

# Rt Hon Boris Johnson MP

## Prime Minister

Since their inception by Robert Peel nearly 200 years ago, the police have, day in and day out, faced down evil in our society. However, 2020 was a year unlike any other for policing.

Not only did you show the bravery and fortitude we have seen from generations of officers, keeping the public safe from those who would do us harm, you have also had to face, head on and without precedent, a global pandemic.

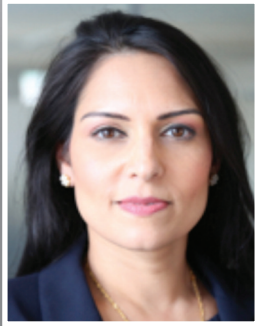
As frontline workers in the truest sense, you have been vital in helping us battle Covid-19. I salute each and every one of you for the role you have played.

My admiration for you and your fellow officers and staff, already high, has only increased due to the role you have performed over the last 18 months, and I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to all of the nominees for these Police Bravery Awards for your exceptional achievements.

I do not envy the judges trying to separate the nominations. All of the nominees in each of the categories are outstanding and I congratulate you all on getting this far.

I would like to thank the Police Federation for arranging these awards and giving us this opportunity to recognise these outstanding acts of bravery and to celebrate policing.





## Rt Hon Priti Patel MP

### Home Secretary

I am constantly amazed by the levels of bravery the police show every day. The incredibly high standard of nominations for the police bravery awards, taken from forces across England and Wales, are testament to the truly amazing skills and commitment of officers and staff.

The heroism of the police is not limited to these nominations, outstanding though they are. Police officers and members of police staff show extraordinary courage in every force and every shift. Each time you answer an emergency call, deal with a distressed member of the public, or stand guard against people who would do us harm, you are putting the safety of people you may never know above your own. This dedication is constant and consistent, and it is why you and your fellow officers are so admired around the world. It is vitally important that this underlying everyday courage is recognised.

I want to thank the Police Federation for organising this event and for their commitment to recognising the bravery and sacrifice of officers. The rest of us depend on you, the best of us.

I congratulate all the nominees and thank you for your service.

## Thanks to judges

Our sincere thanks to the Police Bravery Awards 2020 judging panel: John Perks, former Chief Executive Officer, Police Mutual; Baroness Helen Newlove of Warrington; Paul Griffiths, President, Police Superintendents' Association of England and Wales; Martin Hewitt, Chair, National Police Chiefs' Council; Ché Donald, National Vice-Chair, Police Federation of England and Wales.

As with every year, the standard of nominations was exceptional. It is an honour for the Police Federation of England and Wales to host the Police Bravery Awards for the 25th year, in recognition of some of the finest heroes in policing. Congratulations to all nominees and we hope you have an unforgettable evening.

# John Apter

## National Chair, Police Federation of England and Wales

The Police Bravery Awards is an important day in the policing calendar, especially this year. After an unprecedented time for our country and for policing, we are finally able to come together to recognise some of the bravest officers in England and Wales. Those who put the safety of the public before their own, running towards what most people would run away from.

We have the finest police officers in the world – dedicated public servants who, without hesitation, put themselves in danger to protect others. They are humble, professional and committed individuals who I am proud to call my colleagues. Police officers are everyday heroes who are anything but ordinary.

Today we can finally honour those outstanding officers at the 25th Police Bravery Awards. We will hear exceptional stories of those who faced the unimaginable; offenders armed with Samurai swords, knives and guns; those who put themselves in harm's way to protect others and so much more.

I have been humbled reading about the selflessness shown and am hugely proud to share every one of these stories. I would also like to mention the countless acts of police bravery that happen every day without deserved recognition and accepted humbly by those who perform these incredible acts as just "part of the job".

My congratulations to all nominees, as humble as you are, please allow yourselves to be proud. You deserve every bit of recognition you receive.

# Kerry McMahon-White

## Head of Partnerships, Police Mutual

Police Mutual is very proud to again be sponsoring the Police Federation of England and Wales' Police Bravery Awards recognising the acts of bravery of some remarkable police officers.

Being a police officer has never been easy, but your unwavering commitment to keeping us safe during unprecedented times, with great personal sacrifice, means now more than ever it is so important that we recognise those who have gone the extra mile to protect others.

To all of you who have been nominated, your acts of bravery are exceptional and this evening we pay tribute to your remarkable heroism and dedication. All at Police Mutual are honoured to be able to support those who have gone above and beyond and offer our heartfelt thanks and congratulations to all nominees.



# Celebrating 25 years of the Police Bravery Awards

Every officer in England and Wales holds the Office of Constable and they are immensely proud to do so. It lies at the heart of our unique police service and encompasses so much – a privilege that comes with great responsibility, pride, unity and commitment to serve. Above all else, it puts the safety and security of the public first.

In putting others before themselves, police officers have a habit of running towards danger without giving it a second thought, without thinking of the risks they are taking. In 2019, PC

Andrew Dear of Warwickshire Police was recognised as the overall national winner, showing exceptional bravery when he crawled into a 10-inch gap and took the weight of a car on his back to save a man's life after a road traffic accident. Petrol was leaking out of the vehicle and it could have exploded at any time.

It has been an emotional 25 years – we've honoured officers who have paid the ultimate sacrifice and been in the presence of awe-inspiring wives, husbands, mothers, fathers, sons, daughters, friends and colleagues, whose loved ones' bravery has gone beyond all else.

Today is a proud day that means so much – a day of reflection when we also remember those officers who are not here to celebrate with us, but we can still honour their courage.



**2019 overall winner PC Andrew Dear of Warwickshire Police (centre) with John Apter, PFEW National Chair (left) and Sajid Javid, then Home Secretary (right)**



# National Police Memorial Day

Sunday 25 September 2022  
Belfast Waterfront



Next year's National Police Memorial Day will take place at Belfast Waterfront.

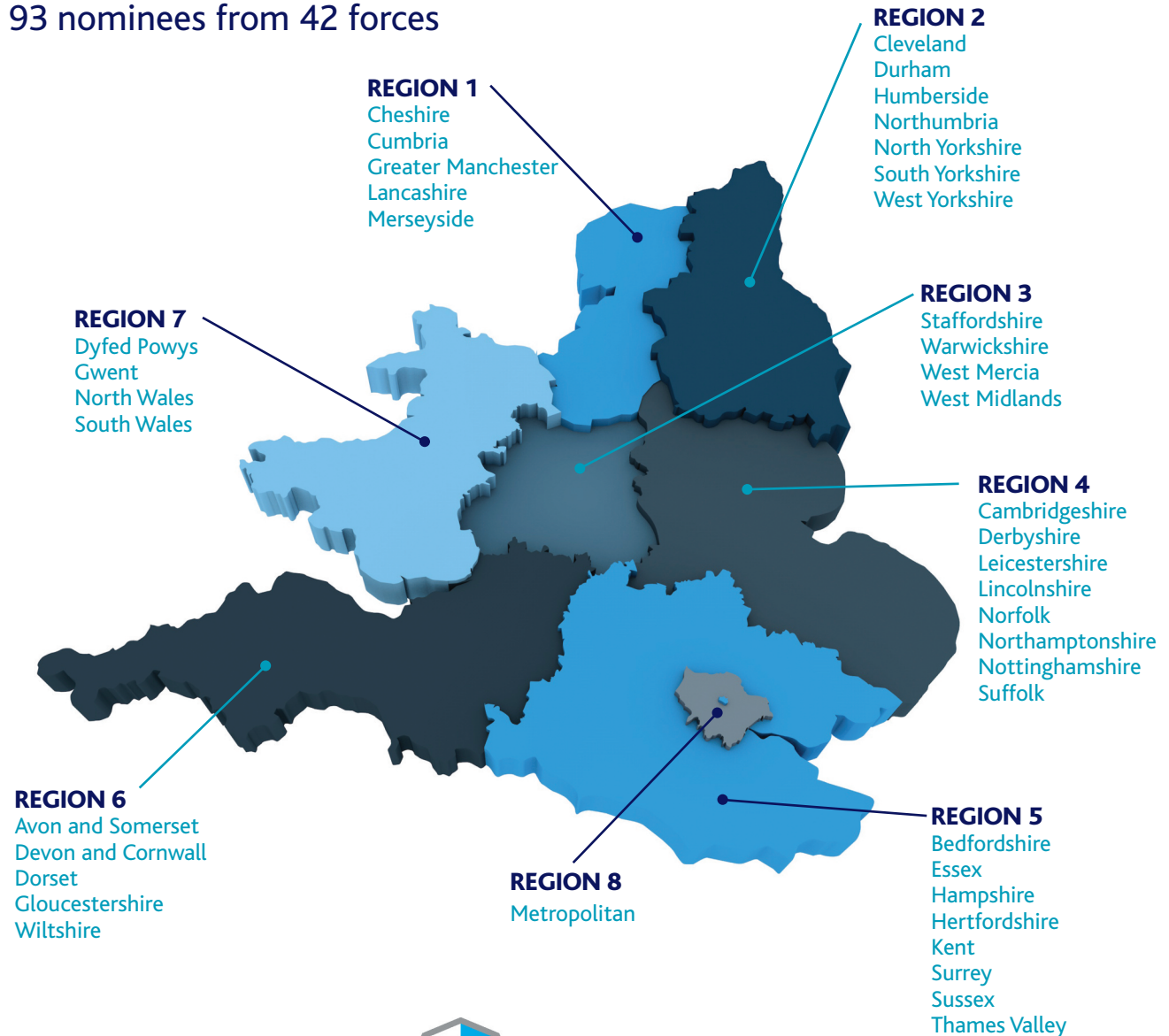
The charity looks forward to welcoming in person those who have attended previous events, as well as those attending for the first time.

