

Theresa May

Prime Minister

I am honoured to share in celebrating the courage of this year's Bravery Award nominees. All the officers nominated tonight have selflessly put themselves in harm's way to protect others. It is truly inspiring to read what they have done and the impact they have had.

These officers are rightly nominated for particular recognition. However, we are also celebrating the service, commitment and selfless sacrifice of police officers everywhere, who regularly put themselves in danger to serve the United Kingdom and keep the public safe.

Tonight is also an opportunity to remember those who have lost their lives in the line of duty, and those who have been injured or harmed during their service to this country. I want to recognise and thank those across our police forces, and their families, for their dedication and service.

Finally, I would like to thank the Police Federation, for giving us this opportunity to recognise exemplary acts of bravery and to celebrate policing.





Sajid Javid

Home Secretary

I feel privileged to be able to participate in tonight's celebration. It is a celebration of a group of exceptional nominees who have demonstrated extraordinary bravery. They have gone beyond the call of duty, risking their own lives and their own safety to protect the public.

The officers we are honouring tonight show the incredible lengths that the police go to across this country. It is a reminder of the true courage we see in our wider police service, day in and day out. We must never take this commitment and dedication for granted.

From the hero officer who took the weight of a car to save a trapped crash victim to officers who have risked their lives to save a drowning woman. All of these individuals have made a huge personal sacrifice by putting the safety of others before their own.

You stand between the public and the threat of harm. You face violent and dangerous offenders every day and you protect society, especially its most vulnerable members. You are truly inspirational. It is an honour to have this opportunity to thank such outstanding people from across our police forces for your selfless dedication to duty.

Thanks to judges

Our sincere thanks to the Police Bravery Awards 2019 judging panel: Andy Elkington, Sales and Marketing Director, Police Mutual; Lady Helen Newlove of Warrington; Martin Hewitt, Chair, National Police Chiefs' Council; Paul Griffiths, President, Police Superintendents' Association and Ché Donald, Vice Chair, Police Federation of England and Wales. As with every year, the standard was incredibly high with some phenomenal acts of bravery. We are honoured to be able to hold these awards and share some of the heroic acts that have taken place.

We would like to thank Police Mutual for supporting these awards and congratulate all nominees. We hope you have an unforgettable evening.

John Apter

National Chair, Police Federation of England and Wales

Today we come together to recognise some of the bravest officers in England and Wales. Those we are honouring have shown incredible courage, putting the safety of the public well above their own and for this we are truly indebted to them.

We will hear stories of coming face to face with armed offenders, life-changing physical assaults and split-second decisions in the face of danger – or possible death.

Every day officers up and down the country find themselves in unthinkable and horrific situations, often not knowing if they will make it home to their loved ones. The thing that I find so humbling is that when talking to officers about their courageous acts, there is one phrase that is repeated often; “I was just doing my job”. These heroic acts are not done for praise or celebration, they are simply taken in an officer’s stride.

But today is about praise and celebration, I make no apology for shining a light on those brilliant officers whose actions have gone above and beyond what could ever be expected, even if the praise makes them feel uncomfortable! I am hugely proud to share every story but it’s important to mention the countless acts of police bravery that go on every day which do not receive such recognition.

My congratulations and sincere thanks to all nominees.

John Perks

Chief Executive Officer, Police Mutual

Police Mutual is proud to be sponsoring the Police Federation of England and Wales’ Police Bravery Awards for the 11th consecutive year. Being a police officer has never been easy. Now, more than ever, given the greater public recognition of the dangers officers face to keep us safe but increasingly the personal pressures and stresses of doing so mean that this year’s awards feel particularly poignant.

I recently joined Police Mutual as Chief Executive, a position I accepted with great pride. The opportunity to join a team that puts the wellbeing and the unique needs of those doing such an extraordinary job is, personally, very inspiring.

I would like to offer my heartfelt thanks on behalf of all of my colleagues across Police Mutual to our nominees and their families.



Celebrating 24 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, not least the responsibility of powers that are attributed to every officer who holds it.

Whilst it is an immense privilege to hold the Office of Constable, with that comes great responsibility, pride, unity and commitment to serve. Above all else, it puts the safety and security of the public first.



Home Secretary Sajid Javid with last year's winners PC Shaun Cartwright, who accepted the award on behalf of PC Keith Palmer GM, and PC Charlie Guenigault GM from the Metropolitan Police.

Last year PC Keith Palmer GM and PC Charlie Guenigault GM from the Metropolitan Police were named joint overall winners. PC Palmer was awarded posthumously, after he was tragically killed in a terror attack when he was on duty at the Palace of Westminster. Unarmed PC Palmer was intent on protecting those within Parliament as the attack unfolded and his brave actions gave armed police critical time to react, potentially saving countless lives.

PC Guenigault was on his way home from relaxing with friends after finishing his shift, when three knife-wielding terrorists attacked the public at London Bridge. Unarmed PC Guenigault ran towards the terrorists, fighting them with his bare hands. The terrorists stabbed him repeatedly, leaving him in a critical condition.

It has been an emotional 24 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.

UK POLICE MEMORIAL

The Police Arboretum Memorial Trust is proud to be supporting the Police Bravery Awards. Our vision is to build a new Police Memorial that will honour those brave officers from our Police service who have made the ultimate sacrifice.



