

Royal Humane Society Annual Report 2011



Recognising bravery



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In 2011, 370
awards were made
to people whose
actions saved
over 200 lives.

THE STANHOPE GOLD MEDAL



PATRON

Her Majesty the Queen

PRESIDENT

Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra
the Hon Lady Ogilvy KG GCVO

VICE-PRESIDENTS

His Grace the Duke of Wellington
KG LVO OBE MC DL (1976)

Mr Peter Bedford (2003)

Rt Hon the Lord Mayor of London
Alderman David Wootton (2011-12)



ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY

Instituted 1774
Reg. Charity No. 231469

50/51 Temple Chambers
3-7 Temple Avenue, London EC4Y OHP
Tel: 020 7936 2942
Email: info@royalhumanesociety.org.uk
www.royalhumanesociety.org.uk

Medal recipients 2011

STANHOPE GOLD MEDAL

Ian Wood
Nominated by Royal Humane Society

POLICE MEDAL

Police Constable Matthew Hammill
Suffolk Constabulary

SILVER MEDAL

Lucy Gale
Ian Wood

BRONZE MEDAL

Adan Abobaker
Gavin Bonner
Michael Haughey
James Pout
Hannah Woolacott

IN MEMORIAM TESTIMONIAL

Police Constable William Barker
Philip Surridge



Ian Wood

Foreword by HRH Princess Alexandra



BUCKINGHAM PALACE,
LONDON SW1A 1AA

The Royal Humane Society continues to recognise people from all walks of life for saving the lives of fellow human beings. This year I have had the pleasure of meeting the families of two men who have died as a consequence of their efforts to save other people. They were awarded the Society's *In Memoriam* Testimonial in recognition of their sacrifice. You will read their stories in the pages of this report as well as accounts of actions of others who have been awarded the Society's medals.

We have seen an increase in the number of young people, trained in first aid, who have carried out Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) when an adult has suffered a heart attack. We cannot underestimate how momentous an event this is for the saved person and the restorer.

I look forward to meeting many more brave public spirited individuals during 2012.



PHOTO: HUGO BURMAND

Recognising the saving of human life since 1774

Once again, it has been a busy year with some outstanding acts of bravery, which have been well reported in the press and television. There has been recognition of life-saving deeds both in the United Kingdom and elsewhere in the world where British people have become involved in catastrophic events. We salute them and hope that their actions will serve to inspire others. A small number of cases is recorded in this report but many lives are saved each day by people who are prepared to act when they see another in distress. Many of these are for resuscitation, the encouragement of which was the original aim of the Society. We believe everyone should have training in Basic Life Support to enable them to maintain an oxygen supply until paramedics can get to the scene. We are, as always, grateful to our

President, Her Royal Highness Princess Alexandra, who presented awards at the Annual General Court, in May, and at Buckingham Palace, in October. She also presided at our meeting to select the Stanhope Gold Medal winner for 2011, Ian Wood. This meeting was also attended by the Canadian High Commissioner and senior representatives from the Australian and New Zealand High Commissions. As the Police are usually present at, or soon after, life-threatening events, our relationship with them is very important. Since 2007, we have attended the Association of Chief Police Officers' (ACPO) conference, where we have been given the opportunity to present our annual Police Medal before an audience of senior officers. This year, Princess Alexandra did us the honour of

attending as our President to present the award to PC Robert Condy-Young of Devon & Cornwall Constabulary. We are very grateful to Simon Ash, Chief Constable of Suffolk Constabulary, who is police advisor to the Committee and who actively encourages ACPO members to support us. Mr Ash is represented at our meetings by Inspector Rob Gurney of Hertfordshire Constabulary, who works very hard on our behalf.