This includes serving officers and staff, those who have retired, visitors from overseas, members of the general public and most importantly, the families and friends of those who have sadly lost their lives over the years – all are welcome.

More information will be available closer to the time at  
**[www.nationalpolicememorialday.org](http://www.nationalpolicememorialday.org)**

# 2020 finalists

93 nominees from 42 forces



**Police**  
Mutual

# Avon and Somerset

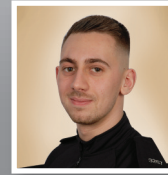
## Unarmed officers tackle man brandishing handgun

While on patrol, PCs Sobey and Birch were approached by a terrified and crying woman, who told them she had been threatened by a man with a handgun.

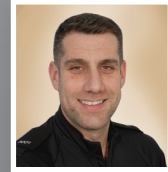
As she began to describe the man, she saw him on the other side of the road and pointed him out to the officers who set off in pursuit. The man saw the officers approaching and jumped on a bicycle to try and outpace them.

As they turned a corner, PCs Sobey and Birch were confronted by the suspect. He had stopped cycling and pulled a handgun from the waistband of his trousers. Instinctively both officers tackled him and wrestled him to the ground. In doing so, they were able to secure the handgun and detain the suspect, but PC Sobey received numerous injuries during the struggle.

The two officers' courageous actions prevented the woman, and possibly other members of the public, from being robbed at gunpoint. Although the gun was later found to be an imitation, the officers did not know that and put the victim's and public safety before their own.



PC Rowan Birch



PC Dean Sobey



**PCs Sobey and Birch were confronted by the suspect who pulled a handgun from the waistband of his trousers. Instinctively both officers wrestled him to the ground.**



PC Mark Atkins



PC Richard Carton

## Bedfordshire

### Officers save fleeing criminals from burning car

PCs Atkins and Carton were on patrol in the early hours when they were alerted to reports of vehicle thefts.

On their way to investigate, the officers saw the potential suspects' vehicle pass them on the other side of the road.

Swinging their police car around the officers attempted to follow it, but it had driven out of sight.

Using their local knowledge, the officers tracked it down and on approach they could see the driver had ploughed the vehicle into a front garden of a residential property.

Alarmingly the car was on fire, and the occupants appeared to be trapped inside. The officers knew they had to act quickly to prevent the incident from becoming fatal.

In extreme heat and growing flames, the officers put their own lives in danger to pull the men clear. PCs Atkins and Carton then administered first aid until the ambulance and fire service arrived.

It was a particularly challenging rescue as one of the people inside the car had suffered a concussion and was unable to follow the officers' instructions.

The suspects suffered serious injuries because of the crash, including broken legs and a fractured skull. But thanks to the quick actions of the officers, all made a full recovery.



**In extreme heat and growing flames, the officers put their own lives in danger to pull the men clear.**

# Cambridgeshire

## Brave officers tackle armed man

PS Bramley and PS Ashton-Jones (now retired) did not hesitate to act when they saw police cars parked in the rear yard of a Cambridge police station being smashed up.

The police station is immediately opposite a large public space and tourist area – directly next to the station rear yard are residential properties and a public footpath so they feared that members of the public could be in immediate danger.

Without a thought for their own safety, they rushed out of the station to tackle a man who was armed with a hammer and a firearm.

When the man lost his grip as he drew the handgun, PS Bramley ran towards him despite having no protective equipment. The man threw the hammer before both officers forced him to the ground.

On inspection, the firearm was revealed to be an imitation, but at the time officers believed it was real.

In order to protect nearby members of the public, PS Bramley and PS Ashton-Jones put their own safety at risk to tackle a volatile armed suspect before he could cause further harm.



PS Nick Ashton-Jones  
(now retired)



PS Dan Bramley



**As he drew the handgun, PS Bramley ran towards him, before both officers forced him to the ground.**



PC Jarrad Sainsbury



PS Cameron Mair

## Cheshire

### Heroes step onto live railway tracks to save vulnerable boy

PS Mair and PC Sainsbury responded to a call from distraught parents of a missing and vulnerable teenager.

Using the 'find my iPhone' app, the officers tracked the youngster to local train line. It was peak commuter time and Network Rail had been unable to put a stop on the line, meaning he was in extreme danger.

PS Mair and PC Sainsbury, directed by the National Police Air Service, managed to get through some undergrowth to reach him.

PS Mair could see the boy sitting on the tracks, but he was wearing headphones, making it impossible for the officers to communicate with him. Knowing there was no stop on the line and that fast-moving commuter trains were due any minute, PS Mair made the split-second decision to try and get him off the tracks.

As he did so, the young man resisted, so PC Sainsbury joined his colleague to try and get him to safety.

Between them, they managed to get the teenager off the dangerous tracks and to the embankment moments before a train passed. In the struggle, they could see he had a knife tucked into his trouser waistband.

The officers then reunited the boy with his parents before ensuring that he got urgent medical treatment.

The brave actions of the officers in stepping onto a live railway track undoubtedly saved the boy's life.



**Knowing there was no stop on the line and that fast-moving commuter trains were due any minute, PS Mair made the split-second decision to try and get him off the tracks.**

# Cleveland

## Officers face distraught man doused in petrol

PCs Ahmed, Yau and DC Hussain were attending a recruitment event at a local University. As they were talking to students, the security guard approached them for help. When they went with the guard to investigate, the officers found a clearly agitated man who was shouting and screaming at passers-by.

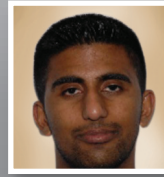
He was holding a lighter, there was a petrol canister on the ground next to him and he had clearly doused himself in the fuel.

The officers had no PPE kit on them as they were only in the area to take part in the recruitment campaign.

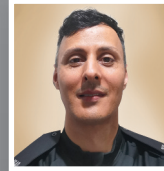
It was an incredibly stressful situation. The man was clearly unwell, and the incident had to be dealt with sensitivity and patience.

Between them, the officers managed to communicate effectively with the man. During the conversation, they slowly edged closer until they were able to take the lighter and detain him so he could receive the medical care he needed.

By talking and listening to the man, the officers saved his life, putting their own lives in danger in the process.



PC Shahid Ahmed



DS Surfraz Hussain



PC Andrew Yau



**He was holding a lighter, there was a petrol canister on the ground next to him and he had clearly doused himself in the fuel.**



PC Colin Dunne



PC Alun Masters

## Cumbria

### Brave officers save girls from drowning

PCs Masters and Dunne responded to calls that children had been seen clinging to rocks near a disused lighthouse.

On arrival, they spotted two young girls in real distress, terrified to let go of the rocks to grab hold of a lifeline.

Fearing the girls would be swept out to sea, PCs Masters and Dunne knew they had to act fast to prevent a potentially tragic incident – they decided to dive into the water to try and get the girls to safety.

The distraught girls took some persuading to get off the rocks, but the officers managed to eventually swim with them back to shore.

Despite being in the water for some time, the girls only suffered minor hyperthermia and were treated by waiting ambulance crews.

The actions of these brave officers prevented tragedy.



**Fearing the girls would be swept out to sea, PCs Masters and Dunne knew they had to act fast.**

# Derbyshire

## Hero officer prevents dam burst catastrophe

Torrential rainfall eroded the face of the dam wall at Toddbrook Reservoir so much that engineers thought that it would fail at any second. It became a race against time to shore up the wall to prevent it bursting and sending a lethal tidal wave down the valley, where it would undoubtedly destroy the town of Whaley Bridge.