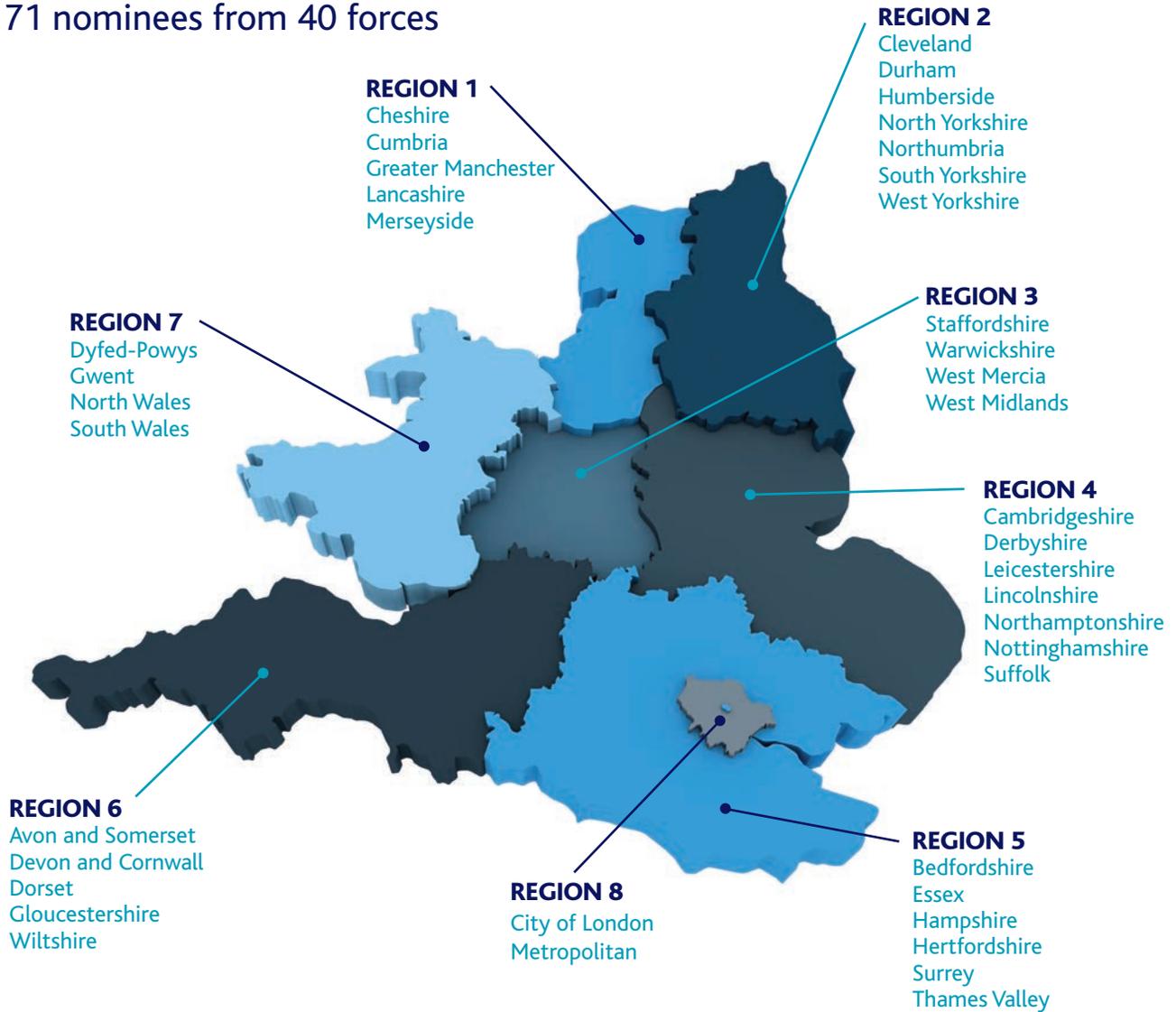
The new UK Police Memorial at the National Memorial Arboretum in Staffordshire will commemorate officers and staff from our Police service who have laid down their lives. With 300,000 visitors each year, the Arboretum is home to 300 memorials remembering those who have paid the ultimate price for their country. Yet, there is an absence of a fitting tribute to honour fallen policing colleagues. The Memorial project is ambitious, at a cost of £4.2million. It will be more than just a physical monument inscribed with the names of officers and staff. A **digital memorial** will be created that tells the personal stories of those behind the badge. An **education programme** will be developed for schools and colleges to inform students about the vital role our Police service plays in our society. And a **Living Memorial Fund** will be established to support the families of those who are killed or die on duty.

We are now within touching distance of achieving our funding target. Thanks to the generosity of the Government, the public, businesses, Police forces, Federation Branch Boards and individual donors, £500,000 is now just needed to complete this project.

Help us create a lasting legacy to fallen policing colleagues by making an online donation at www.ukpolicememorial.org

2019 finalists

71 nominees from 40 forces



Avon and Somerset

Officers confront agitated man wielding a hammer

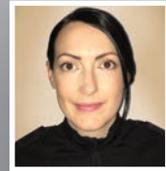
Police were called to a Bristol street after a man was described as swinging a hammer wildly in the air. There was great concern he might randomly attack people.

PCs Davies and Sipson arrived and unknown to them, the man had already hit a member of the public on the head with the hammer. They approached to speak with him to try to de-escalate the situation, but he didn't respond. PCs Kingdon and Schofield arrived, but he refused to put the hammer down and got more agitated. The officers tried tactics to control him, knowing members of the public could be in danger.

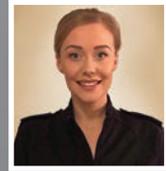
The man was becoming more threatening and aggressive so PC Davies deployed Taser, but the thickness of his jacket meant it was ineffective. PC Sipson then used Pava, which also had no effect. The man then stopped and faced PC Davies before he threw the hammer with full force at her, narrowly missing her head. Had the hammer hit her head, it could have been fatal.

PC Schofield approached, unsure of whether the offender had any other weapons on him so used his ASP, which had no effect. The man tried to punch him, as PC Davies approached again and Tasered his legs. At the same time PC Kingdon deployed Pava, which together brought him down and he was safely detained.

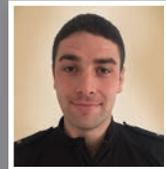
The officers remained calm and determined to bring the situation to a close safely, reducing the threat, harm and risk to everyone in the area.



PC Clare Davies



PC Yasmin Kingdon



PC Benjamin Schofield



PC Emma Sipson



Had the hammer hit her head, it could have been fatal.



PC Christopher Willcox-Cassidy

Bedfordshire

Lone officer restrains vulnerable woman brandishing large knife

PC Willcox-Cassidy attended a call out to a house after a report of a violent domestic. A woman had called reporting that her son's girlfriend was refusing to leave and was making threats towards her. The lady suffered from severe learning difficulties and had initially pressed her alarm pendant. More calls were received from her - officers were dispatched, and an arrest made. PC Willcox-Cassidy, who had 11 months service, had attended with his crewmate and stayed on his own after the arrest to gather a victim statement from the lady.

Whilst giving her statement, the lady went into the kitchen and returned with a large kitchen knife, threatening to cut her own throat. She started lunging and making swiping movements with the knife towards her husband and the officer.

Realising the seriousness of the situation, PC Willcox-Cassidy immediately tackled the lady and grabbed her arm to stop her waving the knife. In the struggle the gas cooker was switched on. PC Willcox-Cassidy pressed his emergency button as he restrained the woman, who was still lashing out.

The officer used his Pava, which did not have any effect and told the woman he would need to use it again. In this volatile situation, he used Pava once more while ensuring that the lady's husband was not close by. He kept talking and calmly asking the lady to let go of the knife, recognising that she was vulnerable.

Whilst PC Willcox-Cassidy was restraining the woman and updating the control room, he still had the foresight to ask the husband to turn off the gas. Eventually the knife was prised out of the woman's hands and PC Willcox-Cassidy placed handcuffs on her, explaining that it was for her safety. He reassured her as he walked her outside and took her glasses off, showing care and compassion.



Realising the seriousness of the situation, PC Willcox-Cassidy immediately tackled the lady and grabbed her arm to stop her waving the knife.

Cambridgeshire

Brave cops confront and detain man with knife

PCs Hines and Farchica were deployed to a welfare check on a man who was thought to be suicidal. Whilst on their way, they were made aware that the man was wanted for kidnap, so after completing their check the man was arrested but he immediately became aggressive and threatening towards both officers.

The suspect pushed PC Farchica away and grabbed PC Hines by her uniform, before he punched her several times. He ran to the kitchen and grabbed a 12-inch knife, despite Pava spray being used. He ran towards PC Farchica with the knife, pinned her against the back door and raised the knife to her face. PC Hines ran to the front door and pressed her emergency button, while PC Farchica remained calm and appealed to the man who continued to shout in her face with the knife raised towards her.

The offender ran with the knife towards PC Hines who was trapped in the house as the doors were locked. PC Farchica, now free of his grip, deployed Taser. PC Hines moved in and handcuffed him, before colleagues arrived to help.

The man wanted to cause death or serious harm to the officers, who both demonstrated bravery and professionalism, knowingly putting themselves in danger to protect others.



PC Natalie Hines



PC Jess Farchica



He ran towards PC Farchica with the knife, pinned her against the door and raised the knife to her face.