In March, the Society held its fourth biennial lecture at the Royal Geographical Society. The speaker was Rory Stewart OBE MP. He gave a talk entitled "Afghanistan – Rhetoric and Reality" to a capacity audience of some 750 people, of whom 460 remained for a reception. In his relatively short life, he has worked as a Deputy Governor of Maysan Province in post-Saddam Iraq,



Rory Stewart



has walked 6,000 miles across Iran, Nepal, Pakistan, India and Afghanistan and written best-selling books about both. He was elected MP for Penrith and the Borders in 2010. The event was a sell-out and we are most grateful to Mr Stewart for providing us with our most successful event yet, raising

£28,000. I am also grateful to Jennie Peel, who was the Chair of the event committee, and to its members for their hard work and to all those who attended or donated to the event.

I should like to say a word of thanks to our Committee for all they have done throughout the year. Meri Benham retired from the Committee in November after 18 years of very committed service. It is thanks to her that many of our Governors are with us and she has also worked hard on our fundraising events and many of her friends continue to support us.

We are, as ever, very grateful to all who contribute financially towards our running costs. We have again recruited a number of Governors this year and their number now stands at 93. They and other regular donors provide a predictable income for the Society. Our thanks also go to the many people and

organisations who give us support and most particularly to the Master and Wardens of the Worshipful Society of Apothecaries, who permit us to use their hall for our committee meetings, and to the Master and Wardens of the Haberdashers' Company for again allowing us the use of their splendid hall for our Annual General Court.

Richard Titley Chairman
March 2012



Aims of the Society

The Royal Humane Society makes awards for acts of bravery in the saving of human life and for the restoration of life by resuscitation.

Nominees must have done one or more of the following:

- put their own life at risk in saving or attempting to save another person
- made a significant contribution to the saving of a life, even without any risk to themselves
- carried out a successful resuscitation

THE AWARDS

Stanhope Gold Medal (annual award)

Police Medal (annual award)

Silver Medal

Bronze Medal

In Memoriam Testimonial

Testimonial on Vellum

Testimonial on Parchment

Certificate of Commendation

Resuscitation Certificate

Our aim is to recognise brave and selfless people who put others before themselves, despite the risk. By bringing their deeds of bravery to public notice, we believe that a single act of humanity becomes both an example and an inspiration.

Bravery awards are made according to the level of risk taken. A committee of 17 people assesses nominations four times a year: in January, April, July and October.

How to make a nomination

Do you know someone who has put his or her life at risk to save, or attempt to save, another person?

Or someone who has carried out a successful resuscitation?

Anyone can make a nomination to us and we would like to hear from you, whether you work for the emergency services or are a member of the public.

After we have received your nomination, the Committee will decide, at its next quarterly meeting, which level of award should be made.

Nomination forms can be downloaded from our website:
www.royalhumanesociety.org.uk

Click the 'Making a Nomination' button on the home page of the website. Download the nomination form. Having completed it, email it to: secretary@royalhumanesociety.org.uk

Please make sure that you read our guidelines, available on the website, before submitting your nomination.

Or, contact us by email, letter or phone to request a nomination form and guidelines.

Email: info@royalhumanesociety.org.uk

Telephone: 020 7936 2942

Address:
Royal Humane Society
50/51 Temple Chambers
3-7 Temple Avenue
London EC4Y 0HP

Stanhope Gold Medal 2011 – Ian Wood

Nominated by Royal Humane Society

The Stanhope Medal was introduced in 1873 in memory of Chandos Scudamore Scudamore Stanhope (1823-71). The first recipient was Captain Matthew Webb for his attempted rescue of a man who had fallen into the Atlantic Ocean from the rigging of a ship. In 1875, Captain Webb achieved fame as the first person to swim the English Channel.

In 1962, it was decided that the award should be open to all Commonwealth Humane Societies, so nominations from the UK, New Zealand, Australia and Canada are now eligible. Ian Wood, who was granted a Silver Medal by the Royal Humane Society in October 2011, was, also, the Society's successful candidate for the 2011 Stanhope Gold Medal.

IAN WOOD

Ian Wood has been awarded the Stanhope Medal 2011 for his outstanding bravery in saving the life of a man following a series of explosions in the early hours of 5th November 2008 at the HSBC Data Centre Development in Welwyn Garden City.