PC Marshall was one of the first at the scene. Despite hearing engineers explaining that the dam, without sandbags to reinforce it, may not hold for 10 minutes and that they may have less than a minute between the first signs of failure and its total collapse, PC Marshall volunteered to stand on the very part of the dam wall that was threatening to collapse, in order to pack sandbags in place.

In case he slipped on the steep, wet and crumbling dam wall, PC Marshall had to be secured to a rope. He knew that, if the wall gave way, he would not be untied in time – even after a false alarm left him struggling to get to safety.

His actions, and those of the other officers and emergency workers present, prevented the immediate collapse of the dam, and allowed engineers more time to make the reservoir safe, saving the town and the lives of its 2,000 residents.

All those present put their lives in danger, but none more so than PC Marshall.



PC Geoff Marshall



**PC Marshall volunteered to stand on the very part of the dam wall that was threatening to collapse, in order to pack sandbags in place.**



PC Christopher James

## Devon and Cornwall

### Fearless officer makes sea rescue

PC James was first on the scene after reports of a man floating face down in the water off Penzance's promenade.

He could see another man was also in the sea and struggling, having apparently dived in to try and attempt a rescue of his own.

Realising the immediate danger of the situation and knowing he was putting himself at risk, PC James cast off his uniform and dived into the sea from the high promenade.

Other police units had arrived by then, but the ambulance and coastguard crews were still on their way.

PC James ploughed through the waves and got to the men and initially tried to drag them both back to shore.

It proved impossible, and by then a colleague had managed to get a flotation device thrown out to the officer. Holding on to the device, the three men were pulled safely to shore.

PC James then went about resuscitating the unconscious man who had been floating face down in the water. Despite PC James' incredible efforts, the man sadly died after being airlifted to hospital.



**Realising the immediate danger of the situation and knowing he was putting himself at risk, PC James dived into the sea.**

# Dorset

## Probationer in hammer assault

Still in her probationary period and single crewed, PC Fricker was faced with a man shouting aggressively and kicking at people's front doors. He was holding a pole and concealing something behind his back.

He turned his attention to PC Fricker, and as he got closer, he revealed a hammer from behind his back and started swinging it towards the officer.

PC Fricker managed to call for assistance before drawing her PAVA spray. The man didn't back off and again swung the hammer at her, this time striking a severe blow to her shoulder. Incredibly she managed to deploy her PAVA, but the irritant only served to incense her assailant further.

Still in an agitated state, he ran off towards some parked cars which he began to smash up with the hammer.

In severe pain, PC Fricker followed him and updated colleagues on the radio. After a quick search, PC Fricker and a colleague found the suspect cowering behind a parked car and despite his violent attempts to resist detention, the officers managed to get him under control.

Even though she was injured, PC Fricker pursued the man to make sure he didn't attack any members of the public.



PC Roz Fricker



**As he got closer, he revealed a hammer from behind his back and started swinging it towards the officer.**



PC Paul Cowling (now retired)



PS Simon Hogg



PC Paul Jackson

## Durham

### Brave officers disarm gunman

PC Cowling, PS Hogg, and PC Paul Jackson, responded to help unarmed officers who were being threatened by a man brandishing a long-barrelled rifle.

Earlier the man had contacted police stating he was in possession of weapons and that he was prepared to use them against officers – in what was a bid to provoke them into shooting him.

The unarmed officers had to withdraw despite doing their best to engage with the man.

As the three officers assessed the situation, they could see the man was brandishing the rifle in the street. Suddenly the gunman aimed at them, causing them to seek emergency cover. They then heard the crack of a gunshot and a bullet whistled just over their heads.

They were pinned down by two more shots before the man retreated to his property.

As the officers bravely approached, they saw the man in the doorway of his house holding the rifle and a handgun.

The unnamed officer spoke to him to try and get him to put his weapons down and give himself up. Eventually, their coaxing worked, and the man surrendered and was detained by the officers.

Thanks to the bravery of these officers, and their determination to end the incident without the use of force, a dangerous situation was resolved without loss of life.



**They were pinned down by two more shots before the man retreated to his property.**

# Dyfed Powys

## Brave officers save woman's life in sea rescue

PC Chattun and PS Evans were both on duty when a call came in expressing serious concerns for the immediate safety of a woman who was threatening to harm herself.

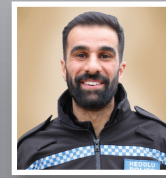
The officers located the woman, who had been pulled from the cold and choppy sea by her friends. However, she became extremely distressed and ran back in. She soon began to struggle, and the officers could tell her life was in immediate danger.

Both officers selflessly entered the water in full uniform, including PPE and body armour, but she was swept too far out. In their attempts to bring her back to safety, both officers were completely submerged in the water.

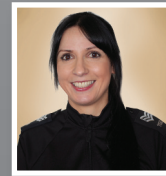
PS Evans managed to activate her emergency button to summon further units, who quickly arrived on the scene. Her attempts to ask for assistance were compounded by the waves breaking over her head as she tried to update her situation.

PC Chattun swam to the aid of the woman and together with PS Evans and two of the woman's friends, were able to reach her, bring her back to shore and onto the beach.

PS Evans and PC Chattun showed no regard for their own safety, instead acting quickly to save a vulnerable young woman's life.



PC Ian Chattun



PS Katy Evans



**In their attempts to bring her back to safety, both officers were completely submerged in the water.**



Unnamed Officer

## Essex

### Officer brutally attacked at his own home

This officer, who cannot be named, faced a frenzied and targeted attack on his own doorstep.

When confronted with a man brandishing a large knife and making threats, the officer initially tried to calm the man down, but having already been stabbed and fearing for the safety of his family and other members of the public nearby, he tackled the man and attempted to disarm him.

Despite terrible injuries from the stabbing and slashing, the officer managed to fight back and wrestle his attacker to the ground before he jumped on his back to restrain him.

During the struggle, the officer was stabbed 11 times but despite his injuries and rapid blood loss, he managed to keep hold of his attacker, as well as give instructions to his family and neighbours to ensure their safety.

The officer's injuries were horrific, leaving him with an exposed bowel and deep injuries to his arm, armpit, shoulder, chest, abdomen and stomach.

He was rushed to hospital for life-saving surgery and is still recovering from the physical and mental trauma caused by the abhorrent attack.

This officer's fearless actions ensured that a violent and dangerous offender was detained. Remarkably, he has returned to work to continue his career and now helps others deal with life changing incidents at work.



**In the struggle, the officer was stabbed 11 times but despite his injuries and rapid blood loss, he managed to keep hold of his attacker.**

# Gloucestershire

## Officers risk gas poisoning to save lives

PCs Crawford and Howard responded to a call from a distressed woman who said she couldn't wake up her husband and son at their home.

When the officers arrived, they could smell gas and found the father and the teenager unconscious.

PC Crawford immediately opened the windows to try and dissipate the noxious fumes, whilst PC Howard went upstairs to try and resuscitate the father.

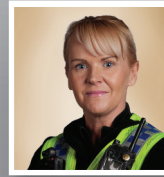
By now PC Crawford had discovered that the boiler had leaked which had set off a small explosion in the property. The officers were advised by control to get out, but they both decided to stay and try to help the family.

The teenager had stopped breathing, so PC Crawford administered CPR in a bid to revive him. After a few moments, he responded so the officer dragged him out of the property to safety. A colleague took care of the boy and had also managed to isolate the gas supply and clear the street of people.

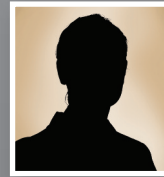
The father was still not responding, but PC Howard stayed by his side and provided first aid. The paramedics then arrived, and between them, they got the man to safety.

Both officers waited until the victims were in the ambulance before finally accepting medical treatment. They were back on duty the next day.

These officers courageously put the lives of the man and his son before their own.



PC Sarah Crawford



PC Lucy Howard



**The officers were advised by control to get out, but they both decided to stay and try to help the family.**



PC Joanna Wilber



PC Jack Wilber

## Greater Manchester

### Married off-duty officers confront violent gang

PCs Jack and Joanna Wilber were alerted to cries of a distressed woman outside their property and could see she was being attacked by a gang of youths.

Despite being severely outnumbered, the officers immediately went to her aid, only to be set upon themselves by the gang in a violent and sustained attack.

Jack was stabbed twice during the struggle, receiving deep wounds and a broken rib.

However, he still managed to grab hold of one of the assailants to prevent them making their escape but came under further attacks by the group, who were courageously held off by Joanna, who was pregnant at the time.

Assistance arrived, and all suspects were arrested. Jack and Joanna, who suffered severe bruising, both received hospital treatment but thankfully were discharged a short time afterwards.