PC Lee Brown



PC Richard Connolley

Cheshire

Hero officers risk their lives to save drowning woman

Officers were dispatched to reports of a suicidal woman who had suggested to her family that she was going to harm herself.

CCTV showed her sitting precariously on top of the railings on the Handbridge Suspension Bridge. The officers promptly attended and started trying to build a rapport with the lady, while PCs Brown and Connolley and other officers positioned themselves close by, out of sight so the woman was not distressed any further.

Attempts to build a rapport failed and the woman jumped from the bridge into the fast-flowing river. She began to struggle and quickly became lifeless, so PC Connolley decided to jump in, using a floatation aid that was stored nearby.

With the help of other officers who held onto the floatation aid guide rope, PC Connolley swam out to the woman, and gripped hold of her keeping her head above water. But the guide rope snapped, putting the lives of both the woman and PC Connolley at risk as they began drifting down the river.

PC Brown quickly waded into the river and was able to grab hold of PC Connolley and pull them both towards safety. The woman was taken to hospital suffering from hypothermia.



The guide rope snapped, putting the lives of both the woman and PC Connolley at risk.

City of London

Off-duty cop stabbed in leg after confronting moped thieves

DC Reeve was off-duty when he became aware of a commotion in the street. A robbery was taking place with several men on mopeds attacking another man and trying to steal his moped.

With no thought for his own safety DC Reeve came to the defence of the man having his moped stolen. Being a police officer DC Reeve was aware of the pandemic in London that summer involving mopeds and knew the risks of intervening.

In a fast-paced situation, DC Reeve put himself in danger by physically separating the victim from the suspects, causing several of the suspects to try to flee – some on mopeds.

Having protected the victim, DC Reeve tried to detain one of the suspects by grabbing him in a bear hug, before he could ride off. He fell to the ground as another suspect pulled out a large kitchen knife and tried to strike DC Reeve's chest, but the officer deflected it by kicking the offender's chest. This stopped the knife from stabbing the officer's chest but instead it plunged into his leg. The suspects fled, so DC Reeve checked the victim over for injuries before allowing the crowd of onlookers to help him.

When local officers arrived on the scene, DC Reeve had applied a bandage to his own leg and was calm enough to give the attending officer clear updates about his injury and what had happened, despite losing a considerable amount of blood.



DC Joby Reeve



This stopped the knife from stabbing the officer's chest but instead the knife plunged into his leg.



PC Steven Bolsover

Cleveland

Lone PC chases down machete-wielding man

PC Bolsover was coming to the end of his night shift when he responded to reports of an irate man with a machete banging on the door of a vulnerable resident.

The suspect was already wanted for several other offences, including a serious wounding and threats to kill.

Working on his own, PC Bolsover went to the address and spotted the man who was still armed with a machete. The officer ran towards him, but he ran away through the housing estate. The chase lasted around 10 minutes and although other officers had answered the call for help, they were still some distance away.

PC Bolsover managed to catch up with the suspect who stopped, turned towards the officer and threatened to slash him. Despite this PC Bolsover carried on towards him, using his Taser without success.

In desperation the offender ran through someone's house still armed with the blade, with PC Bolsover close behind. He eventually detained him on top of a garage roof.



The man stopped, turned towards the officer and threatened to slash him.

Cumbria

Solo officer chases down blood-soaked axe-wielder

Lone officer Sgt Milby attended a report from numerous members of the public of a blood-soaked man carrying an axe.

The officer challenged the man and told him to put the axe down, but he ignored him and instead went into a shop still carrying the weapon. Sgt Milby followed him into the shop and used his Pava spray, which had little effect, so he single-handedly restrained, disarmed and handcuffed the offender.

Earlier the offender had forced his way into a house and attacked someone with the axe, causing life-threatening injuries. Sgt Milby arrested the man for attempted murder and took charge of the scene by directing officers to manage the incident and making sure that no one else had been injured.

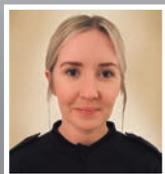
Sgt Milby showed incredible bravery during a perilous situation with a clear risk to his own and the public's safety.



Sgt Kevin Milby



The offender had earlier forced his way into a house and attacked someone with the axe, causing life-threatening injuries.



PC Kimberley Wheldon

Derbyshire

Single-crewed cop detains knifeman

Single-crewed officer PC Wheldon was refuelling a police car at a petrol station when two men started to argue, and one stabbed the other in the neck with a knife.

Without hesitation PC Wheldon detained the man, handcuffed him behind his back and put him in the police car before giving first aid to the victim.

The offender was searched when other officers arrived and when the area behind his hands was checked, what looked like a firearm was partially hidden in the crease of the seat. It was later found to be a BB gun.

The suspect was significantly larger than PC Wheldon and had previous for assaulting police. PC Wheldon acted in a selfless manner, putting the safety of others before her own.



When the area behind his hands was checked, what looked like a firearm was partially hidden in the crease of the seat.

Devon and Cornwall

Hero PC risks own life to save man in house fire

PC Makowska attended reports of a vulnerable man known to the police to have been suffering with mental health issues and alcohol misuse. Neighbours had reported that an intruder alarm had been going off for around half an hour.

Officers saw there were clouds of black smoke coming from an upstairs window. The man inside was able to open the front door but unexpectedly retreated inside away from the officers. PC Makowska rushed to the front door and was met with billowing thick black smoke, filling the entire ground floor and staircase.

The man was slumped on the stairs and did not respond when the officer called out to him. Knowing that Fire and Rescue were eight minutes away, PC Makowska entered the house, going above and beyond what was expected of her. The man had already lost consciousness, so she single-handedly dragged him out to safety.

PC Makowska showed courage and prevented serious injury or even death. After putting herself at risk, the officer needed to go to hospital for treatment for smoke inhalation.



PC Agata Makowska



She rushed to the front door and was met with billowing thick black smoke, filling the entire ground floor and staircase.



Unnamed officer



Sgt Craig Tatton

Dorset

Brave cops save woman from the sea

Police were alerted to a fully clothed woman wading into the sea. Members of the public had reported that she was moving further out into the water, which acts as a route for small vessels and ferries into Poole Harbour. Safety buoys were in place to warn swimmers of the potential danger of swimming there.

Sgt Tatton was first on the scene, with a colleague close behind. HM Coastguard and the RNLI had been contacted, but it was unclear when they would arrive. The officers tried to encourage the woman to come back to the shore, but she refused. By now the woman was 100 metres out and was wading into increasingly deeper water. The light was beginning to fade, and it was becoming more and more difficult to see her. When she was around 200 metres from the shore and heading towards the shipping channel, the officers knew they had to intervene.

Both officers removed their kit and went into the sea together. It was physically demanding to wade out towards her and as the water level rose all of them were in danger. By the time the officers reached the woman they were neck-deep in water. They tried to persuade her to go back to the shore, but she was drunk and emotional. They eventually took hold of her, pulling her towards them and guiding her back towards the shore. Once back on land, she was treated by paramedics and taken to hospital.

Sgt Tatton and his colleague showed true professionalism and bravery, making the decision to wade into the sea when they knew the coastguard had not arrived, placing themselves in real danger.



When she was around 200 metres from the shore and heading towards the shipping channel, the officers knew they had to intervene.

