired a shot at a police vehicle which was searching for him.

Constable Shred, on duty alone in a patrol vehicle, was also alerted. As he approached a garage the gunman appeared and ordered him to leave his car. He obeyed, but was told to get back into his vehicle and to drive away with the man. He managed to communicate with other police who were also in the area and then drove for many miles with the shotgun aimed at the back of his neck until eventually the man ordered him to stop the car and to start walking. The gunman took the Constable's uniform cap and a small amount of money and drove away in the police car.

Constable Shred was soon picked up by another police vehicle which had been trying to catch the gunman. They saw the armed man abandon the police car and get into another car after having forced the three passengers to leave; he ordered the driver at gunpoint to drive him away. At intervals on the ensuing journey the gunman told the car driver to stop and the pursuing police officers together with the man's wife endeavoured to persuade him to surrender. Finally the gunman ordered the driver of the commandeered car to stop and demanded a better vehicle. Since the man had become extremely excited by now and was shouting uncontrollably, it was decided that the best course was to appear to meet his demands and while the necessary arrangements were being made Constable Shred offered himself as a hostage in place of the other driver. This enabled the hostage driver to escape to safety.

The man then got into the back seat of the police car and the Constable drove off at gunpoint. During the journey which followed Constable Shred continually talked to the man and tried to persuade him to hand over his rifle peacefully, but the man refused to give it up. The gunman's behaviour and threats became more and more excitable but the officer continued to speak to him and eventually he became calmer and finally handed the loaded shotgun to the Constable.

Constable Shred displayed outstanding courage throughout the incident. In a very volatile situation he was aware in voluntarily subjecting himself a second time to the gunman of the likelihood that he might be

killed by the man whom he knew had already shot and injured one man.

John Stuart WILSON, Constable, Lancashire Constabulary.

During the evening of 3rd July 1977, Constable Wilson and another police officer had detained a man in connection with a burglary. The man was placed in the rear of the officers' patrol car, but during the drive to the police station he suddenly produced a knife and attacked Constable Wilson who was the driver of the car.

Constable Wilson, who was stabbed in the neck, stopped the car while his colleague turned in the front passenger seat to grapple with the man. As Constable Wilson began to get out of the car he received two further stab wounds in his right side and the other officer was temporarily incapacitated by wounds to the head and arms.

Another policeman arrived at the scene and was attacked and thrown to the ground by the assailant who had escaped from the police car. The man then stabbed the officer several times and continued to make knife thrusts at his head and body. Constable Wilson, although bleeding profusely from his wounds and with his right lung collapsed by a knife thrust, unhesitatingly went to his colleague's assistance, thereby diverting the attacker's attention.

Fortunately another police officer arrived at the scene and the assailant concentrated on him. Constable Wilson again went to the aid of this officer in spite of bleeding heavily from the neck and mouth. The knifeman then ran away and as he made good his escape Constable Wilson collapsed. The attacker was arrested shortly afterwards having deliberately crashed head-on into a police car, seriously injuring the driver.

Constable Wilson displayed devotion to duty, persistence and courage of a very high order in going to the aid of his fellow officers despite being badly wounded. There is no doubt that, but for his tenacity, even more serious injuries could have been inflicted on his colleagues.

Queen's Commendation for Brave Conduct

Rodney ALDOUS, Security Inspector, Securicor Ltd., London.

For services following an armed robbery.

Newton Elisha BABAKAN, Restaurant Owner, Wolverhampton.

Jeffrey Alan BIXTER, Constable, West Midlands Police.
Timothy Richard LLOYD, Constable, West Midlands Police.

Barry John MARTIN, Constable, West Midlands Police.
Gulzari Lal SENIARARY, Inspector, West Midlands Passenger Transport Executive.

For services in restraining and arresting a mentally disturbed man who had stabbed three police officers.

Ian Smith BAIN, Chief Inspector, Fife Constabulary.

For services in disarming a mentally disturbed man in possession of a loaded shotgun.

Elizabeth Dianne, Mrs. BARTRAM, Constable, Lancashire Constabulary.

Geoffrey Gerald LEVER, Constable, Lancashire Constabulary.

For services leading to the arrest of a distraught man who was armed with a home-made bomb.

Patrick BOWEN, Ambulanceman, Wilford Sub-Station, Trent Area Health Authority.

