

in a car park. Unknown to the constables at the time, the men had been involved in an armed robbery shortly before. As the officers went to investigate, the men sped off in a waiting car. There followed a short car chase finally ending when the suspect car hit a concrete bollard.

As the police car stopped close to the suspect car, the four suspects left their vehicle and started to make their escape. One of the suspects was slower than the others, and Constable Dalby's colleague noticed that this suspect was holding a gun and shouted a warning. Constable Dalby, now aware of the gun, got out of the police car and started to chase the armed suspect, followed by his colleague. During a short chase, Constable Dalby was warned on two occasions by the suspect to "back off" and he saw the gun himself. Finally Constable Dalby caught up with the suspect and, as he was about the arrest him, the suspect turned and shot Constable Dalby in the leg at point blank range. Constable Dalby fell to the ground and the armed suspect made his escape, but was later arrested with the three other suspects.

Stuart Charles McLEAN, Constable, South Wales Police.

For services in arresting a suspect armed with a knife.

Constable McLean and a colleague were on mobile patrol when they received information about an incident involving a number of youths throwing stones. When the police officers arrived at the scene they spoke to the youths, one of whom said that he had been cut by a knife wielded by someone who had moved away to a nearby builders' yard. Initially believing this man to be a well known vagrant, Constable McLean decided to investigate.

A short while later Constable McLean saw a security guard, who pointed to a figure (not that of the vagrant) in the yard and confirmed that he had a knife. Constable McLean continued to follow and when some 15 feet away from him, shouted at him to stop. The suspect stopped and turned to face Constable McLean who drew his baton. The Constable then told the suspect to take his hand, which the officer thought to contain a knife, from his jacket. The suspect ignored this and Constable McLean then ordered the suspect to lie down. He started to do so before suddenly springing towards Constable McLean, with his fist clenched around what the officer assumed to be a knife. Constable McLean tried to defend himself with his baton but the suspect was too fast and knocked Constable McLean to the ground. There followed a violent struggle during which the suspect slashed and then stabbed Constable McLean several times, finally stabbing him in the back. Constable McLean managed to push the suspect off but before he could get to his feet the suspect returned and resumed the attack, wounding the officer again. During this second struggle, Constable McLean though stabbed in the back and cut on the face, neck and hand, managed to get on top of the suspect and restrain him until assistance arrived.

Anthony INWALD, Medical Practitioner.

For services in the protection of a colleague and the disarming of a woman patient armed with a knife.

Doctor Inwald had completed his evening surgery and was in the practice reception area when he became aware of a panic alarm being sounded by a colleague in an adjoining surgery. He was told by a receptionist that she had responded to the alarm and had seen a

woman patient, with a knife, threatening the doctor in the surgery. Doctor Inwald entered the surgery and saw the woman holding a knife, with his colleague seated behind her desk. He started to talk to the woman to calm her, and tried to persuade her to leave while he remained in the surgery with his colleague. The patient refused. Then, as the woman with the knife moved forward, Doctor Inwald picked up a chair and pushed it towards her and then immediately went forward in an attempt to grab the knife. During the following struggle, the woman stabbed Doctor Inwald twice while he held her in a bear-hug. She was finally restrained by Doctor Inwald and two of his colleagues and the knife could be taken from her. The woman then made her escape but was arrested later by police.

Gary Beal JOHNSON, Civilian.

Lance Corporal Andrew RANDLE.

For services in the rescue of a man following an aircraft crash.

Mr. Johnson, a lorry driver, observed a light aircraft flying erratically soon after take off, and saw it crash behind some woods. He immediately parked his lorry and ran across a busy road, flagging down a motorist to ask him to call the emergency services. Together with Corporal Randle, who was cycling by, he went to find the crash site.

Mr. Johnson and Corporal Randle forced their way through dense undergrowth towards the crash site, their task helped by shouting from a survivor. When they reached the site they saw that the aircraft was on fire and that a man was lying near to the burning wreckage. Despite the risk of explosion, they carried the injured man away from the burning aircraft and then returned to the aircraft, having learned that the pilot (who the passenger thought may have been dead) was still in the aircraft. They got close to the aircraft but the intense heat and three minor explosions eventually forced them to abandon their rescue attempt and move the injured passenger to a place of greater safety. Shortly afterwards the emergency services arrived and took control of the situation.

#### QUEEN'S COMMENDATION FOR BRAVERY IN THE AIR

Jonathan Stanley DICKENS, formerly Test Pilot, Westland Helicopters.

For saving the lives of three colleagues.

On the afternoon of 7th April 1995 a fourth prototype EH101 helicopter took off from Yeovil and began a rapid climb. The aircraft reached its desired height (of 12,000 feet) and speed to commence tests (to establish its level flight performance characteristics) when, against all expectations, it began to yaw to the left, initially at a slow rate. The Co-Pilot, who was flying the aircraft at the time, made every effort to counter the yaw but eventually lost control. At this point in time Captain Dickens assumed control of the aircraft, instructed the crew to prepare to bail out while he prepared himself to fly the helicopter until his crew were safe. The aircraft began to descend, a Mayday call was lodged, and the Co-Pilot and two Test Engineers in the rear of the helicopter abandoned the aircraft leaving only the Captain Dickens on board. The aircraft was descending at a rate of 6,000 feet per