Durham

Hero officer saves man from oncoming train

A man had told others that he wanted to kill himself by either jumping off a bridge or in front of a train. Officers had gone to his home and during a search found information to suggest he may be in the Langley Moor area of the East Coast Mainline, although the exact location was unknown.

PC Dawson went to the area in question and started a search before spotting a member of the public waving frantically at him. She had seen the man sitting on the railway, drinking a can of lager and directed the officer to where he was.

PC Dawson followed her directions, while the communications dispatcher tried frantically to stop all trains on the line.

The officer tried to speak to the man from the other side of a fence as the line was still active. He did not want to talk, and PC Dawson heard the vibration of a train approaching. He looked up, saw a train coming in his direction and had to make a split-second decision. Without any thought for his own safety, PC Dawson climbed over the fence and ran towards the man, who had made no effort to move. Despite the man being of heavy build, PC Dawson managed to drag him across the line away from the oncoming train, which was almost upon them. This was done with seconds to spare – as soon as he moved the man from the line, the train passed them.

A short time later other officers arrived on the scene and the man was restrained and detained. The train driver had seen what was happening on the line and had slowed the train, coming to a stop further down the line. He was seen to applaud the officers through the window as he passed.

PC Dawson's line manager Sgt Todd said that his actions were "some of the bravest I have seen in my service".



PC Brian Dawson



**As soon as he moved the man from the line,
the train passed them.**



PC Nick Allen



PCSO Caryl Griffiths

Dyfed Powys

Officers brave fast river to try to save a child

A car was reported to have been stolen with a two-year-old child in it. Extensive searches of the town and surrounding areas took place, but the car was later found submerged and out of sight in the River Teifi. It had been located by the NPAS helicopter, which guided officers to its location.

PC Allen and PCSO Griffiths went into the deep water to try to save the child, despite instructions not to do so. The river was fast-flowing and extremely cold, with hazardous conditions. PC Allen entered the river fully clothed and waded through the water using a rope, fighting strong currents as he did so. PCSO Griffiths, who was also fully clothed, dived into the water and swam to the submerged vehicle. They both managed to climb on its roof and worked together to smash a window, before quickly removing the young child.

Sadly the child had died, despite the best efforts of the officers, other officers at the scene and medical professionals.

Both officers tried in vain to rescue the child from the river. They showed the utmost determination and dedication to duty.



PC Allen and PCSO Griffiths went into the deep water to try to save the child, despite instructions not to do so. The river was fast-flowing and extremely cold, with hazardous condition.

Essex

Gunman points weapon at brave PCs

PC Hayter was a newly qualified tutor and was on duty with his tutee, PC Martin who was on just her fourth ever duty. They were sent to an address after a member of the public reported a possible burglary at a neighbour's house which was rarely ever occupied.

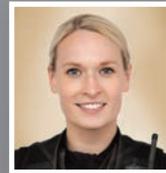
The officers arrived at the house and split up so one went to the front and one went around the back. While at the back PC Hayter found a smashed window and thought he could hear people inside. He saw the back of a suspect running towards the front door so ran to join PC Martin whilst updating what he had seen over his radio.

PC Martin moved towards the front door, which opened as she reached it causing her to bump into the fleeing suspect. She took a step back while shouting for the suspect to get back but spotted a small torch in one of the suspect's hands and a black handgun in the other. She was fearful for her life and shouted out that the suspect was armed. He pointed the gun directly at PC Martin's face and said "get back, I have a gun" while stepping through the door. PC Martin activated her emergency button and was joined at the front of the house by PC Hayter. The suspect pointed the gun alternately at both officers, shouting at them to get back and get on the floor.

Both officers remained standing and PC Hayter told the man to put the gun away, before stepping in front of PC Martin, putting himself between the gunman and his tutee. The suspect then ran off, with both officers giving chase and whilst doing so, giving clear updates to the control room.



PC Nick Hayter



PC Avive Martin



The suspect pointed the gun alternately at both officers, shouting at them to get back and get on the floor.



DI Wayne Usher

Gloucestershire

Off-duty cop saves elderly couple and dog from house fire

DI Usher was off-duty and taking a run near his home before work when he spotted smoke and a fire at the back of a house. As he approached the house, he saw several neighbours and asked whether anyone was inside. He was told that an elderly couple lived there and were believed to be inside.

After confirming that the fire service had been called, DI Usher knocked on the door and was met by a confused elderly gentleman. DI Usher identified himself as an officer and led the man outside, before returning to collect the man's wife. He helped the lady downstairs and tucked the family dog under his arm.

The fire service arrived and DI Usher updated them that he had rescued two people, before carrying on with his run. At the end of his working day DI Usher went back to the house to check on the couple, who were grateful for his help. The fire was believed to have started in the garage, which although detached was just inches from the house.



He helped the lady downstairs and tucked the family dog under his arm.

Greater Manchester

PCs injured in knife attack

A member of the public reported that he had seen a man enter a shop and could hear shouting and screaming coming from the building. He believed a robbery was taking place.

PCs Lamb and McCoombes arrived within three minutes of the call and saw the offender climbing out of the shop under the metal shutter carrying a basket full of goods. He made his way down the side of the shop and was chased by PC Lamb.

There was a struggle as PC Lamb tried to detain the man, when he produced a kitchen knife and swung it at PC Lamb several times, cutting the officer as he tried to escape.

PC McCoombes also tried to restrain the offender, but his hand was injured. After managing to get hold of him, other officers arrived. At the side of the shop a damaged kitchen knife was discovered, which had broken due to the ferocity of the attack.



PC Stephen Lamb



PC Andrew McCoombes



The offender produced a kitchen knife and swung it at PC Lamb several times, cutting the officer as he tried to escape.



PC Kelda Griffiths

Gwent

Injured officer fights off violent woman after hammer attack

PC Griffiths was on sick leave with her right hand in a plaster cast, after fracturing it arresting a violent man the previous week.

She heard a commotion in the street and saw a woman shouting and screaming, hitting windows with her hands and kicking parked cars. The woman was carrying a handbag and produced a large hammer, which she used to smash the front door window of a neighbour's house.

PC Griffiths approached the woman and tried to calm her down, but she walked towards the officer swinging the hammer at her and screaming. PC Griffiths identified herself as a police officer, but the woman ran to her brandishing the hammer. A man then came out of his house and the woman ran towards him with the hammer raised, so the officer ran behind her and grabbed at her to get her to stop hitting the man, managing to get the hammer from her hands.

PC Griffiths fell onto the floor still holding the hammer, when the woman's mother arrived and stood on PC Griffiths' hand in plaster, preventing her from getting up. The woman then attacked PC Griffiths on the floor by gouging her eyes, pulling her up by her hair and biting her head. The officer could hear the woman saying, "yum can I taste your blood". Fighting for her life, she managed to kick the woman and her mother away, threw the hammer towards the man and ran into a house. The police had been called in the meantime and the woman was arrested.

PC Griffiths went to hospital, where it was found she had badly damaged her knee, with every ligament sprained, a major ligament torn and the bone badly bruised. She also had a large swelling to the left side of her neck, bite marks to her head and back and a large bald area on her head where her hair had been ripped out.



The woman then attacked PC Griffiths on the floor by gouging her eyes, pulling her up by her hair and biting her head. She could hear the woman saying "yum can I taste your blood".