Thanks to the officers' fearless actions, the woman was saved from serious harm and all suspects were arrested.



**Jack was stabbed twice during the struggle, receiving deep wounds and a broken rib.**

# Gwent

## Officers attacked with machete-type knife and spear

A man with a history of mental illness had barricaded himself into his flat to evade officers and mental health workers. As they attempted to engage with him through the window, PCs Read and Taylor noticed that there was a can of petrol in the flat and so they quickly evacuated residents from the rest of the building.

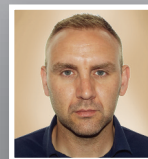
For hours, officers tried to talk to the man, but finally an entry team removed the door. As the officers began to move in, the occupant soaked them and the property with petrol. Hampered by barricades the man had created, the fire service doused the hallway with water to reduce the risk of the petrol igniting.

As PS Shapland, PCs Read, Taylor, Whittington, Brakespear and Bracegirdle entered the flat, the occupant armed himself with a large machete and a spear and began lunging at the officers, on several occasions hitting PC Taylor's arm. As they sought to corner the man, officers also had to contend with several home-made booby-traps – including a dismantled electric cooker hob that was switched on and glowing red. Working as a team, the officers were able to disarm the man and safely detain him for treatment under the Mental Health Act.

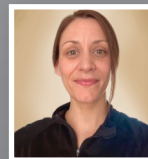
This incident could have ended so differently but it is testimony to the brave efforts of these officers that no one was seriously injured or killed.



**The occupant armed himself with a large machete and a spear and began lunging at the officers, on several occasions hitting PC Taylor's arm.**



PC Craig Bracegirdle



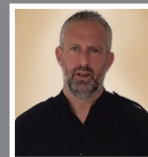
PC Sarah Brakespear



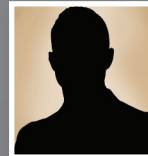
PC Lloyd Read



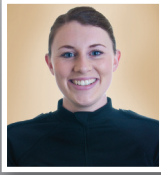
PS Richard Shapland



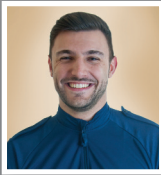
PC Paul Taylor



PC Peter Whittington



PC Christi Hill



PC Tristan Parsons

# Hampshire

## Off-duty officers apprehend violent burglar

PC Hill and her partner PC Parsons, a PCSO at the time of the incident, were off duty when they saw a man committing a burglary in a closed hairdressing salon.

As they approached, they could see he had smashed his way into the property using a golf club. Broken glass from where he had got into the premises lay all over the floor.

The officers quickly assessed the situation and attempted to detain the man who by now was threatening members of the public with the golf club as he tried to leave the salon.

The officers had to struggle with the suspect to disarm him, and they ended up rolling around in the glass before a member of the public came to assist them.

As the melee continued, the man stabbed PC Hill in the finger with a hypodermic needle he had concealed. Chillingly, as he did so, he shouted that he was 'infected with HIV'.

The PCs and the member of the public who was also injured in the incident eventually managed to get the man under control and he was arrested.

Without any thought for themselves, these officers intervened to stop this incident from becoming much worse. They acted in the finest traditions of British policing and are a credit to the service.



**The man stabbed PC Hill with a hypodermic needle he had concealed.**

# Hertfordshire

## Officer goes the extra mile to rescue drowning woman

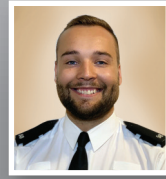
PC Darton had only been with Hertfordshire Constabulary for a year at the time of the incident when he was responding to reports of a vulnerable woman in the waters of the River Lea.

In freezing conditions and in complete darkness, he and a colleague managed to locate the woman – without hesitation he made his way down a steep and dangerous riverbank. The officer managed to pull the woman from the fast-flowing icy waters, and clambered back up the riverbank, carrying what was in effect a dead weight.

The two officers administered first aid and, realising she was suffering with hypothermia, felt she was in such a critical condition that they needed to quickly get her back to their police vehicle and seek medical assistance. PC Darton carried her in a fireman's lift for nearly a mile across marsh land, since the area was only accessible on foot.

The whole incident took place in the early hours of the morning in complete darkness. They were battling gale force winds and it was only two degrees. To add to the difficulty of the rescue, they had to negotiate marsh and bog land dotted with water courses.

PC Darton may have only been young in service, but he instinctively acted to save a complete stranger's life.



PC Joshua Darton



**PC Darton carried her in a fireman's lift for nearly a mile across marsh land.**



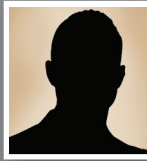
PC Olivia Bailey



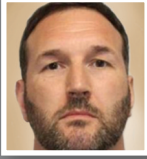
PC Amy Edwards



PC Joe Gorman



PC Dan Higgins



PC Robert Toyn



seven unnamed firearms officers

## Humberside

### Bank customers caught in horrific ordeal

Twelve officers worked as a team to tackle a man who was threatening bank customers with a meat cleaver and a drum of petrol in Barclays and Santander in Hull city centre.

The first officers to arrive at the scene were PCs Toyn and Gorman, who ran into Barclays without hesitation. PC Gorman drew his Taser but was directed not to discharge it by PC Toyn because of petrol on the floor. They took control of the situation, ushering the crowd away from the bank and containing the suspect until firearms officers arrived.

PCs Edwards, Bailey and Higgins were next to arrive and helped create a sterile area, keeping the public back.

Two firearms officers arrived soon after and ran into Barclays. The suspect was trying to set light to the petrol, but the quick-thinking officers used fire extinguishers to prevent ignition.

Two of the firearms officers, along with PCs Toyn, Gorman, Higgins, and Edwards chased the suspect through the interchange, where firearms units were then able to stop him.

The seven firearms officers, who are among the 12 nominated for the award, wish to remain anonymous.

All involved worked fearlessly in the finest traditions of British policing to bring this incident to a safe conclusion.



**The suspect was trying to set light to the petrol, but the quick-thinking officers used fire extinguishers to prevent ignition.**

# Kent

## Stab vest saves police hero

Responding to reports of a burglary in progress, PC Stride encountered a very agitated man claiming that people were trying to break into his property. The man was also claiming to be hearing voices. PC Stride managed to reach the man's brother on the phone, who confirmed that he suffered from psychosis and regularly took cocaine.

As PC Stride tried to calm him down, the man drew a large kitchen knife. During the struggle, the officer was stabbed twice in the chest; thankfully his stab vest prevented serious injury. As the man aimed the knife at PC Stride's inner thigh, the officer was left with no option than to grab hold of the blade of the knife to avoid being potentially fatally wounded.

After a brief struggle, PC Stride managed to disarm the suspect and pin him down until a colleague arrived. Incredibly PC Stride suffered only deep cuts to his hand.

At one stage the officer thought he was going to die, but he carried on, with courage and determination to save the man from harming himself.



PC Daniel Stride



**The officer was left with no option than to grab hold of the blade of the knife to avoid being potentially fatally wounded.**



PC Stuart Garnett



PS Andrew Gore



PC Joshua Hegarty



PC Lee Richards

## Lancashire

### Officers in ammonia attack

A victim of a serious domestic assault, during which her life had been threatened and a knife held to her throat, directed officers to a property where her attacker was hiding. He was still in possession of the knife, and the house was in darkness.

After they had forced entry, officers began to search for the suspect. The offender suddenly appeared at the top of the stairs and threw a hazardous substance, quickly confirmed as ammonia, at the approaching officers. PS Gore took the full brunt of the assault to his face with PC Richards and the team also getting splashed with the acrid liquid.

The burning and overpowering odour forced the officers to retreat down the stairs. The attack had left PS Gore with severe injuries – the others were having trouble breathing and were in pain, forcing them to leave the property.

However, PC Garnett re-entered the property, standing at the bottom of the stairs to prevent the suspect leaving. Realising he was trapped and that the injured officers were also about to re-enter the property, the suspect jumped from a first-floor window. PC Hegarty and PC Richards chased after, tackled and arrested him.

The officers remained professional, calm and determined throughout despite the abhorrent nature of this attack.



**PS Gore took the full brunt of the assault to his face with PC Richards and the team also getting splashed with the acrid liquid.**

# Leicestershire

## Officers save man who had cut his own throat

A call was received from a distressed woman whose partner had assaulted her, was destroying things in their flat and had threatened to take an overdose.

The woman had managed to take refuge in a neighbour's house and was being looked after by another team of officers. She was being called by her partner on her phone – he was still threatening to take his own life.

On arrival, the officers managed to contain the property, but one officer could see the man was still inside and appeared to be holding a large knife to his throat. The officer began to negotiate with the man and asked him to drop the weapon.

