



SUPPLEMENT TO

# The London Gazette

of Thursday, 29th February 1996

*Published by Authority*

*Registered as a Newspaper at the Post Office*

FRIDAY, 1ST MARCH 1996

HONOURS AND AWARDS

## CENTRAL CHANCERY OF THE ORDERS OF KNIGHTHOOD

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

1st March 1996

The QUEEN has been graciously pleased to approve the following awards of the Queen's Gallantry Medal and for the publication in *The London Gazette* of the names of those shown below as having received an expression of Commendation for Bravery.

### *Awarded the Queen's Gallantry Medal*

David BOYCE, Constable Metropolitan Police.  
Mark John O'BRIEN, Constable Metropolitan Police.

For services in chasing and arresting two armed robbers during which, on a number of occasions, shots were fired at them.

Constables Boyce and O'Brien received a call reporting that there was an armed robbery in progress. O'Brien was first on the scene, on foot, followed shortly after by Boyce in a police van. They joined forces and followed the robbers, who were seen to be armed and who headed for a stolen van in which they tried to escape. At this point, Robber 2 walked towards the police van and fired a shot, hitting the windscreen and showering Boyce and O'Brien with shattered glass. Both constables left their police vehicle and O'Brien ran to inform fellow officers who were arriving at the scene of the incident. Meanwhile, the robbers had returned to their van to escape. Noticing this, Boyce got back into his police van and pursued them, followed by a police car carrying O'Brien and other officers.

When the robbers' van crashed a little later, further shots were fired at Boyce in the police vehicle. The robbers then hijacked the police car which had also been following them, forcing the occupants out at gun point, to make their escape. On seeing this Boyce, who had been rejoined in his van by O'Brien, rammed the hijacked police car twice knowing full well that the robbers would not hesitate to use their weapons. The robbers managed to escape and a further pursuit followed until they crashed the hijacked police car. Robber 1 got out of the car and aimed his gun at Boyce, who had stopped his van nearby and got out to cover the robbers. At this stage armed police officers arrived and arrested Robber 1 who gave himself up.

Jonathan Dee CORBETT, Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

David Joseph STERRITT, Sergeant, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

For Bravery in Northern Ireland.

John DUFFY, Detective Constable, Lothian and Borders Police.

David MacRoberts DUNN (Posthumous).

Duncan McLean McPherson MILLIKEN.

For showing gallantry of a high order when without thought for their own safety, they tackled armed robbers in attempting to stop their escape.

On 19 October 1994 following a bank robbery, Constable Duffy was off duty and talking with his friend (Mr Milliken), when he saw two of the robbers running away.

Both gave chase and as one of the robbers approached the getaway car Constable Duffy caught

up with him and a struggle ensued. During the struggle this robber produced a gun and shouted at the Constable to get back. On seeing the gun Constable Duffy stepped back but was fired at twice, both shots doing no damage. (For a time he, mistakenly, guessed they were blanks.) He then tackled the robber for a second time as the robber attempted to open the getaway car door. The robber managed to break free and moved behind a car threatening the Constable with his gun again. The Constable managed to grab hold of the gun as it was being discharged at him and got hold of the robber in a bear hug. A civilian and a Securicor Officer joined the Constable in wrestling the robber to the ground and restraining him. Whilst this was going on another of the robbers fired three shots at the struggling group from the getaway car, but none of them were hit.

Mr Milliken followed Constable Duffy in giving chase to the robbers. He also went to the getaway car and pulled at a rear door, seeing one of the robbers firing at Constable Duffy as he struggled on the ground. Then as the getaway car stalled, Mr Milliken was able to open the car front door and grab the driver. During the struggle that followed the driver turned his gun on Mr Milliken. Mr Milliken grabbed the driver's arm and slammed it against the door frame which knocked the gun from his hand. At the same time Mr David Dunn, who had witnessed all of the events that had taken place, ran to the getaway car and opening the front passenger door leaned across the inside of the vehicle and struck the driver on the side of the head with a carrier bag of bottles. This prevented the driver from moving away and contributed to his arrest shortly afterwards by Mr Milliken. (As the driver was struck by the bottles Mr Milliken managed to pull him from the car, wrestled him to the ground and then restrained him). But before Mr Dunn could withdraw a third robber, in the back of the car, fired point blank at Mr Dunn, killing him almost at once.