Hampshire

Officer braves violent fire extinguisher attack

PC Bartle saw a man at the bottom of some steps outside the front door of a house. He turned to face the officer, who saw he was holding a long implement that was around three foot in length. He was waving it and around and started to walk to the police vehicle.

PC Bartle got out and shouted to put the weapon down, but he continued so the officer released PD Chase out of the police van. The man had moved over to where an elderly lady was in a wheelchair and was trying to lift her out of the chair. PC Bartle shouted at him to leave the woman alone – he did but moved towards the officer who could see that the weapon he was holding was a stick.

Fearing that he was going to attack her, PC Bartle deployed PD Chase who jumped at the man who then swung the stick at the officer.

PC Bartle grabbed the stick, which had broken in half but was struck on the head. The man still had hold of the weapon, then grabbed a fire extinguisher and swung it towards the officer. As she put her arm up to protect herself, the extinguisher hit her, so she moved away, fearing that he was going to seriously hurt her.

The man then sprayed the fire extinguisher at her, causing the officer to lose her vision due to the force of the water and her glasses being knocked off. The man followed PC Bartle as she backed away, so she tried to use her CS spray, but it was ineffective due to the water. The man then lifted the fire extinguisher up and smashed it on the police van, causing the windscreen to smash.

He carried on spraying the officer, who still could not see and was struggling to breathe, until other officers arrived at the scene.

PC Bartle bravely persevered in the face of very real danger.



He carried on spraying the officer, who still could not see and was struggling to breathe.



PC Kelly Bartle



PC Ian Sweeney

Humberside

Officer and dog shot repeatedly by violent offender

PC Sweeney and PD Logan were after a man who was suspected of stabbing a pensioner. They had found him drinking at a friend's house, when he ran off causing PC Sweeney and PD Logan to chase him.

The man drew a pistol and shot the dog in the head, before struggling with the officer who was also shot with the gas-powered pellet gun.

PC Sweeney was shot three times in the face, with one shot narrowly missing his eye. He was also shot once in the shoulder and once in the leg. PD Logan was shot in the mouth and nose three times, suffering puncture wounds. Despite the man shooting the dog, still having a weapon and knowing that he was happy to use it, PC Sweeney continued to tackle the man, thinking only of protecting the public. The man was shortly arrested for several offences.

PC Sweeney then tended to PD Logan's injuries, before seeking treatment for his own. Both PC Sweeney and PD Logan have fully recovered and were back to operational duties as soon as possible.

Despite being shot and seeing his faithful police dog being brutally incapacitated, PC Sweeney was relentless in his pursuit of a very dangerous offender.



PC Sweeney was shot three times in the face, one of which narrowly missed his eye. He was also shot once in the shoulder and once in the leg.

Lancashire

Cops stop woman plunging from multi-storey car park

Police received calls that a woman with a history of mental health issues and suicidal tendencies had left hospital. Patrols started to search for the woman and she was found sitting on a wall in a multi-storey car park, with her legs dangling over a very high drop.

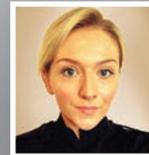
PC Paterson and PC Pepper (who was SC Pepper at the time) tried to persuade the woman to move off the wall, but instead she moved from sitting to hanging off the outside wall. The two officers grabbed her, undoubtedly saving her life. They all held her there as the height of the car park wall stopped the woman from being dragged to safety and the officers had to climb onto the wall, grab the woman and keep hold of her. The officers also had to hold on to each other to keep from falling.

They had been holding the woman for some time and it had started to rain making everything slippery. The officers were concerned that the clothing they were holding to keep the woman safe was starting to give and stretch but they carried on holding her whilst giving reassurance. After about 25 minutes a specialist fire crew arrived.

The officers' quick actions prevented the woman from falling, but their dedication and efforts saved her life.



The officers were concerned that the clothing they were holding to keep the woman safe was starting to give and stretch. They carried on holding her whilst giving reassurance.



SC Colleen Gaynor



PC Daniel Holmes



PC Graham Kenward



PC Jonathan Paterson



PC Laura Pepper



PC Gary Roberts



PC Michael Hinton



Sgt Michael Hooper



PC Kevin Marsh



PC Steve Quartermain

Leicestershire

Brave officers risk own lives to help after helicopter crash

Leicestershire Police were policing a Leicester City football match, when at the end of the game a helicopter leaving the stadium tragically crashed.

Emergency services responded to the crash, which was witnessed by four on duty officers, PCs Hinton, Marsh and Quartermain and Sgt Michael Hooper. The officers drove up to the crashed helicopter, which was on fire. One of them drew his baton and tried desperately to smash the windows while the others grabbed fire extinguishers to try to put the fire out. Suddenly the helicopter exploded, forcing the officers to retreat.

The officers heroically risked their own lives by running towards the burning helicopter, knowing the risks of explosion. The incident received media attention from around the world, with kind words of support offered to the families of those involved, the officers and other emergency crews who attended.



One drew his baton and tried desperately to smash the windows while the others grabbed fire extinguishers to try to put the fire out. Suddenly the helicopter exploded, forcing the officers to retreat.

Lincolnshire

Cops risk own lives in fire to save violent knife-wielder

A woman had called the police to report being assaulted by her boyfriend at their flat. She said he had self-harmed with a knife and cut his own throat, before holding a knife against her throat saying, "we are going to die together".

The man had locked himself in the bathroom with the knife and would not communicate with his partner, so she believed he was self-harming.

She was screaming and pleading with him to stop, when she noticed that he had set fire to something as smoke began creeping under the bathroom door. She managed to smash a hole in the door and could hear her boyfriend saying something, but then he was either ignoring her or had lost consciousness.

Police arrived including PC Murphy and Sgt Waters who had to force open the front door as the woman was still inside the flat with the door locked. Smoke was escaping from around the front door, so their first thought was to bring the woman to safety away from the building and then force open the bathroom door.

The officers did this knowing that the man in the bathroom had a knife so was unlikely to want to be rescued, but also knowing his previous offending history. The caller had stated that the man had "murdered someone before" and Sgt Waters knew he was violent and had a previous conviction for manslaughter.

Despite the dangers of the fire and the violent knife-wielding man, they forced entry to the bathroom to save him, as smoke billowed out. The officers attempted to put out the fire before searching the flat and then with other officers evacuated the whole block.

The fire officer's report said that the fire could have spread and put other people in danger if it had not been tackled. Both officers risked their lives to rescue a ruthless offender.



Despite the dangers of the fire and the violent knife-wielding man, they forced entry to the bathroom to save him, as smoke billowed out.



PC William Murphy



Sgt Nicholas Waters



PC Stuart Bratherton



PC Mark Patterson

Merseyside

Hero cops detain gunman

PCs Patterson and Bratherton were on uniform patrol when they responded to reports of a man brandishing a firearm and threatening a member of the public.

They saw the man's car leaving the scene and pursued the vehicle, whilst providing a running commentary to the control room so firearms officers could also attend.

The vehicle came to an abrupt stop in a residential street, so the officers were left with the split-second decision; either wait for armed response or confront the suspect and protect the public from a potential gunman on the street.

The officers approached the suspect's car, not knowing if he was going to point the gun at them, as he had done to the original victim. Due to their fast thinking and quick reactions they were able to detain him.