Kenneth CHURCHILL, Ambulanceman, Wilford Sub-Station, Trent Area Health Authority.

For services leading to the rescue of an unconscious man from a smoke-filled house.

Paul Edward James CAFE, Prison Officer, Department of Corrective Services, Metropolitan Reception Prison, Long Bay, New South Wales.

John Alexander COOK, Prison Officer, Department of Corrective Services, Metropolitan Reception Prison, Long Bay, New South Wales.

Samuel Francis PAVICH, Prison Officer, Department of Corrective Services, Metropolitan Reception Prison, Long Bay, New South Wales.

For services leading to the recapture of three armed convicts who were attempting to break out of prison.

CHAU Kwong-tak, Constable, Royal Hong Kong Police Force.

TANG Kwok-fung, Constable, Royal Hong Kong Police Force.

To Kwok-chiu, Sergeant, Royal Hong Kong Police Force.

For services leading to the rescue of more than fifty villagers whose lives were endangered by floods following a violent storm.

Raymond George DOUGLAS, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For gallantry in Northern Ireland.

Joseph Patrick George DUIGNAN, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

Geoffrey Alan SPEERS, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For gallantry in Northern Ireland.

David Eric John EVANS, Sergeant, Leicestershire Constabulary.

For services in disarming a mentally disturbed man who was armed with a chopper.

Thomas Henry FOSTER, Constable, Northumbria Police.

John Stephenson NORRIS, Sergeant, Northumbria Police.

For services in tackling and disarming a mentally unbalanced man who was armed with a loaded shotgun.

Eric John GRACE, Head Porter, St. James Hospital, Balham, London.

For services in foiling an attempted wage snatch.

Dereck Walter HALL, Branch Manager, Securicor Ltd., Birmingham.

For services leading to the arrest of an armed man who attempted to rob him of a cash bag.

Anthony Morris HATCH, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

Charles Edward ROWELL, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

Michael Robert TIERNEY, Constable Metropolitan Police.

For services leading to the arrest of a burglar who threatened them with a hand grenade.

Christopher HOLLINS, Constable, Nottinghamshire Combined Constabulary.

For services leading to the arrest of an armed and dangerous criminal who threatened him with a large knife.

John McCLELLAND, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

David Campbell McKEAGUE, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For gallantry in Northern Ireland.

Hugh McLELLAND, Constable, West Midlands Police.

Ernest Alan ROBINSON, Sergeant, West Midlands Police.

Thomas SUTCLIFFE, Constable, West Midlands Police.

Roy TAYLOR, Chief Inspector, West Midlands Police.

For services leading to the arrest of two gunmen who attempted an armed robbery.

Pauline, Mrs. McMILLAN, Housewife, Huyton, Liverpool.

Sheila Ann, Mrs. SMITH, Constable Merseyside Police.

For services in attempting to rescue two small children who were trapped in a blazing house.

Brian Lewis MARTIN, Constable, Sussex Police.

Frederick George MOORE, Constable, Sussex Police.

For services leading to the disarming and arrest of a violent man who threatened them with a large knife.

David John MURRAY, Constable, Thames Valley Police.

Ian PUSEY, Constable, Thames Valley Police.

For services in disarming a man who threatened them with a knife.

Charles Cooper, NAAN, M.B.E., Chief Superintendent, Cambridgeshire Constabulary.

Malcolm Harold George WRIGHT, Medical Practitioner, St. Neots, Cambridgeshire.

For services following a shooting incident.

Ng Chun-hung, Constable, Royal Hong Kong Police Force.

For services in pursuing, disarming and arresting a dangerous criminal.

Richard John PURCELL, Constable, West Mercia Constabulary.

For services leading to the arrest of a mentally disturbed man who threatened him with a loaded shotgun.

David Brian REDMAN, Chief Inspector, Leicestershire Constabulary.

For services leading to the arrest of an armed man.

Linda, Mrs. SKULL, Staff Nurse, Chelmsford and Essex Hospital, Chelmsford, Essex.

For services in climbing an 80 foot water tower in bad weather conditions to save a mentally unbalanced youth who was threatening to commit suicide.

Allan Henry STRONG, Constable, Lothian and Borders Police.

For services in confronting and attempting to arrest an armed and dangerous man.

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