However, he ignored the plea and slashed at his throat. He was bleeding profusely from the wound, clearly in danger of losing his life.

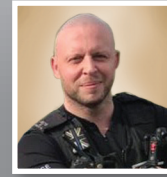
The officers then forced the front door and found him in the bathroom with blood pouring from his neck.

PC Williams managed to stem the flow of blood using a towel, and the officers administered critical first aid.

Without the quick actions of these officers and their first aid skills, the man would have died.



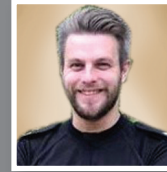
**He was bleeding profusely from the wound, clearly in danger of losing his life.**



PC Alex Cullum-Kenyon



PC Steve Isherwood



PC Stephen Williams



PC Natalie Evers



PC Sarah Luker



PC William Robson

## Lincolnshire

### Brave officers disarm knifeman terrorising the public

PCs Luker, Evers and Robson were responding to reports of a man roaming around town, carrying a huge 10-inch 'agricultural' style machete blade.

When the officers confronted the man in an alleyway, he ran away and onto a dual carriageway, causing traffic to swerve and come to a halt.

He then turned and faced the officers, brandishing the weapon in front of him. He ignored their pleas to drop it, before turning his attention to a car containing a woman and her children. The family was terrified by the man as he attacked their vehicle with the blade.

The man clearly had to be brought under control as soon as possible, and the officers discharged their Tasers on him. That brought him to his knees, but it wasn't enough to entirely subdue him, and he continued to wave the machete at the officers before he crawled under the car to evade them.

He attacked the car again before using the blade to cut at his own head and drawing it across his neck. The officers knew they would have to get closer – as they did so, he slashed at PC Luker's legs. She and PCs Evers and Robson managed to jump on the man and wrench the machete out of his grasp. The officers had to deploy PAVA and leg restraints to get the man entirely under control.

Without the brave actions of these officers, the outcome could have been fatal.



**He then turned and faced the officers, brandishing the weapon in front of him.**

# Merseyside

## Selfless officers rescue woman from dangerous rooftop

PCs Cargill and Wilson were responding to reports of people causing a disturbance at a dilapidated building.

On arrival, the officers could see two young women and a man on the roof of the four-storey high building. One woman was hysterical and sat right on the edge of the roof, her feet dangling over the side.

She began threatening to throw herself off – the officers knew they had to get onto the roof to prevent her from taking her own life.

The building was so badly damaged by a recent fire that the officers had to traverse two-foot-wide beams and roof joints with a dangerous drop either side to reach the woman.

She was becoming increasingly agitated, and the officers genuinely feared she was about to jump. They managed to edge closer to her and kept talking to her to try and keep her calm before deciding to grab her and haul her to safety.

But the woman started to struggle, putting them all at risk of all falling to their deaths. The officers managed to get a rapport going with her, but she continued to burst into aggressive episodes making her rescue extremely perilous.

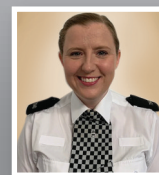
More officers had by now arrived on the scene, but it was too dangerous, and the decision was made to call in the Fire and Rescue Service.

With their help, the officers managed to get the woman under control, and to safety.

Despite the hazardous conditions these courageous officers remained calm and professional, and saved the woman's life.



**The officers had to traverse two-foot-wide beams and roof joints with a dangerous drop either side to reach the woman.**



PC Liz Cargill



PC Mark Wilson



PC Andrew Wienand

# Metropolitan I

## Officer runs from his bed to foil night-time raid

Newly qualified PC Wienand was safely tucked up in bed when he heard a disturbance outside. He could see that a nearby jewellery shop was about to be burgled by a group of five men who were carrying sledgehammers and pickaxes.

They had smashed their way in through doors, leaving the pavement strewn with glass. PC Wienand bravely decided to intervene, even though he was barefoot and dressed only in boxer shorts.

Shouting to neighbours to call the police, PC Wienand ran at the suspects, one of whom threw a pickaxe that narrowly missed him, before the gang decided to ditch the burglary and escape on mopeds.

The shop window was left damaged, but no goods had been stolen.

This was a particularly courageous act considering PC Wienand had only been part of his response team for two weeks at the time of the incident.

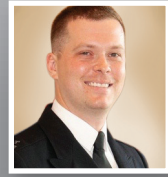
PC Wienand stopped these suspects from raiding the premises. They were armed with pickaxes and sledgehammers, clearly intent on causing damage and potential injury to anyone who got in their way. Undeterred, this brave officer ran towards danger.



**PC Wienand bravely decided to intervene, even though he was barefoot and dressed only in boxer shorts.**

# Metropolitan II

## Officer severely injured in frenzied attack makes fearless arrest



PC Stuart Outten

PC Stuart Outten had been out on patrol during a night shift when he stopped a van which was showing as uninsured.

The driver of the van initially stopped the vehicle when he was instructed to do so by PC Outten, but he decided to drive off as the officer approached.

After a short chase, the van stopped again, but the driver started shouting at PC Outten before he tried to drive off again. He managed to stop the driver from closing the van door, but that sparked a vicious assault in which the officer was punched twice in the face.

PC Outten attempted to make the arrest, but the driver lunged back into his van and brought a two-foot-long rusty machete which he used to slash at the officer's head. The attack didn't stop there, and the driver repeatedly struck PC Outten with the weapon, causing deep wounds and spilling blood all over the ground.

Despite suffering six head wounds, a fractured skull, slash wounds, broken fingers and injured tendons, PC Outten was still determined to persevere and bring his assailant to justice.

With the man approaching him, machete raised above his head ready to strike again, PC Outten deployed his Taser, which after two shots eventually subdued his attacker.

PC Outten showed incredible courage and resolve to stop this violent individual, putting the public's safety before his own.



**The driver repeatedly struck PC Outten with the weapon, causing deep wounds and spilling blood all over the ground.**



PC Darren Jenkins

## Metropolitan III

### Brave officer continues chase after thug smashes his head into concrete paving

PC Jenkins was in pursuit of a teenager who was trying to escape through residential gardens after a moped crash.

PC Jenkins found the teenager hiding in bushes – he would not listen to reason but decided to come out fighting and started to punch the officer in the head.

As the pair struggled, PC Jenkins' body-worn camera flew off, and he hit his head on the garden patio.

It was then that the attacker could have made his escape, but he chose instead to deliberately assault PC Jenkins again, punching him so hard that he broke his nose, before he smashed the officer's head against the concrete.

He then escaped down a nearby alleyway, still being pursued by PC Jenkins, who was refusing to let his injuries stop him.

He continued the pursuit until colleagues were able to close in on them and arrest the fleeing man.

PC Jenkins was extremely courageous to withstand this vicious assault which could have been fatal.



**He chose to deliberately assault PC Jenkins again, punching him so hard he broke his nose, before he smashed the officer's head against the concrete.**

# Norfolk

## Officers arrest violent offenders wanted for threatening murder and blackmail

A man was reported to be making threats to kill in a rural village, so PCs Symonds and Swann were sent to investigate.

The man had left the scene once the officers arrived, and so PCs Swann and Symonds went to the address of the offender's mother, where they found him, and another wanted suspect.

Seeing the officers arrive, the pair become very aggressive and started to resist attempts to detain them.

PC Symonds tried to make an arrest but could hear that the other suspect was continuing to aggressively struggle with PC Swann.

PC Symonds dragged his suspect into the kitchen so he could help PC Swann, but the man started to punch him – PC Symonds had to use PAVA to get him under control.

PC Swann managed to get one handcuff on her suspect in the struggle, and despite having partial control of him, he continued to be aggressive even after PC Symonds administered another dose of PAVA spray.

It gave enough time for PC Swann to use her Taser on the man, but it took the help of additional colleagues, who had now arrived at the scene, to finally get him subdued.

Both officers demonstrated exceptional resolve and teamwork to get this violent situation under control.



**He continued to be aggressive even after PC Symonds administered another dose of PAVA spray.**



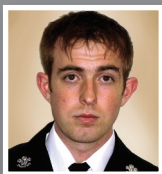
PC Marley-Jay Symonds



PC Katie Swann



PC Matthew Reynolds  
(now retired)



PC Richard Shea

## North Wales

### Officers save family from armed offender

A man was reported to be trying to break into a house where he had earlier allegedly committed a serious sexual assault on the female occupant, while four young children were in the house. He was seen carrying what appeared to be a machine gun. Firearms officers, PC Reynolds (now retired) and PC Shea were dispatched to the scene.