The officers searched his vehicle and found a handgun and an improvised explosive device, and the suspect was arrested. Because of the severity of the risk to the public an evacuation was called, and a safety cordon was put in place with the Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team requested to attend. They confirmed that the suspected bomb inside the vehicle was a "viable explosive device" and needed a robot to carry out a controlled explosion on the site.

A further search of the suspect's home found another firearm and several other homemade explosive devices.

Due to the officers acting in such a swift, decisive and brave manner the suspect was stopped and the situation was diffused from a potentially serious threat to life.



The officers approached the suspect's car, not knowing if he was going to point the gun at them, as he had done to the original victim.

Metropolitan I

Hero PC braves smoke to evacuate flats on fire

PC Dobson was helping colleagues with an unrelated search when they noticed a fire in a basement flat across the road. He went straight over to help and confirmed that no one was in. However, there were thick black plumes of smoke pouring from the windows and numerous occupied flats in the building.

PC Dobson and his colleagues were let in to the block of flats and saw the main stairway, filling with smoke. Despite the danger, PC Dobson and the other officers quickly knocked on doors to get everyone out. When there was no reply, he forced doors open and searched the flat to make sure that everybody was safe. While he was clearing the building, PC Dobson had to go outside twice to get fresh air and avoid the effects of smoke.

Only when he was satisfied that the building was empty did he and the local officers leave, by which time the flats were full of smoke.

PC Dobson then continued his night shift as if nothing had happened.



PC Neil Dobson



Despite the danger, PC Dobson and the other officers entered the building and quickly knocked on doors to get everyone out of the building.



Sgt Stevie Bull

Metropolitan II

Hero cop tackles hospital gunman

Sgt Bull (who was a PC at the time) was at University College Hospital dealing with an unrelated case when she was alerted to a serious incident over the hospital speaker system. She immediately went to help the hospital's security staff, two of whom ran past her.

She then heard a broken message on her police radio asking for police to attend the hospital. The officer followed the security staff when she saw worried looking hospital staff who pointed her towards another set of doors and were talking about a firearm. At the same time Sgt Bull heard mention of firearms units over the radio.

She was confronted by a man aiming what appeared to be a handgun at hospital staff – she could see that he was pulling the trigger of the gun, which was making a clicking noise. Sgt Bull placed herself between the gun-holding man and hospital staff to protect them and to take the man's attention away from others. He refused to drop the gun and continued to threaten both Sgt Bull and the staff around her.

The offender was around three times the size of Sgt Bull. Sgt Bull grabbed the gun and tried to pull it from him – he struggled with her and refused to let go. She then grabbed him and tried to pin his arms to his side. The struggle continued over to the doors where the man managed to free one of his arms and pushed Sgt Bull into the wall, injuring her head and causing her to fall to the floor. While stunned from the impact, Sgt Bull got up and immediately wrestled him to the floor where she was joined by security staff. Sgt Bull took the gun from his hands and threw it to safety, before placing the man in handcuffs and arresting him.



Sgt Bull placed herself between the gun-holding man and hospital staff to protect them and to take the man's attention away from others.

North Wales

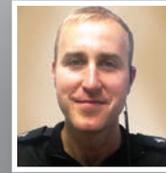
Cop chases man armed with knife in the dark

Police received a call that a petrol station had been robbed by an offender with a knife, so PC Jaggard and two other officers responded. Using his local knowledge, PC Jaggard got out of the police vehicle on the way to the petrol station to try to intercept the suspect leaving the scene.

The other officers carried on to the petrol station to help the victim, who had been working alone and was traumatised by the incident. PC Jaggard quickly found the suspect climbing over a wall fleeing from the direction of the petrol station. The officer was fully aware that the suspect had a knife but managed to contain the man using his communication skills and Taser. He also pressed the red button on his radio to help other officers find his location.

PC Jaggard was joined by colleagues who arrested the suspect just six minutes after the original alarm call. Using the officer's observations of the suspect the knife was recovered nearby, as he had heard him drop it.

PC Jaggard showed incredible bravery by going alone in a search of an armed offender in the dark.



PC Gareth Jaggard



The officer was fully aware that the suspect had a knife but managed to contain the man using his communication skills and Taser.



PC Craig Davies



PC Richard O'Connell

North Yorkshire

Officers tackle blood-soaked man brandishing a knife

Police received worrying reports of a man who appeared to be drunk or on drugs ripping up fence posts and making threats to kick in a door and kill a woman in a nearby house. The reports suggested that he was holding a knife.

PCs Davies and O'Connell quickly headed to the scene, where they found a six-foot-tall heavily built man standing in the doorway brandishing a knife, ready to stab anyone who came near. The man and the walls were covered in blood and the officers thought they were at a murder scene.

Concerned that there may be a victim who needed their help, PC Davies used his Taser on the man. He was so big and aggressive that even though Taser was used, the officers still had to grapple him to the ground, helped by a local resident.

During their efforts the officers were attacked by the man's partner, who hurled wine bottles at them as they tried to gain control of the situation.

Even when other officers arrived on the scene, the man was still aggressive as he was put in a police van.

The officers did not give up in their struggle with a man who was out of control. Their actions undoubtedly prevented more harm.



The officers quickly headed to the scene, where they found a six-foot-tall heavily built man standing in the doorway brandishing a knife, ready to stab anyone who came near.

Northamptonshire

Cops ignore own injuries to help others in suspected acid attack

PCs Ballantyne and Canwell were outside McDonalds when they were made aware of two groups of men squaring up to each other inside the restaurant. PC Canwell put herself between the two groups and tried to move one of them outside. The group were very aggressive and verbally abused PC Canwell.

A heated disagreement ensued which led to one gang leaving the scene. When they came back the officers could see that several of the members had armed themselves with bottles, which were then sprayed with no thought for the nearby members of the public or the officers.

Both PCs were severely affected by the substance that was sprayed, which was initially thought to be acid but was later identified as ammonia. Their body worn video footage shows panic from members of the public who had also been affected. The officers ignored their own injuries and immediately helped others.

Despite PC Ballantyne's discomfort she chased after the culprits but had to stop because of her physical state. She returned to the scene and found water to tend to a person who had been seriously affected by the attack and gave first aid, reassured the victim and minimised the long-term effects of her injuries.

Both officers courageously put the welfare of the public before their own and needed hospital treatment once they had finished up their duties at the scene.



PC Victoria Ballantyne



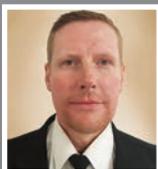
PC Karen Canwell



The officers ignored their own injuries and immediately helped others.



PC Hailey Routledge



PC Paul Rowell

Northumbria

Hero cops Tasered by distressed man

Staff at a university had called in mental health professionals to speak to a mature student who was acting aggressively on campus. He had been threatening staff and students before the crisis team arrived to carry out an assessment.

PCs Routledge and Rowell arrived at the scene to ensure he did not become violent and put those around him in danger. When the man was told he would have to be detained by mental health professionals, tensions boiled over and he tried to flee.

The officers stepped in front of him to stop him from leaving the campus, when a struggle ensued, and the student made a grab for PC Rowell's Taser. He managed to get it out of its holster and discharge it, causing the barbs to penetrate the officer's finger and send thousands of volts through his body. The shot also broke his finger, but PC Rowell still managed to help PC Routledge wrestle the man – even when he refused to loosen his grip on the Taser.