Christopher BIELBY, Deputy Head Teacher, Hall Garth School.

David ELAND, Teacher, Hall Garth School.

For entering a classroom to protect the pupils from an intruder in the full knowledge that the intruder was armed with a gun and a knife, and that he had already stabbed at least one child.

On 28 March 1994 Mr Bielby and Mr Eland were going about their work as teachers at Hall Garth School, Middlesbrough, when they were told of the presence of an armed intruder in the School.

Both went immediately to the classroom where the intruder had lightly barricaded the door and was holding a number of children hostage. On looking through the glass door Mr Bielby saw that the intruder had a gun which was at one point aimed at him. Mr Bielby and Mr Eland stood either side of the door to assess the situation, not wanting to agitate the intruder further. Moments later, the children started screaming and as the teachers looked into the classroom they saw the intruder with a knife stabbing one of the children and saw blood also on the clothing of other children.

Without hesitation they forced the classroom door open and rushed the intruder shouting to the children to leave the room. The intruder dropped the knife and took hold again of his gun which he had placed in a holdall, and pointed it at the teachers. At this point, Mr Eland grabbed the gun and Mr Bielby the intruder, and a violent struggle took place. During the struggle,

the gun (which was later found to be an imitation) was recovered and was given to another teacher for safety. Leaving Mr Eland to restrain the intruder, Mr Bielby then went to the aid of a child who had been fatally wounded after repeated stabbing with the intruder's knife.

Derek John ROBERTSON, Sergeant, Metropolitan Police (Posthumous)

For displaying bravery of a high order when confronting a robber armed with a knife. After firstly reporting events on his radio, and then in attempting to detain and arrest the robber carrying a knife, Sergeant Robertson was fatally wounded.

On 9 February 1994, Sergeant Robertson went with another officer to investigate a suspected armed robbery at a Post Office.

There being nothing visibly amiss, he sent the officer to the front of the premises whilst he remained at the rear. Seconds later three masked robbers came out of the rear door with one holding a knife to the Post-Master's throat. The robber told Sergeant Robertson to stay back, which he did, though he continued describing the scene on his radio. While his two companions ran away (to be arrested shortly afterwards by police arriving at the scene), the armed robber then moved through the garden, with Sergeant Robertson moving with him at a short distance. Finally the robber pushed his hostage aside and attempted to escape. The Sergeant, who wore no protective clothing, stood his ground attempting to prevent the robber's escape and hitting the robber with his truncheon. He was unable to defend himself against a frenzied knife attack by the robber whose escape he was preventing, and fell dying from a series of major stab wounds.

Andrew Mark STEEPLE, Senior Inspector of Police, Royal Hong Kong Police Force

For saving life at sea in hazardous conditions.

At about 0400 hours on 25th November 1994, Police Launch No. 53 of Marine Police East Division attended a burning fishing vessel located in the exposed waters of Hong Kong, 5 miles east of the Nine Pins. At the time the weather was rough with 2-3 metre waves and wind speeds of 25-30 knots.