There was a catastrophic release of the fire suppressant, Argonite, which is a mixture of inert gases that reduce oxygen in the atmosphere when released. Due to valve damage, dozens of cylinders depressurised rapidly, causing them to be propelled around inside the building at very high velocity. Each cylinder is 2 metres long and 20 centimetres across and weighs 140 kilos, so the effect was as torpedoes blasting through internal walls.



Ian Wood was employed as an electrician and was working as a site manager with a team of nine working for him. He was responsible for installing fire alarm systems. He was working in the main computer room when he heard what he described as mechanical banging coming from the Argonite store. There was a brief silence followed by continuous loud banging for 30 seconds or so. He could see a cloud of dust in the corridor close to the store. He instructed workmen in the area to leave the building. He then went to investigate and came across an area of complete devastation. Floor and wall panels were destroyed and visibility was poor, due to dust. He could hear the sound of gas discharging. He pulled his hood over his head to act as a face mask and made his way through the danger area to see if anyone was injured. Eventually, he got a response to his shouts from inside the Argonite store

itself. He was unable to gain access directly and went back to the corridor, where he entered through a hole in the wall blasted in the explosions and found the injured man, who was lying on a steel stanchion and a damaged frame. He was badly injured with lacerations over his head and hands and a scissor lift was digging into his leg. Ian realised the man could not be moved and went to get help. He made his way to a nearby fire exit and alerted others to the trapped man. He then grabbed a first aid kit and returned by the same route through the hole in the wall. Cylinders were still leaking and Ian was concerned they could again be propelled through the air. Using the first aid kit, he took action to stem the flow of blood and held the man's head to prevent spinal injury. He continued to comfort the man until fire and ambulance personnel arrived. Throughout the incident, Ian was hampered by poor visibility, due to

clouds of dust. The cylinders were still discharging and asphyxiation was also a possibility. The injured man was in hospital for 4 months being treated for face wounds, multiple rib fractures, a punctured lung and fractured pelvis,

index finger and wrist joints. Another man was killed in the incident.

Ian Wood's Stanhope Gold Medal and the Society's Silver Medal will be presented to him by Princess Alexandra at the Annual General Court in May 2012.



A cylinder at the site of devastation

Police Medal 2011

At a Committee Meeting on 8 August 2000, having obtained the agreement of the Association of Chief Police Officers, it was resolved that there should be a new Royal Humane Society medal, in silver gilt, given annually 'for the case of greatest gallantry by a Police Officer of the United Kingdom during the year.'. This year marks the presentation of the 12th Police Medal award.

Matthew Hammill was awarded the Royal Humane Society's Testimonial on Vellum by the Committee in July 2011 for his outstanding bravery in saving the life of a man trapped in a burning car on 22nd April 2011. The Committee later assessed his actions as the most courageous by any police officer nominated during the year and awarded him the Police Medal for 2011.

PHOTO:

Matthew was off duty and travelling along the Eastbound carriageway of the A14. He saw an overturned vehicle on fire in the opposite carriageway so he doubled back and stopped in the vicinity. He asked members of the public present if there was anyone in the vehicle and was told the driver had left the scene and the car was empty. Matthew then moved the people present to a safe distance and went to carry out a check on the car, which was difficult due to its position and the roof damage. He then saw a person in the rear passenger side window. This man had not been visible when he first arrived. Matthew then ran over and pulled the man out of the window by his arm. He continued to drag him to a safe distance. The car exploded within a minute of the man being pulled out.

2011 Award recipients

Lucy Gale is a taxi driver from Pontefract in West Yorkshire. On the 27th May 2010, Lucy came across a collision on a level crossing between two motor cars. When she arrived both vehicles were on the up line. An elderly woman driver was lying across the steering wheel and the other driver was frantically trying to get out of his vehicle. The crossing gate was unable to close fully as one car was obstructing it. There was a goods train visible, approaching on the down line. Lucy crossed the down line on foot and removed the woman and took her to a place of safety. She then went back and forced the other driver's damaged door in order to let him out. Having made sure he was safe, she got into his car and, after a struggle with the seat, managed to drive it off the crossing as the train passed, saving the train from probable derailment. The signal

operator in the nearby box had seen the accident and signalled to the driver, who had put the emergency brakes on. The train did not come to a halt, however, until it had passed through the station. There was sufficient momentum for a serious accident to

have been caused had the locomotive been derailed.