As the officers approached the property, they saw the barrel of a gun pointing at them. PC Shea had to make a split-second decision: was the gun currently trained on him real or could reports that the weapon was in fact a BB gun be true?

Making an instant, potentially life or death decision, PC Shea decided not to fire. Instead, both officers pursued the suspect as he fled into the property and used Taser to incapacitate him. In addition to the BB gun, a large kitchen knife was found next to the suspect.

These officers faced an intense situation involving an armed and dangerous man, who was a serious risk to the victim, the children in the house and members of the public nearby.

Their judgement and quick thinking brought this incident to a safe conclusion for all involved.



**Making an instant, potentially life or death decision, PC Shea decided not to fire.**

# North Yorkshire

## Calm officer single-handedly saves families from knifeman

PC Kelly was responding to reports of a man having stolen money from the till of a local shop.

As he carried out the theft, the man brandished a large knife and threatened to use it against staff and members of the public.

After searching the location, single-crewed PC Kelly spotted a man matching the description of the offender drinking in a restaurant.

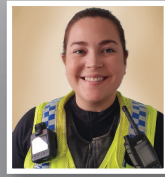
Thinking on her feet, the officer took a few steps back to give some space, before radioing in to ask for assistance.

Realising he had been identified, the man pulled out the knife and started to swish it towards families in the restaurant.

PC Kelly managed to block his escape route using tables and chairs, having yelled at diners to leave the restaurant. She then used CAPTOR spray on the suspect to get him to drop the knife.

While she waited for back-up, PC Kelly kept talking to the man to keep him calm. After two or three minutes, she was joined by other officers and the suspect was detained.

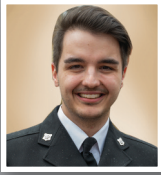
PC Kelly showed exceptional bravery and risked her safety to protect the public, many of whom were children.



PC Laura Kelly



**Realising he had been identified, the man pulled out the knife and started to swish it towards families in the restaurant.**



PC Taylor Ladner

## Northamptonshire

### Probationer rescues woman from burning house

PC Ladner, a probationer with only six months service, found himself alone responding to a domestic dispute.

As he approached the property, he immediately saw the house was on fire. The front door was engulfed in flames and a neighbour told him that a woman and her child were inside.

PC Ladner knew that he could not wait for the fire service to arrive and entered the property through the back door. Although thick black smoke prevented him from seeing clearly, PC Ladner heard screaming from the living room. It was clear from the screams that the woman wanted to die in the fire, which appeared to have been set deliberately.

When he tried to drag her from the room, the woman became limp and was difficult to move. Concerned that there were no signs of the child, PC Ladner searched upstairs, where the smoke was even thicker, before satisfying himself there was no-one else in the house.

He then managed to drag the screaming woman, who was still resisting and insisting she wanted to die, to safety.

Alone and in fear of his life, PC Ladner put the safety of others before himself to save the woman's life.



**It was clear from the screams that the woman wanted to die in the fire, which appeared to have been set deliberately.**

# Northumbria

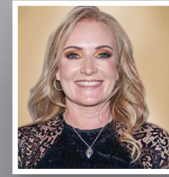
## Off-duty officer fights off masked bike thieves

PC Cook was off duty on a day out with her children when she spotted a man 'scooting' along on a motorbike, riding it with the engine off. Telling her children to stay where they were, she followed the man to a secluded area where she found him trying to hotwire the bike.

When she challenged him, the man ran off only to return with two other men, all wearing face masks. The men threatened to stab PC Cook and douse her with ammonia – she was punched and kicked but refused to let go of the stolen bike.

As she wrestled with the man she had originally followed, PC Cook shouted for help. Residents came out of their houses to see what was going on and the men fled. Thanks to her efforts and description, within minutes of other officers arriving at the scene, they arrested one of the suspects and the two others were caught a short time later.

PC Cook showed immense courage to seek justice, making sure her children were safe before bravely facing unknown danger.



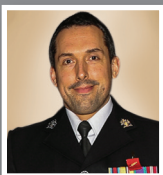
PC Tracy Cook



**The men threatened to stab PC Cook and douse her with ammonia – she was punched and kicked but she refused to let go of the stolen bike.**



PS Matthew Daley



PS Jody Leonardi

## Nottinghamshire

### Officers tackle gunman keeping vulnerable residents trapped inside a burning building

PS Daley was first to arrive on the scene after fire crews had been forced to withdraw when a gunman began threatening them.

He decided to check the rear of the building with the fire service commander, in a bid to assess the risk to residents inside. Information indicated that around 50 vulnerable and elderly people needed to be evacuated.

One ground floor flat was already completely engulfed in flames and the blaze was spreading.

A few moments later, armed police arrived and escorted fire crews to the rear of the building so they could tackle the blaze. Armed officers entered the building to try and apprehend the gunman, but he disappeared into the smoke.

All officers were made aware of the suspect's description as residents began to get out via the side door.

The suspect suddenly appeared at the front of the premises – fearing he would fire at emergency service workers or residents, both officers started to run towards the gunman.

As PS Daley got close; the man struck him over the head with the gun. PS Leonardi then used his ASP baton before both officers struggled with the armed man and got him to the floor.

These officers' brave and decisive actions ensured the gunman was detained, residents could be evacuated, and the fire service could extinguish the blaze safely.



**Fearing he would fire at emergency service workers or residents, both officers started to run towards the gunman.**

## South Wales

### Hero covered in wet towels pulls elderly man from fire

Two officers separately came across a fire, where a 92-year-old man was trapped under a burning shed that had partially collapsed on him.

Off-duty PC Scourfield found the man's distraught daughter, who had sustained extensive burns to her hands and head in her attempts to rescue her father. Unable to reach the elderly man due to the heat of the flames, PC Scourfield administered first aid to the woman.

PS Jenkins had also seen the smoke and climbed over the garden wall to try to help. He instructed members of the household to help cover him with water-soaked towels so he could pull the man from the fire.

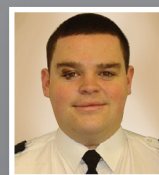
He then realised there were barbecue gas canisters in the shed that could explode at any time, so quickly moved them to a safe distance before returning to the injured man.

Both officers then continued to give first aid and ensured that residents and neighbours trying to put the fire out were safe until assistance arrived. Sadly, the elderly gentleman could not be revived.

Both officers put their lives in danger to try to save his life and make sure that others present were unscathed.



PS Geraint Jenkins



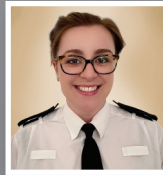
PC Thomas Scourfield



**He instructed members of the household to help cover him with water-soaked towels so he could pull the man from the fire.**



PC Karen Gunnill



PC Emma Rae

## South Yorkshire

### Officers take violent gun-toting man off the streets

PC Rae was patrolling the city in a public order van when a call came in from CCTV alerting officers to a potential firearms incident.

Footage had shown a man dressed in a cream coloured puffa firing at least one shot from a weapon and pistol-whipping a man, who was later found to have a fractured shoulder from the incident. The suspect then fled in a taxi.

Unarmed PC Rae managed to follow the taxi in her van and radio in a description of it and the suspect. She kept tracking the taxi while firearms officers were called to intercept.

The suspect then stopped the taxi and got out, incredibly pausing to pay the driver, before running off. Knowing he had to be detained to protect the public, PC Rae decided to pursue him on foot.

The suspect then ran around the corner into PC Karen Gunnill, who had been on containment patrol in the area. The officer could see the man reaching for his waistband in an apparent attempt to pull out the gun.

PC Gunnill challenged him to stop what he was doing with her Taser drawn and fired it when he refused to comply. That enabled officers to make the arrest. He was found to be carrying a lock-knife, having discarded the gun which was later found to be an imitation air weapon.

As far as PCs Gunnill and Rae were aware, this man was carrying a firearm and had already attacked a member of the public – to confront him showed tremendous bravery and dedication to duty.



**The officer could see the man reaching for his waistband in an apparent attempt to pull out the gun.**

# Staffordshire

## Selfless officers save woman from knifeman

PC Avons and PS Durose were responding to an emergency call and on arrival at the property, heard a man and a woman shouting at each other from inside. The situation was escalating and fearing for the woman's safety, the officers decided to go inside.

As they climbed the stairs, they heard the woman cry out in pain. With back-up at least 10 minutes away, they knew they had to try and prevent the woman from being injured or worse.

Forcing entry into the room, they were confronted with a burly six-foot plus man who was holding a large knife to the woman's throat and using her as a human shield – he was threatening to slit the screaming woman's throat.

They deployed PAVA spray, but it failed to register, and the man rushed towards them with the knife in a stabbing position forcing the officers to take shelter behind the door as he began slashing and stabbing at it.