The rough seas precluded the launch of PL53's 5.4 metres inflatable. PL53 could not approach the wreck from leeward as the flames were leaping 10 metres into the air and smoke was billowing to the south-west. The burning wreck was rolling and pitching violently, tugging and pulling on the rope beneath its overhanging bow to which a group of 5 sailors, semi-naked and without life preservers, were clinging, screaming for assistance. PL53 used its firefighting water cannon to keep the air temperature down, as the threat of further explosions from liquid petroleum gas and petrol was still a possibility. The two boats were pitching and rolling at different times and as PL53 approached from upwind with its stern to the weather it was surging unpredictably. When both bows were about 10-15 metres apart a group of constables threw lifebuoys towards the 5 man crew of the fishing boat. Mr. Steeple saw that the survivors were extremely weak, hanging onto their ship's bow rope in the heaving seas, and were unlikely to last long: one man suddenly let go of the rope and swam to a lifebuoy about 4 metres from him from where he was towed to

the starboard side scrambling net of PL53 where two constables manhandled him on board.

Other lifebuoys being thrown to the survivors were being pushed back by the action of the fishing boat pitching up and down, and the heat from the fire 10 metres downwind felt intense to those on PL53's bow, even with the cooling effect of the fire monitors. Mr. Steeple told his men that he was going to attempt to swim over to the other vessel taking a lifebuoy and line. He leapt into the water some 3 metres below, grabbed a lifebuoy and line, put it over his left arm and swam through the swell towards the cluster of men. He intended to collect all four men and bring them back as a group, but one man leapt towards him. In the struggle Mr. Steeple found himself inside the lifebuoy with the man clutching both him and the lifebuoy. They were then towed to the starboard side scrambling net of PL53 which was rolling heavily with the sharply-angled spray rail rising fairly high above the surface and then crashing down on the officers at the end of the scrambling net. Passing waves were threatening to submerge Mr. Steeple, the survivor and two constables clinging on to the scrambling net, as the net was pushed and pulled back and forth against the hull and spray-rail. The survivor was contributing little towards the effort and at the lowest position on the net the two constables had to pull the survivor at each side whilst Mr. Steeple pushed from behind. The man was passed to other constables higher up the net until he could be pulled onto the deck.

Mr Steeple followed up the net and arrived at deck level nearly exhausted. In the hazardous sea conditions he might well have become exhausted out of reach of his colleagues.

#### *Queen's Commendation for Bravery*

Philip David ALSTON, Constable, Metropolitan Police.  
David McKinnon BELL, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

William Morris HILTON, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

Barry OLDROYD-JONES, Constable, Metropolitan Police.

For brave conduct in the later stages of a police pursuit of armed robbers.

Following an armed robbery two robbers had attempted to escape, firstly in a stolen van, and then in a hijacked police car. During this incident the robbers had fired shots at two officers who were following them, and had threatened others when hijacking the police car at gunpoint. Eventually the hijacked car crashed, and one of the robbers was arrested.

At that stage Robber 2 made his escape on foot followed closely by Constables Bell (armed) and Hilton (unarmed) who had just arrived. During the chase both Bell and Hilton were fired at and hit by shot gun pellets; the robber also took a passer-by hostage. The two Constables followed the robber into residential streets where they lost sight of him. As the Constables continued to search for the robber, knowing they could be ambushed, they were joined by fellow Constables Oldroyd-Jones and Alston, who were armed and protected by body armour. At that moment Robber 2 emerged from his hiding place and fired at Constable Oldroyd-Jones hitting him in the legs and causing him to collapse. Constable Hilton moved to help Oldroyd-Jones, putting himself in view of the robber's position and therefore in considerable danger. Constable Alston moved to a forward,

exposed, position to protect his fellow officers and, with Constable Bell, prepared to approach the robber. At this point, the robber shot himself.

Victor John ANTCLIFF.  
David James GREGORY.

For services in rescuing a man from a crashed and burning plane.

