



Police Bravery Awards 2010 - Jill Dando Award Winner

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LOCAL HERO TAKES ON ARMED ROBBER

A local Avon and Somerset man who bravely tackled an armed robber has received the prestigious Jill Dando Award at a ceremony in London tonight. The award, presented at the Police Bravery Awards, is given to recognise incredible acts of heroism by members of the public.

Derek Armiger received the award at a glittering awards ceremony organised by the Police Federation, in partnership with The Sun newspaper and supported by Police Mutual at The Dorchester Hotel which followed a reception at 10 Downing Street where he and 58 police nominees met the Prime Minister, David Cameron.

The incident happened at a convenience store in Frome on 18th July 2008, when Mr Armiger saw a man inside the store acting suspiciously. Concerned for the welfare of those inside, Mr Armiger decided to enter the store. At that point, the man was threatening the shop assistant with a gun. Without any fear for his own safety, Mr Armiger tackled the armed robber. A struggle ensued and the gun was discharged. Undeterred, Mr Armiger managed to take the gun from the robber and after a violent struggle, managed to detain the man in a headlock until the police arrived.

The weapon turned out to be a ball bearing gun but Mr Armiger had no indication that it was anything other than a real firearm. Mr Armiger, then 64 years old, had no hesitation in tackling an armed 18 year old youth and his courage and presence of mind are worthy of the highest recognition.

Chairman of the Police Federation of England and Wales, Paul McKeever says:

“Mr Armiger showed astonishing bravery and was prepared to put himself in the line of fire to protect others. He is a much deserved winner of this award and his actions are a tremendous example of heroism and selflessness.”

Organised by the Police Federation of England and Wales, in partnership with The Sun Newspaper, and supported by Police Mutual, the glittering awards ceremony followed a reception at number 10 Downing Street where all

bravery nominees and the Dando winner met the Prime Minister, David Cameron and Home Secretary, Theresa May.