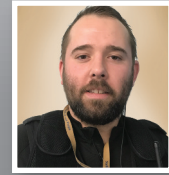
Determined to get him under control, PC Avons and PS Durose went back into the bedroom and again the man was holding the woman out in front of him. She screamed even louder and fearing the man had made good on his threats, PC Avons struck him with his baton. PS Durose by now was wrestling with him in a bid to get him to drop the knife, receiving blows to his neck and stab vest in doing so.

PC Avons managed to use his baton again, which stopped the attack on his colleague and enabled them to arrest the man.

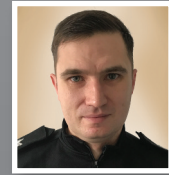
Despite being covered in blood and fearing they had been stabbed, both officers valiantly managed to save the woman's life, at considerable risk to themselves.



**She screamed even louder and fearing the man had made good on his threats, PC Avons struck him with his baton.**



PC Kristian Avons



PS Amos Durose



PC Pete French



PC Jordan Tuck

# Suffolk

## Unarmed officers overpower gunman

PCs French and Tuck were responding to reports of domestic violence. When they arrived at the address, furniture, ornaments and glass were strewn over the floors in every room.

They found a young girl covering in the corner of the kitchen who told them the man had gone outside to the garden. The officers went to investigate and were suddenly faced with the man who was pointing a shotgun directly at them. Backing away, the unarmed PCs told him to drop the weapon, but they were met with a barrage of swearing and non-compliance.

The officers made it back into the property and locked the doors. They then managed to get three children and an adult to safety. One of the children was so terrified, they were hiding in a cupboard, and the oldest child later said the man had threatened to kill them all.

The man smashed the patio doors of the property with the butt of the shotgun before going behind the shed. He fetched a petrol canister and proceeded to douse the shed in petrol before setting light to it. It was quickly engulfed in flames and threatening next door properties.

The man took up position behind a hedge with the shotgun pointing back at the house, apparently ready to fire at anyone who might try and get close to him. As they waited for armed back up, the officers saw the suspect rest the weapon on the ground – they took this opportunity to race towards him, overpower and disarm him.

Anything could have happened, and it's only through the officers' courage and tenacity that this incident did not become a tragedy.



**The man took up position behind a hedge with the shotgun pointing back at the house.**

# Surrey

## Officer rescues partially sighted woman who fell onto London Underground tracks

PC Spurgeon was on a training day in the capital when she saw the woman accidentally walk off the edge of the platform at Leicester Square tube station.

The woman injured her ankle in the fall and was clearly unable to get back onto the platform by herself. With the trains still running, her life was in real and immediate danger.

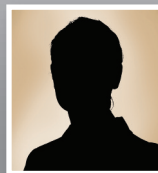
Grasping the gravity of the situation, PC Spurgeon rushed to help while radioing in for back-up. However, radio reception was weak, and although colleagues couldn't get the full picture of what was going on, they still rushed to the scene.

Realising the tracks weren't live, PC Spurgeon jumped from the platform to the woman's aid, and with the help of a member of the public, managed to get the woman back up onto the platform.

Even though the emergency safety button had been pressed, a train could have entered the station at any moment, putting the brave PC and the woman in the greatest of danger.

PC Spurgeon stayed with the woman and administered first aid while she waited for an ambulance crew to attend. The woman suffered a broken leg in the fall, but the incident could have easily resulted in tragedy.

Without hesitation, this selfless officer got onto the tracks to save the woman's life.



PC Stevie Spurgeon



**Even though the emergency safety button had been pressed, a train could have entered the station at any moment.**



PC Sean Grainger



PC Matthew Parnell

## Sussex

### Officers confront knifeman intent on 'massacre'

PCs Parnell and Grainger were the first to arrive at the popular and populated Gatwick Airport after reports came in from the public that a man had made clear – in his words – to cause a 'massacre' and had made 'threats to kill', brandishing two kitchen knives.

Updates revealed that the man in question had been seen striding around South Terminal.

Terrified staff managed to evacuate the area before PCs Parnell and Grainger arrived. The pair confronted the man who was carrying a knife in each hand, but he continued towards them brandishing the weapons.

Both firearms officers, PC Grainger aimed his Taser at the suspect while PC Parnell pointed his rifle at the man in a bid to defuse the situation.

The man threw down the knives but continued to approach the officers. At that point they did not know whether he was concealing more weapons, and after administering warnings, they Tasered him in order to bring the threat under control. Colleagues then arrived to help make the arrest.

PCs Parnell and Grainger were incredibly brave to run towards danger and control this situation as quickly as possible. They did not know the assailant's intentions at an international airport on a busy summer's day.



**The pair confronted the man who was carrying a knife in each hand, but he continued towards them brandishing the weapons.**

# Thames Valley

## Officers in sustained attack when they intervene to save victim

PCs Chapman, Hussain and Icke were called to attend reports of screaming from a property at around midnight. It was children who were screaming, and the officers knew they had to get into the property as quickly as possible.

PC Hussain led the way up the stairs, followed by PC Chapman who was carrying a Taser, and PC Icke was at the rear. As they reached the landing, they saw a man standing over his wife, violently punching her in the face and body.

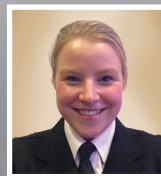
The man turned his aggression to PC Hussain – he grabbed her and punched her in the head several times. PC Chapman discharged her Taser, but such was the man's aggressive state, it had no effect. She then used her PAVA spray in a bid to get him to release PC Hussain but again this was to no avail.

By now the man had grabbed hold of PC Chapman and was forcing her over the bannister, but PC Icke managed to administer more PAVA spray directly into the man's eyes. He continued his attack on PC Hussain before the officers managed to overpower him to the ground.

When back up arrived, the officers could see the devastation his violence had caused – three children were in the bedroom, which was covered in blood and vomit.

PC Icke broke his hand during the incident while PC Hussain suffered a concussion.

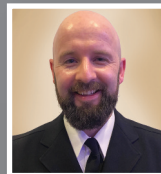
All three officers did a phenomenal job in making sure that this offender was brought to justice.



PC Emily Chapman



PC Nazia Hussain



PC David Icke



**PC Chapman then discharged her Taser, but such was the man's aggressive state, it had no effect.**



PC Andy Hoey

## Warwickshire

### Brave officer tackles man with a Samurai sword

On a busy lunchtime, multiple 999 calls were made to Warwickshire Police, reporting that a man in a highly agitated state, armed with a three-foot sword, was heading towards Bedworth town centre threatening to kill someone.

PC Hoey was in a police car, attending to an unrelated incident, when he was flagged down by various members of the public who were frantically pointing towards the town centre. He rushed to the scene to prevent members of the public coming to harm. As PC Hoey approached, a man was acting aggressively and brandishing a large Samurai sword.

Despite being ordered numerous times to drop the weapon, the man continued to lash out. PC Hoey deployed his Taser, but it failed. The second attempt was successful as the suspect dropped the sword and was immediately restrained.

The man was found in possession of a large Samurai sword, switch blade, small dagger, ceremonial sword and a hunting knife. As a result of PC Hoey's quick actions, the man was stopped around 50 metres from the busy town centre where he could have caused considerable fear or worse.

PC Hoey bravely put himself in harm's way for the sake of others. Without his quick response, this situation could have escalated to tragedy.



**The man was found in possession of a large Samurai sword, switch blade, small dagger, ceremonial sword and a hunting knife.**

# West Mercia

## Quick-thinking officers save man from fast flowing river

The Force had received a call in the early hours of the morning to say a man was behaving suspiciously in Shrewsbury town centre.

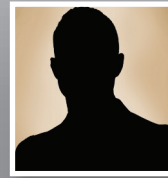
PCs Phillips and Donovan were two of several officers deployed to the incident and attempted to speak to the man involved but he suddenly made off from them. He was located close by but in another attempt to make off, jumped over a fence down to the riverside.

He was next seen swimming downstream. The two PCs initially remained on land and kept sight of him while other emergency services were asked to help with a rescue. By this time, the man could be seen to be struggling and submerging.

They used their local knowledge to pre-empt where this man would be swept to and realised their best chance of saving him was to get to the river via the rear of a local café. Without hesitation, they went into the fast-flowing water and pulled him out before he went under again.

The officers administered initial first aid before an ambulance arrived to take him to hospital.

The man would not have survived the freezing water if it wasn't for the quick-thinking of these brave and diligent officers; they undoubtedly saved his life.