Lucy Gale was presented with the Society's Silver Medal by HRH Princess Alexandra at the Annual General Court in May 2011.



2011 Award recipients



Adan Abobaker, a local resident, was in the area of Blackfriars Bridge, over the Thames, at eleven thirty at night on 16th November 2010. It was very cold and dark with visibility limited to 30 metres. The water was high and it is an area known for strong undercurrents. A woman jumped from Blackfriars Bridge into the water. Adan saw what had happened and jumped into the water from the bank, swimming out to the woman. He then kept her head above water until the arrival of a private boat, the crew of which got them both out. RNLI and Metropolitan Police boats arrived soon afterwards to take them to safety. Adan was admitted to St Thomas's Hospital to be treated for hypothermia.

Adan Abobaker was presented with the Royal Humane Society's Bronze Medal by HRH Princess Alexandra at the Annual General Court in May 2011.

Hannah second from right with Charlotte and lifeboat crew courtesy RNLI and Mike Rice



Hannah Woolcott (aged 16) was walking with a friend on Dawlish seafront on 9th October 2010 at dusk. Suddenly, they were swept off their feet and into the sea by an unusually large wave. They did not appreciate the seriousness of their predicament immediately and soon became subject to a strong current dragging them out to sea. The younger girl, Charlotte Wright, an asthma sufferer, hit her head as she fell and was weakening. Hannah, having had some lifesaving training in the past, was better

prepared. However, both then realized the danger they were in and called for help. On hearing their shouts, two members of the public made various efforts to assist the girls. They eventually succeeded in getting a "space hopper" inflated toy out to sea and it landed adjacent to the girls. Hannah, holding onto her exhausted friend, grabbed the toy and held on. Making use of the extra buoyancy, Hannah made another attempt to reach a rescue float that had been thrown towards them and was finally able to wrap the line around her arm. The girls, although held afloat, now had no way out of the sea due to height of the embankment above, which lay between them and their rescuers, and the ferocious nature of the waves which now pounded against it. Soon afterwards the RNLI lifeboat arrived. It was apparent to the crew that Hannah was not only struggling to stay afloat

but was also fighting to keep Charlotte afloat. Charlotte was by now drifting in and out of consciousness and unable to keep herself above water. With considerable difficulty they were able to pull the girls on board. Due to the rough sea it was not possible to land at Dawlish so they went to Exmouth, some 12 minutes away. Charlotte, who was semi-conscious, was monitored and treated with oxygen on the way back.

Hannah Woolcott was awarded the Royal Humane Society's Bronze Medal, which will be presented to her by HRH Princess Alexandra at the Annual General Court in May 2012.

Michael Haughey On 15th August 2010, Michael Haughey, an instructor with the Army Cadet Force, was travelling west from London to Wiltshire on the M3 in a coach

2011 Award recipients



containing over 40 cadets. There were three other instructors on board and Michael was sitting in the nearside front seat. The cadets filled the coach from the rear. Without warning, the coach veered sharply onto the hard shoulder and then back into lane. Michael reached across and tried to rouse the apparently unconscious driver but there was no response. The coach was now travelling down the hard shoulder at about 60 mph and colliding with trees. The windscreen then shattered and caved in towards Michael, who pushed it away sustaining minor cuts to his hands. He then removed his seatbelt, so he could help the driver, and shouted to the cadets to make sure theirs were on. Seeing a tree in front, he braced himself on the floor of the vehicle but, when there was no impact, he got up again to find the coach veering across the motorway. As the coach crossed the

central barrier, flattening it, and into the path of the oncoming traffic, Michael pulled the driver from his seat and took control. He managed to bring the vehicle to a halt on the hard shoulder of the London-bound carriageway, one foot away from a steep, 15ft drop. Having done that, he took control of the situation, detailing other adults to check on the welfare of the cadets whilst he called police and ambulance. He then administered first aid to the driver until the ambulance arrived.