A cargo plane crashed on a late February evening into a wooded area, the main part of the fuselage landing upside down and on fire. Mr Antcliff and Mr Gregory, alerted by the noise of the crash and fire glow in the sky, drove to the scene. The aircraft was burning fiercely, but the fire had still not reached the cockpit. They approached the cockpit and heard a voice shouting for help. They worked together to move wreckage and pull out the co-pilot, who was trapped, before the aircraft could explode. Having pulled the co-pilot from the severely damaged cockpit they returned to the aircraft to try to rescue the pilot. He was showing no sign of life, and seemed to have been crushed by the frame of the damaged cockpit. Fearing that the aircraft was about to explode, Mr Antcliff and Mr Gregory then withdrew to safety. Their prompt action in approaching the blazing aircraft undoubtedly saved the life of the co-pilot.

Alan BLYTH.

For assisting in the pursuit of two armed bank robbers, and then attempting to cut off their escape. The robbers were subsequently arrested.

Wui-wai CHAM, Sergeant, Royal Hong Kong Police Force.  
Chi-man CHAN, Sergeant, Royal Hong Kong Police Force.

For displaying bravery in pursuing at least four armed robbers, attempting to detain and arrest them. (Both officers suffered serious gun shot injuries during the incident).

On 2nd January 1993, after being alerted by police radio that a robbery was in progress at the Tai Ping Koon restaurant in the Kowloon district, both officers arrived at the scene to see three or four robbers fleeing from the building. They gave chase but lost sight of them in the dark. The officers continued to search and were alerted to the presence of the gang by passers-by who had seen the robbers boarding two taxis. The passers-by also mentioned that they thought the robbers were armed. Sergeant Cham and Sergeant Chan drew their weapons as a precaution before approaching one of the taxis, which was stationary in traffic. As Sergeant Cham approached from the side one of the robbers got out and shot him twice, hitting him on the right arm and left thigh. Sergeant Cham managed to return fire by passing his gun to his left hand. After firing two shots he collapsed from the effects of his injuries. Meanwhile Sergeant Chan approached the taxi from the front. A robber sitting in the front seat fired two shots at him through the windscreen. Sergeant Chan was hit on the left elbow which knocked him to the ground, but he managed to fire two shots at the robber. The taxi was then driven at Sergeant Chan, running over his right lower leg before driving off.

**Eric Francis COPPIN**, Constable, City of London Police.

For services in chasing armed robbers, during which on a number of occasions he was fired upon.

Constable Coppin was on motorcycle patrol when he saw a vehicle completing an illegal U-Turn. He attempted to stop the car, but the driver ignored his request and continued to drive down the road. Constable Coppin gave chase and shortly after heard on his radio that the vehicle had been used in an armed robbery which had just taken place. As he continued to pursue the vehicle, the front passenger turned in his seat and pointed a handgun at him. Despite hearing the sound of a gun being discharged, he continued to maintain his chase. As he managed to get closer, more shots were fired at him, causing him to drop back slightly. He still however continued to chase the vehicle from a distance until he lost sight of the car in a side street. He soon found the car abandoned and, having spoken to witnesses continued to look for the men in the surrounding area. In all five rounds were shot at him on three separate occasions.

**William FORTH**, Sergeant, Northumbria Police (Posthumous).

For services in attempting to arrest two youths who were using threatening behaviour.

Sergeant Forth, with another officer, had been called to an incident. In the incident area, they approached two youths who were armed with wooden sticks and who had been shouting aggressively to the Police (and it transpired, also to other residents living nearby). The youths were apparently found later to have been affected by drug, solvent and alcohol abuse. One of the youths threatened the officers with his stick and both youths then ran away.

Sergeant Forth decided to keep an eye on the youths while his colleague went to a nearby house to follow up the incident to which they have been called. A short distance away he again confronted the youths and a fight took place during which Sergeant Forth was beaten severely with the sticks. At this point the other officer, who had been attending the incident nearby, returned and chased one of the attackers as he attempted to run away, finally arresting him. Sergeant Forth continued to struggle with the other youth, but was finally overcome by stab wounds from which he died shortly afterwards.

**Alistair FOSTER**, Postman.

**David Robert HOLMES**, Postman.

**Alphonsus Martin SLOAN**, Postman.

For Bravery in Northern Ireland.