He managed to deliver a string of shocks to both officers, with PC Routledge receiving seven separate bursts of high voltage electricity. Despite the attacks both officers refused to let go of him, and a member of university staff rushed in to help detain the man.

During the struggle PC Routledge was pushed to the ground, fracturing her kneecap. Despite agonising pain she got back to her feet and grabbed hold of the offender. In spite of the significant injuries both officers had suffered, they were eventually able to get the student into handcuffs without any injury to others.

The officers showed no regard for their own safety and put themselves in harm's way to stop a violent offender from hurting members of the public.



He managed to deliver a string of shocks to both officers, with PC Routledge receiving seven separate bursts of high voltage electricity.

Nottinghamshire

Officers slashed by knifemen after burglary

Two offenders in a red BMW committed a burglary and fled. Following a short pursuit and having crashed in the area, they both ran off armed with large knives.

Officers searched the area with PCs Maunder-Green and Ellse finding both offenders under some bushes. The suspects tried to escape by climbing a metal fence but only one was successful. The remaining offender attacked the officers with a knife, slashing at PC Maunder-Green and cutting her cheek. The offender, still holding the knife stabbed PD Quantum several times in the head and at that point both officers jumped on him and a fight ensued, which resulted in the offender's arrest.

PC Campin found the second offender in a nearby alleyway, when the man slashed him with a knife, causing a cut under his chin. He continued to slash at the officer, and a fight broke out. The offender was still armed, and PC Campin was fighting for his life. During the melee he was joined by PC Crabtree, so the offender tried to attack both officers until he was overpowered and arrested.

The officers and PD Quantum made a full recovery, but it was a traumatic experience. Their bravery stopped two violent offenders from terrorising the public.



PC James Campin



PC Matthew Crabtree



PC Jennie Ellse



PC Catherine Maunder-Green



The offender was still armed, and PC Campin was fighting for his life.



PC Brett O'Hagan



PC Paul Roberts

South Wales

Hero cops brave fast-flowing river to rescue woman in upturned car

South Wales Police received a report that a car had crashed into the River Ely. It had left the road after crashing into railings before turning upside down in the river. It was believed that someone was trapped inside.

PC O'Hagan was the first officer at the scene. The river was fast-flowing and murky but without fear for his safety he went in and started a treacherous descent down the river bank and approached the upturned car.

The front windscreen was fully submerged in the river – PC O'Hagan tried to open the door, which was locked and so was the boot. The windows had steamed up, so the passenger could not be seen. PC O'Hagan used his ASP to smash the window and through a small gap of one or two inches, he could see an elderly woman in the driver's seat being held in by her seat belt. As she was upside down, the water was up to her stomach, so her head and shoulders were completely submerged in the water.

PC O'Hagan called out for help and PC Roberts made his way down the bank and swam into the water. PC O'Hagan had clambered through the smashed window and unclipped the woman's seatbelt. Despite great difficulty he climbed back out the car, bringing the woman with him. PC Roberts joined him and helped bring the woman across to the river bank, which was steep and muddy. The officers struggled to make their way up the embankment, before starting CPR until paramedics arrived and took over.

Despite the officers' best efforts, the woman sadly could not be resuscitated.



The river was fast-flowing and murky but without fear for his safety went in and started a treacherous descent down the river bank and approached the upturned car.

South Yorkshire

Cops risk own lives to rescue unconscious men from burning car

PCs Sharratt and Johnson were on their way to an incident when they came across an unrelated serious road traffic crash that had happened just before they arrived.

One of the vehicles was seriously damaged and the officers saw three men in the car who were not wearing seatbelts. All three were unconscious, with serious injuries.

A fire broke out at the front of the vehicle, which quickly spread beyond what could be dealt with by a fire extinguisher. With no thought of the risks to their own safety, the officers got into the car to bring all three to safety, while the fire was quickly spreading. One of the men's leg was trapped in the footwell, so PC Johnson tried for some time to pull at it until it came free, while the vehicle was quickly being ravaged by flames. The heat was so extreme that part of PC Sharratt's baton melted. The vehicle could have exploded at any time.

Just as the occupants were moved to safety, the vehicle fully caught fire. The officers carried out CPR on the men whilst waiting for the ambulance and fire brigade. Sadly, two of the men died of their injuries but PCs Sharratt and Johnson's brave actions gave them the best chance of survival and saved the third man's life.



PC Paul Johnson



PC Craig Sharratt



The heat was so extreme that part of PC Sharratt's baton melted.



PC Katie Ratcliffe



PC Matthew Salt

Staffordshire

Officers confront woman wielding machetes

Police received numerous calls from the public that a woman who was believed to be from the military, was on a local housing estate armed with two machetes.

The woman had threatened members of the public with the weapons and was trying to get into a house, repeatedly hitting the machetes on the front door.

Armed response officers were called, but they were some way off, so PCs Ratcliffe and Salt were first on the scene.

They spotted the woman repeatedly hitting a door and confronted her to draw her attention and safeguard those inside. Both officers drew their Tasers – PC Ratcliffe had only received her initial training less than a fortnight before and this was her first use.

A crowd had begun to form, so the officers kept the woman away from the public, putting themselves and their own personal safety in direct confrontation with the armed offender. After calming down, the woman put the machetes down but then picked them back up and started swinging them around whilst walking towards PC Salt.

PC Ratcliffe managed to get behind the woman, who after repeated requests to drop the weapons lunged towards PC Salt. This is when PC Ratcliffe used her Taser, which was successful. The woman dropped her weapons and fell to the floor.

PC Salt handcuffed her as armed officers and an ambulance arrived.



The woman put the machetes down but then picked them back up and started swinging them around whilst walking towards PC Salt.

Suffolk

Off-duty DC chases suspected armed robbers

DC Joanne Smith was off duty when she courageously intervened in an armed robbery.

She displayed bravery and selflessness during the incident where she was faced with considerable danger, chasing after the suspected offenders.

More details of the case cannot be released at this stage.



DC Joanne Smith



She displayed bravery and selflessness during the incident where she was faced with considerable danger.



PC George Bell

Surrey

Single-crewed officer confronts aggressive knife-man

Police were called to reports of a teenager trying to force his way into a house. Witnesses said he had a knife and was trying to smash windows. It followed an ongoing escalating dispute between two families, which was causing disruption in the local community.

PC Bell was the first officer on the scene, who saw that the suspect was being aggressive and was so fixated on entering the house that he had not noticed that police were present. PC Bell could not see the knife, but believed it was hidden on the man. Despite knowing the suspect had a weapon, PC Bell put himself in harm's way by positioning himself between the man and the victim's house. All parties were becoming more hostile to one another, but PC Bell remained calm to try to control the situation until further help arrived.

When another officer arrived seven minutes later the suspect was arrested, and a knife was found tucked into his waistband. Further evidence showed that the victim's family were trying to throw boiling water and a frying pan out of the upper windows in the direction of the suspect, directly next to PC Bell.

Without PC Bell's intervention there was significant risk of harm to the people involved.



The victim's family were trying to throw boiling water and a frying pan out of the upper windows in the direction of the suspect, next to PC Bell.