Michael Haughey received the Royal Humane Society's Bronze Medal, from HRH Princess Alexandra, in October 2011, at Buckingham Palace.

Gavin Bonner was running with a friend along the Albert Embankment, behind St Thomas Hospital, on 16th March 2011 at half past seven in the evening. As they ran, they heard a splash and

realized a man had jumped into the water. Gavin grabbed a life ring and threw it to the man whilst his companion called 999. The man made no attempt to grab the life ring and Gavin followed him as the tide swept him upstream. Gavin realized the man was making no effort, or could not swim, so he kicked off his running shoes and jumped into the water. He grabbed the life ring he had previously thrown and made his way to the man. He held the man above water for five minutes until a fire rescue vessel arrived on the scene. He then assisted the fire crew in getting the man on board before he was himself rescued by Tower lifeboat. It was dark and the flood tide was running at 2 – 4 knots. There were numerous boats moored on barges and other obstructions in the area. The water temperature was about 10 deg C and Gavin had to be treated for hypothermia. He also had a cracked rib.



2011 Award recipients

Gavin Bonner has been awarded the Society's Bronze Medal, which will be presented to him by HRH Princess Alexandra at the Annual General Court in May 2012.

James Pout was on the platform at Notting Hill Gate tube station on the 5th June 2010 when he saw a heavily intoxicated man, near the platform edge, jumping up and down and apparently trying to draw attention to himself. Seconds later, the man jumped down onto the tracks and lay down between them, apparently pretending to be electrocuted. James saw the lights of an oncoming train, to which the man appeared oblivious. He jumped onto the track and picked up the man, pushed him onto the platform and then followed himself. The train stopped 20 metres beyond the men. When the driver saw them, he thought

he was going to hit the two men. CCTV later confirmed a very near miss.

James Pout has been awarded the Society's Bronze Medal, which will be presented by HRH Princess Alexandra at the Annual General Court in May 2012.



Police Constable William Barker During 19th to 20th November 2009, Cumbria was subjected to unprecedented levels of rainfall, causing extensive flooding and burst river banks. At 0512 hrs reports were received that Northside Bridge had begun to collapse. People were already travelling to work and reports suggested that people were still crossing the bridge apparently unaware of the danger. The total span of the bridge was 67 metres. Police patrols, including Police Constable William Barker, were sent to the bridge to prevent people crossing. Three members of the public, who had seen the condition of the bridge, stopped traffic from proceeding and assisted in getting vehicles off the bridge. Police arrived and received a call suggesting a vehicle may already have fallen into the water. Police, with the three members of the public, controlled the traffic,



keeping the bridge clear. In response to reports that a vehicle had gone into the water, Police Constable Barker and another officer went onto the now very unstable and badly damaged bridge, as this was the only way of ascertaining the veracity of the report. The camber of the bridge meant that they could not see into the water until they got close to the lip of the damage. Once there, they could confirm the centre of the bridge had gone and the gas and electricity conduits were severed. Having ascertained there were no casualties in the water, they started to return to the road. The section of bridge that PC Barker was on collapsed as he returned and he was swept away. His body was found on a beach eight miles away, some six hours later.

Police Constable William Barker was awarded the Royal Humane Society's In Memoriam Testimonial, which was presented to his widow, Mrs Hazel Barker, and his children Daniel, Emma, Melissa and Simon, at Buckingham Palace, in October 2011, by HRH Princess Alexandra.

Philip Surridge had been in the area of Brightwell Lakes, Northamptonshire on 21st December 2009 with a friend, Paul Litchfield, and his dog. From the circumstances surrounding the incident, it was assumed that Philip had entered the water in an attempt to save his friend, who had gone into the lake to rescue his dog. Hearing cries from the lake, a man had found Philip Surridge in difficulties about 25 to 30 metres from the bank. The man and the Fire Service made considerable efforts to get to him. Unfortunately, Mr Surridge, who had been in the water for

approximately 40 minutes, submerged one last time and did not resurface. The bodies of Mr Litchfield and Mr Surridge were recovered on 22nd and 30th December.