**William Geoffrey James HAMILTON**, Sergeant, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

**Pamela Dawn NEILL**, Detective Constable, Royal Ulster Constabulary.

**Mrs Eunice Mary SMYTH**.

For Bravery in Northern Ireland.

**Colin Leslie HAYWOOD-TRIMMING** MVO,  
Superintendent, Metropolitan Police.

For placing himself in personal danger in order to protect HRH The Prince of Wales.

While on a Royal tour in Australia, HRH The Prince of Wales was due to present awards in front of a crowd of around 20,000 people in Sydney. Superintendent Haywood-Trimming was seated some seven metres behind the place where The Prince of Wales stood awaiting the announcement of the winners. He was unarmed on this occasion in deference to Australian Federal Government regulations. As the Prince waited, Superintendent Haywood-Trimming heard a sound similar to that of a gun firing, and saw a young man approaching the stage at speed with what looked like a gun in his hand. Then he heard another shot and saw smoke coming from the barrel of a gun held by the young man. Believing that the life of The Prince of Wales was in danger, Superintendent Haywood-Trimming moved to place himself between the gunman and his target. After pushing The Prince of Wales out of the line of danger he turned to face the gunman ready to tackle him. At this moment further members of the protection team, who were not on the stage, managed to deal with the gunman. Although the attacker's gun was later found to be a starting pistol, Superintendent Haywood-Trimming had no way of knowing this and had to assume it was a real firearm. He displayed bravery in a fast moving situation.

**John MACASKILL**, lately Constable, Metropolitan Police.

**Peter REDFORD**, Detective Constable, Metropolitan Police.

**Michael STUBBS**, Detective Sergeant, Metropolitan Police.

**John SWINFIELD**, Detective Sergeant, Metropolitan Police.

For services in chasing two armed robbers, during which on a number of occasions they were fired upon.

A police surveillance operation was set up after extensive investigations had indicated the likelihood of an armed robbery. The police planned to arrest the suspects as soon as the robbery started. However at that moment the surveillance team lost sight of the robbers behind a high sided vehicle.

Once the police realised that the robbery had taken place, they moved to arrest the robbers who had by then reached their getaway vehicle. The robbers managed to evade roadblocks and a high speed chase ensued with the four officers, Stubbs, Swinfield, Redford and Macaskill in the pursuing police car. During the chase, the police car was fired at on two occasions by a machine gun. On both occasions some rounds entered the vehicle, and one bullet injured Stubbs in the left temple. Despite the danger, Constable Macaskill, the driver, was urged to continue the chase and only stopped when shots from a heavy calibre Magnum pistol damaged the police car's engine. The robbers were later arrested.

All four officers showed bravery in the face of danger in pursuing robbers known to be armed after being fired upon.

**Michael Peter MOORE**, Acting Sergeant, Surrey Police.

For services in tackling an armed robber who was attempting to rob a Post Office.

Sergeant Moore was waiting with other armed police officers in the Post Office, as they had been tipped off that a robbery attempt was to take place. One of the robbers entered with a shotgun and was challenged by Sergeant Moore who aimed his own

revolver at him. The robber pressed on, and Sergeant Moore tried to seize the barrel of the shotgun. A struggle followed in which both men fell to the ground. Then, as the robber threatened another armed police officer, Sergeant Moore shot him twice, and the other officer also fired a shot. As Sergeant Moore prepared to fire again to disable the robber with the shotgun he was stabbed in the chest by a second robber who had entered the Post Office with a knife. As this second

robber tried to stab him again, Sergeant Moore shot at him. The second robber then ran from the Post Office.

The first robber, still carrying his weapon, tried to point his shotgun again at Sergeant Moore, who pushed the barrel aside as the robber then ran past him into the street. Both robbers, the one still carrying his shotgun, were pursued by Sergeant Moore and his colleagues. Both were arrested.