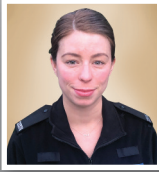
PC Lee Phillips



PC Christopher Donovan



**By this time, the man could be seen to be struggling and submerging.**



PC Holly Necchi



PC Paul Newman

## West Midlands

### Officers in storm drain attack

PC Necchi was conducting spot checks on vehicles in a retail park near Walsall when a PNC check drew attention to a driver who was known to have links to drugs, gangs and firearms. As officers searched the car, the driver fled, pursued by PC Necchi.

PC Newman was in an unmarked car nearby and saw the suspect flee. Running to support PC Necchi, they chased the driver into a brook. He realised he was surrounded and ran into a storm drain, pursued by PC Newman. Although the tunnel was wide at the mouth, it rapidly narrowed, meaning that by the time PC Newman was able to reach the suspect, they were having to crawl on their hands and knees in relatively deep water, mud, silt, rubbish and debris.

Trapped, the suspect launched himself at PC Newman, grabbing him with one arm around the back of his head and with the other gouging at his eyes. PC Newman later recalled everything going intense brilliant white and was in indescribable pain as the suspect tried to wrench his eyes out.

As they continued to struggle, the suspect held PC Newman under the water. Despite his exhaustion, the officer managed to reach his torch and hit the suspect with it, and before he could recover, PC Necchi arrived to help restrain and arrest him.

These two officers were incredibly brave – neither of them knew what they would encounter when they ran into the storm drain. They knew the man could have been armed and he desperately wanted to escape from them.



**Trapped, the suspect launched himself at PC Newman, grabbing him with one arm around the back of his head and with the other gouging at his eyes.**

# West Yorkshire

## Off-duty officer confronts armed robbers

PC Masheder was off duty and shopping at a supermarket when he saw a stolen car in the car park.

The car had been taken during a burglary, along with cash, and had been used in two knifepoint robberies. The suspects had also used the vehicle for another burglary in which they stole two more cars.

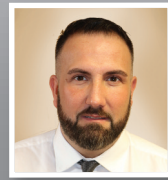
The perpetrators were using this car for their crime spree and had changed the number plate to avoid detection – it was parked in a disabled bay with two occupants inside. Realising the suspects needed to be detained to prevent further harm to the public, PC Masheder rang in the sighting to the control room.

As he did so, he spotted the driver returning to the vehicle and stayed on the call to keep officers abreast of the situation. However, the suspects then prepared to leave the supermarket car park, prompting PC Masheder to intervene.

Armed and dangerous, he knew they had to be taken off the streets. He was off duty, with no protective equipment or means to detain them. But that didn't stop this courageous officer from preventing the vehicle from leaving.

After a violent struggle, he managed to get the driver under control and under arrest. His accomplices fled the scene, but fortunately they were soon found and arrested.

Thanks to the dedication and bravery of PC Masheder, three violent offenders were taken off the streets. He was completely selfless in tackling an offender, known to be routinely armed.



PC Neil Masheder



**He knew they had to be taken off the streets, but as he was off duty, with no protective equipment or means to detain them.**



PC Christopher Miller

## Wiltshire

### Hero officer jumps into freezing canal to save woman

On an extremely cold night in January, PC Miller was responding to reports of a woman floating in the canal in Devizes.

When he got to the scene, he could see the woman was floating in the middle of the canal, still face down and unresponsive to his calls.

Members of the public on the bankside had said she had perched herself precariously on a bridge, 20 feet above the water. Despite their best efforts to talk her down, she had decided to jump in.

As it was dark, there was no real way for PC Miller to assess the situation for his own safety, but he could see the woman was on the verge of drowning.

Deciding he couldn't wait for fire crew support; he took off his body armour vest and entered the canal. He half waded, half swam out to the prone woman and managed to drag her to the far bank.

Incredibly she was still conscious, although ice cold. PC Miller stayed with her despite her protestations and managed to keep her warm until ambulance teams arrived.

By entering the bitterly cold water in complete darkness, in the middle of winter, with no back-up, PC Miller undoubtedly went above and beyond. His actions were truly selfless, his sole purpose to save the woman's life.



**Deciding he couldn't wait for fire crew support; he took off his body armour vest and entered the canal.**

The background image shows a stage event for the Police Bravery Awards. A man in a suit is speaking at a podium on the right. In the center, a large illuminated hexagonal structure features the 'POLICE BRAVERY AWARDS' logo. The audience is visible in the foreground, seated at tables with lit candles. The Police Mutual logo and tagline are in the top left corner.

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## Sponsors of the annual Police Bravery Awards

**We're proud to honour outstanding Police Officers**

Police Mutual is proud to be involved in recognising deserving Police Officers and Staff across the UK, who have acted with incredible bravery, often in extremely difficult and dangerous situations.

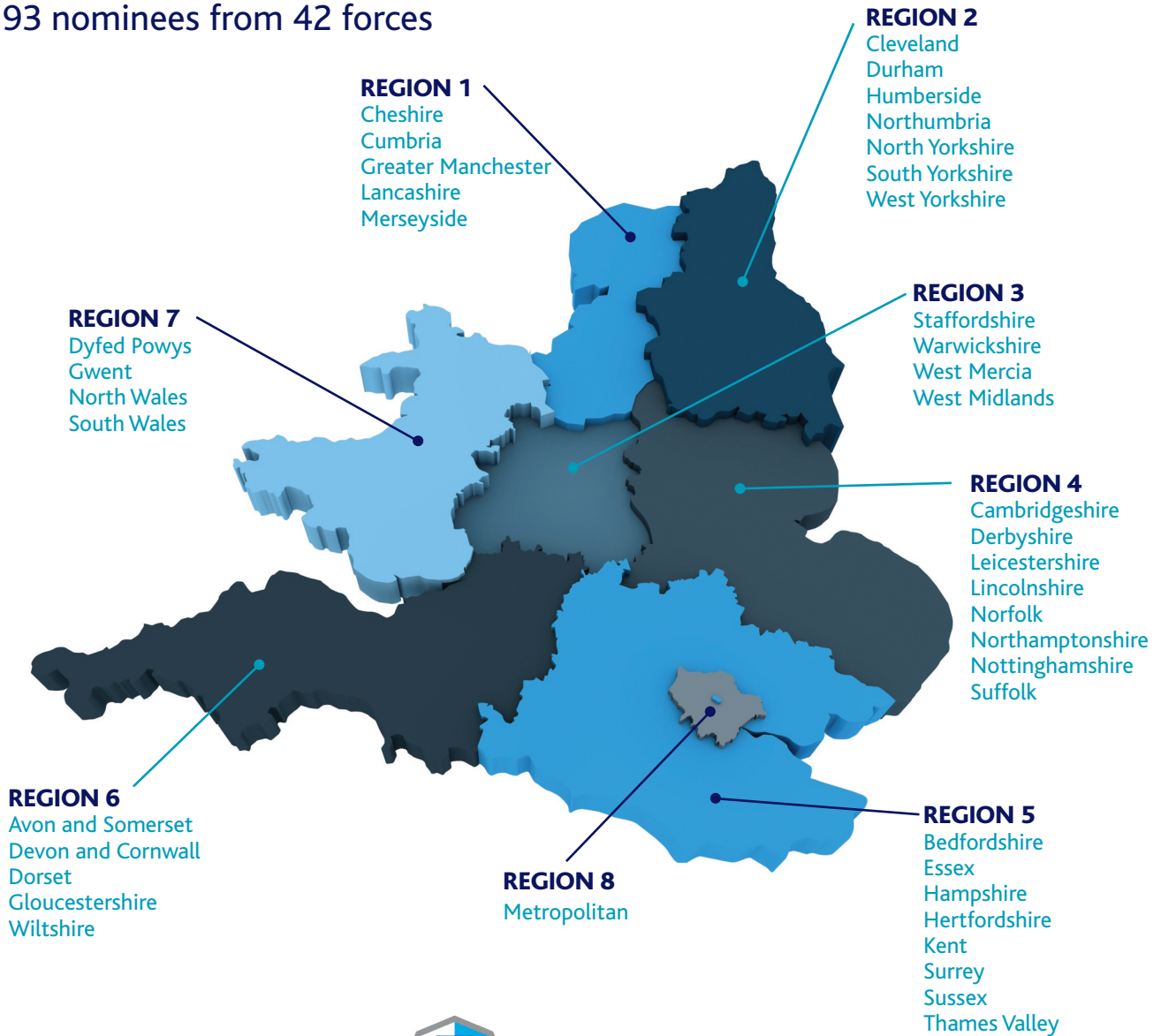
Being in the Police Force is never easy. And the Police community needs support now, more than ever. That's why we're committed to doing all we can to help.

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# 2020 finalists

93 nominees from 42 forces



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