Philip Surridge was awarded the Royal Humane Society's In Memoriam Testimonial, which was presented to his mother and stepfather, Beryl and John Hindlaugh, by HRH Princess Alexandra at the Annual General Court in May 2011.



Historical notes

- 1774** Dr William Hawes (1736-1808) and Dr Thomas Cogan (1736-1818) found the “Humane Society for the recovery of persons apparently drowned”.
- 1783** King George III becomes Patron and in 1787 permits the Humane Society to style itself “Royal”.
- 1794** Old farmhouse in Hyde Park is used as a Receiving House for the “apparently dead”.
- 1806** Alexander I, Tsar of all the Russias, is awarded a Gold Medal for saving the life of a peasant.
- 1828** Isambard Kingdom Brunel is awarded a Silver Medal for his part in rescuing five men during the building of the Thames Tunnel.
- 1835** A new Receiving House is built in Hyde Park. The first Duke of Wellington lays the foundation stone.
- 1837** The Bronze Medal is introduced.
- 1838** Grace Darling and her father, William, received specially minted Gold Medals for rescuing the survivors of a shipwreck off the Farne Islands.
- 1873** The Stanhope Gold Medal is introduced. The first recipient (1874) was Captain Matthew Webb for the attempted rescue of a sailor from the Atlantic Ocean.
- 1954** The Hyde Park Receiving House, which had suffered wartime damage, is demolished.
- 1959** The Society is incorporated by Royal Charter.
- 1974** 200th anniversary of the founding of the Society is marked by a Thanksgiving Service at St Paul’s Cathedral. HRH Princess Alexandra becomes President. Reception held at Haberdashers’ Hall attended by Her Majesty The Queen.
- 2000** The first Police Medal is awarded to PC Wayne Martin (Bedfordshire).
- 2008** The Society’s archives are sent to the London Metropolitan Archive for safekeeping and proper cataloguing.
- 2011** In October, the number of cases reviewed since the Society began reached 86,198.

Committee and Officers

Trustees of the Royal Humane Society during 2011

CHAIRMAN & TREASURER

Mr Richard Titley

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN

Mr John Grandy

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Mrs Meri Benham (to 16 November 2011)

Lieutenant Colonel Gordon Birdwood

Mr Richard Corfield

Colonel Giles Crisp

Mr Mark Dumas

Mrs Didy Grahame OBE MVO

Mr Rupert Novis

Mrs Jennie Peel

Mrs Lynda Rose MBE

Sir Nigel Southward KCVO

Mr Julian Spicer OBE

The Lady Louisa Spicer

Mr George Staple CB QC

Mr Rupert Uloth

Mr Tom Walduck

POLICE ADVISER

Chief Constable Simon Ash,
Suffolk Constabulary

Represented by Inspector
Robert Gurney, Hertfordshire Constabulary

SECRETARY

Mr Dick Wilkinson TD

AWARDS ADMINISTRATOR

Mrs Mary Nayler

Out of the Archives

The Victoria Cross and Royal Humane Society Medals

The Royal Warrant instituting the Victoria Cross was issued in January 1856 and, on 26 June 1857, Lieutenant Charles Davis Lucas was the first to receive the award, which was presented to him by Queen Victoria at the first investiture of the Victoria Cross, together with 61 other gazetted recipients. Prior to the institution of the Victoria Cross, there was no gallantry medal awarded by the state. However, Lieutenant Lucas had already received a Royal Humane Society silver medal, for the same deed, shortly after it happened, in 1854.

Extract of a despatch from Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Napier to the Secretary of the Admiralty, dated on board the Duke of Wellington, off Cronstadt, 28th June 1854:

“Their Lordships will observe in Captain Hall’s letter the great courage of Mr Charles D Lucas, acting mate on board HMS Hecla, in taking up a live shell and throwing it overboard, and I trust their Lordships will mark their sense of it by promoting him.”