Thames Valley

PCs brave house blaze to save sleeping woman

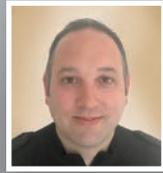
PCs Smith and Agar attended reports of a house fire. They could see that residents had smashed the glass of a back door to try to get in and that smoke was pouring out of the house.

It had not been confirmed whether there was anyone in the building. Although officers had been told by residents that a woman lived there, they could not wait around to find out for certain if she was in.

After grabbing a fire extinguisher from their vehicle, the officers got into the house but were confronted by thick smoke, making it difficult to see. Trying to find their way around, PC Smith went into the living room where he found a barely conscious woman slouched under a duvet on the sofa. PC Agar was battling with flames in the kitchen and trying to put the blaze out. He helped his colleague lift the victim outside to safety.

By then fire crews had arrived and began giving the woman first aid. She later made a full recovery.

The officers had attended a fire before, but it was the first time they had gone into a burning building to save a life. Their actions were selfless and instinctive.



PC Matthew Agar



PC Caleb Smith



Trying to find their way around, PC Smith went into the living room where he found a barely conscious woman slouched under a duvet on the sofa.



PC Andrew Dear

Warwickshire

Hero cop takes weight of car to save trapped crash victim

PC Dear was first on the scene of a serious road traffic collision and went to help the most serious casualty, who was trapped between the roof of the upturned car and the road.

The car was ripped in half, with the top half of the man's body ejected through the sunroof and he was trapped with a severe head injury. The wreckage of the car was leaking fuel and there was a real risk of a major fire or explosion.

Despite the situation, PC Dear scrambled under the roof of the car so that an airway could be maintained and to take some of the weight of the car on his back. The casualty was drifting in and out of consciousness and bleeding badly so PC Dear was constantly talking and reassuring him. There was a clear risk of the fuel catching fire, but PC Dear stayed with the casualty, which allowed a paramedic to secure an intravenous line and stem the bleeding.

The space that PC Dear crawled into without a second thought was around 10 inches high and the officer placed himself in a dangerous and life-threatening situation, refusing to leave the man and helping to save his life.



There was a clear risk of the fuel catching fire, but PC Dear stayed with the casualty, which allowed a paramedic to secure an IV line and stem the bleeding.

West Mercia

Dog handler slashed by violent offender

Dog handler PC Davey (now retired), PD Bacca and other officers responded to calls about a man smashing shop windows and acting in a violent and unpredictable manner. It was reported as a possible burglary attempt.

When the agitated man saw the police officers he became threatening, wielding a large knife at them. None of the officers were equipped with Taser and the man displayed extreme behaviour and was in a distressed state, refusing to engage with PC Davey.

The officer believed that the man was intent on causing serious harm to others and despite the fact it was late at night, there were many people nearby.

The man started to furiously hack at his own neck with the knife, in a clear attempt to take his life. PC Davey deployed PD Bacca to disarm him. The man immediately slashed and hacked at PD Bacca, cutting the dog's head and ear. PC Davey used Pava spray on the man as he continued to attack PC Bacca, but it had no effect.

The officer tried to physically take control, leading to a violent struggle with PD Bacca and PC Davey.

The offender managed to break free and ran away, with PC Davey and PD Bacca running after him. PD Bacca caught the man and took him to the ground, where the offender slashed him again. The offender broke free again, before PD Bacca caught him and kept him detained as PC Davey wrestled to disarm and handcuff him.



PC Michael Davey



The officer tried to physically take control leading to a violent struggle, when both PD Bacca and PC Davey were slashed.



PC Adam McWalter



PC Lorna Walsh

West Midlands

Student officers tackle men armed with knives

PCs Walsh and McWalter, both student officers with 18 months service, volunteered to change their shifts and work into the early hours to tackle local concerns regarding prostitution and anti-social behaviour.

Both officers were in plain clothes when they noticed a disturbance taking place amongst a group of 20 men. They saw one of the men holding a large kitchen knife with an eight-inch blade to the stomach of another man. The officers got out of the car and shouted "police, put the knife down, put the knife on the floor". In the absence of Taser, PC McWalter had drawn his Pava and PC Walsh had drawn her baton as they shouted for the man to put the knife down. Instead, he started to run towards PC McWalter holding the knife in front of him in a threatening manner, but then threw it over a nearby wall.

PC McWalter ran after him, not knowing whether the man was armed with any other weapons. A second man drew a large kitchen knife from the waistband of his trousers and ran towards PC Walsh whilst wielding the knife in the air. PC Walsh shouted at the man to put the knife down but after running out of reach he began to chase after PC McWalter, shouting "police won't get you brother", which PC Walsh saw as a grave threat to her colleague. She screamed to her colleague to warn him of the secondary threat then ran towards him after hearing that he had activated his emergency button.

PC McWalter managed to keep both offenders within sight, even though the second man turned and ran at him again with a knife. Following the back up shout, fellow colleagues and traffic officers with Tasers attended and red dotted both men. Two knives were recovered, and both men were arrested.



The man shouted, "police won't get you brother", which PC Walsh saw as a grave threat to her colleague.

West Yorkshire

Cops puts herself in path of moving car to protect child

A student officer at the time, this nominee was on her roads policing attachment when a stolen BMW vehicle was spotted in Leeds City Centre.

The officer was in the front passenger seat of a marked police car that had been positioned to stop the stolen vehicle escaping. But the stolen car mounted the kerb in a bid to get away and in the process trapped a 10-year-old boy against a wall outside a shop. The student officer quickly got out of the police car and launched herself across the bonnet of the stolen BMW to try to rescue the child. The car was still moving as the offender escaped so the quick-thinking PC moved to put herself between the car and the wall, physically protecting the child.

The boy was taken to hospital with suspected leg fractures and the officer stayed with the child's mother, who was understandably distraught.

This officer showed incredible bravery to save the boy's life – this whilst still being a student officer was automatic, without any thought for her own safety.



The quick-thinking PC moved to put herself between the car and the wall, physically protecting the child.



PC Jamie Collings

Wiltshire

Single-crewed officer saves child from violent offender

PC Collings had been sent to a domestic abuse incident. The report indicated that the drunk suspect had assaulted his partner, her vulnerable adult daughter and forcibly removed their two-year-old child from the house. It was also reported that he had returned and whilst carrying the child had punched and smashed a window, putting the child at risk and cutting his own hand. The suspect was a large man with a record of violence and was a serial domestic abuse offender.

The officer arrived at the scene single-crewed and spotted the suspect carrying his toddler in a nearby street. He engaged with the man, who was extremely aggressive and threatening causing a great deal of upset to the child who was screaming and covered in pieces of glass. PC Collings stayed calm and put the child's welfare at the front of his mind. He managed to convince the suspect to hand his child to a neighbour. When the child was safe, despite being on his own, PC Collings challenged the violent suspect and tried to arrest him, but the man started to flick blood over the officer. He then punched him in the cheek, slammed him up against a garage door and kicked him in the ribs.

Back-up was 15 minutes away and during this time PC Collings restrained the suspect, despite the man using all his force to resist arrest. PC Collings was taken to hospital to be assessed fearing the risk of infection from the suspect's blood.

Despite having been a police officer for just over a year, PC Collings showed great bravery and confidence in dealing with a violent and extremely dangerous man on his own whilst keeping a two-year-old child safe.



The man started to flick blood over the officer. He then punched him in the cheek, slammed him up against a garage door and kicked him in the ribs.



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