Extract of a Despatch from Captain W H Hall, commanding HMS Hecla, referred to by Sir Charles Napier: “With regard to Mr Lucas, I have pleasure to report a remarkable instance of coolness and presence of mind in action, he having taken up and thrown overboard a live shell, thrown on board the Hecla by the enemy, whilst the fuse was burning”

This action was brought to the notice of a General Court of the Society, held on the 12th July 1854:

Charles D Lucas



“Moved by Sir Walter Stirling Bt., seconded by John Pepys Esq and resolved unanimously, That the Society’s Honorary silver medallion be hereby awarded to Lieut. Chas. D. Lucas, RN for his gallant, prompt and intrepid conduct displayed on the 21st ultimo, in having taken up and thrown overboard a live shell which had been fired into HMS Hecla during the attack on Bomarsund in the Baltic Sea, and was on the point of exploding, as by this cool and

courageous act, in all probability a great saving of human life was effected.” In fact the shell exploded before it hit the water and two men were slightly wounded.

There are two other known cases where a VC and an RHS medal were awarded for the same deed:

Major Charles Crauford Fraser in the 7th Hussars (The Queen’s Own) received the VC and RHS medal (silver-gilt). The VC citation reads: “For conspicuous and cool gallantry, on the 31st December, 1858, in having volunteered, at great personal risk, and under a sharp fire of musketry, to swim to the rescue of Captain Stisted, and some men of the 7th Hussars, who were in imminent danger of being drowned in the River Raptée, while in pursuit of the rebels. Major Fraser succeeded in this gallant service, although at the time partially disabled,

not having recovered from a severe wound received while leading a Squadron in a charge against some fanatics, in the Action of Nawabgunge, on the 13th June, 1858.”

Campbell Mellis Douglas (Assistant Surgeon in the 2nd Bn., 24th Regiment - later The South Wales Borderers), who won a ‘lifesaving’ VC & RHS silver for the Andaman Islands Expedition of 1867. Between 1858 and 1881 the VC could be awarded for bravery in circumstances of extreme danger. Douglas was one of a crew of five who risked their lives in manning a boat and proceeding through dangerous surf to rescue some of their comrades. They had been sent to the island of Little Andaman in the Bay of Bengal to find out the fate of the commander and seven of the crew who had landed from the ship Assam Valley and were feared murdered by the cannibalistic islanders.

The following received VC and RHS medals for unrelated incidents:-

Surgeon General William George Nicholas Manley, VC (1864), RHS Bronze Medal (1865).

General Sir Reginald Clare Hart, VC (1879); RHS Silver Medal (1869) and clasp 1884

John Sullivan, VC (1855) RHS Silver Medal (1858) (See RHS report 2008)

Captain Sartorius Euston Henry, VC (1879) RHS Bronze Medal (1869)

Commander Alfred Carpenter, VC (1918) RHS Bronze Medal (1913)

My thanks to **Dr Craig Barclay**, Curator of Durham University Museums, for additional information.

Past Officers of the Society

PATRONS

H M King George III	1783-1820
H M King George IV	1820-1830
H M King William IV	1830-1837
H M Queen Adelaide	1830-1849
H M Queen Victoria	1837-1901
H M King Edward VII	1901-1910
H M King George V	1910-1936
H M King Edward VIII	1936
H M King George VI	1937-1952
H M Queen Elizabeth II	1952

VICE-PATRONS

H R H Edward, Duke of Kent	1810-1817
H R H William, Duke of Clarence (William IV)	1829-1830
H R H Adolphus, Duke of Cambridge	1832-1850
H R H George, Duke of Cambridge	1852-1902
H R H George, Duke of York	1892-1898
H R H Arthur, Duke of Connaught	1904-1940

PRESIDENTS

Alderman Frederick Bull Lord Mayor of London	1774
Alderman Frederick Bull	1775-1782
The Earl of Stanford & Warrington	1783-1819

The Duke of Northumberland	1820-1847
The Duke of Norfolk	1848-1855
The Duke of Wellington	1856-1858
The Duke of Argyll	1859-1897
H R H The Duke of York (George V)	1898-1900
H R H The Prince of Wales (George V)	1901-1909
No President	1910-1918
H R H The Prince of Wales (Edward VIII)	1919-1935
H R H The Duke of York (George VI)	1936
H R H The Duke of Gloucester	1937-1974
H R H Princess Alexandra	1974

VICE-PRESIDENTS

The Duke of Wellington	1976-
Mrs R T Hawes	1983-2006
Dame Mary Donaldson	1985-2002
The Hon E L Baillieu	1995-2005
Mr Peter Bedford	2003-

CHAIRMEN & TREASURERS

Dr James Horsfall FRS	1774-1780
Dr John Coakley Lettsom	1781-1795
Dr William Hawes	1796-1808
Dr John Coakley Lettsom	1809-1815

Past Officers of the Society

Charles Barclay MP	1816-1825
Mr Benjamin Hawes	1826-1860
Mr Thomas Baker	1861-1868
Mr William Hawes	1869-1884
General Sir Lothian Nicholson KCB	1885-1889
Captain R B Hawes	1890-1895
Colonel Horace Montagu	1896-1909
Admiral Sir Digby Morant KCB	1910-1920
Mr A Travers Hawes	1921-1924
General Sir William Adair KCB	1924-1926
Admiral C J Eyres DSO	1927-1935
Admiral Sir Michael Hodges KCB CMG MVO	1936-1944
Admiral Sir Percy Noble GBE KCB CVO	1945-1946
Colonel The Rt Hon Sir Leslie Orme Wilson	
PC GCSI GCMG GCIE DSO	1947-1950
Rear Admiral Sir Piers Kekewich CB	1951-1965
Mr R T Hawes CBE TD	1966-1977
The Hon E L Baillieu	1977-1990
Mr P W Bedford	1991-2002
Mr Julian Spicer OBE	2002-2009
Mr Richard Titley	2009

SECRETARIES

Mr John Bewley Rich	1774
Mr M M Robinson	1776
Dr William Hawes	1778
Dr John Beaumont MD	1796
Mr T J Pettigrew FLS	1814
Mr J Barber	1820
Dr John Martin MD	1821
Mr John Frost FRS FSA FLS	1825
Mr Berkley Westropp	1830
Mr Joseph Charlier	1845
Mr Lambton Young	1859
Captain I W Home	1897
Major F A C Claughton	1897
Commander J N Benbow OBE RN	1934
(Mr A Axson 1941-44)	
Colonel G W M Grover OBE RM	1948
Lieutenant Colonel R W C-Charlton MBE DL	1962
Mr J M Leadbitter OBE	1974
Major A J Dickinson	1977
Major General C Tyler CB	1995
Major General David Pennefather CB OBE	2004
Lieutenant Colonel Adrian Gilbert MBE	2007
Colonel Dick Wilkinson TD	2007

Annual General Court 2010



PHOTO:

The 237th Annual General Court was held at Haberdashers' Hall, London EC1, on Wednesday, 17th May 2011. Mr Richard Titley, Chairman and Honorary Treasurer, was in the Chair.

The guest speaker was Alan Titchmarsh MBE DL, a Governor of the Society and High Sheriff of the Isle of Wight 2008 to 2009, who gave a very interesting and inspiring speech.

Mr Richard Titley and Mr John Grandy were re-elected as Chairman and Deputy Chairman and Mrs Meri Benham, Colonel Giles Crisp, Mrs Jennie Peel, Lady Louisa Spicer and Mr Tom Walduck were re-elected as Trustees of the Society.

Messrs Ridley, Marreco and Co were re-appointed as the Society's Auditors.

Our guest speaker

HRH Princess Alexandra presented awards to the following:

STANHOPE GOLD MEDAL 2009
Frank Skelhorn

SILVER MEDAL
Lucy Gale

BRONZE MEDALS
Adan Abobaker
Andrew Smith

IN MEMORIAM TESTIMONIAL
Philip SurrIDGE
*Presented to his mother and
stepfather, Beryl and John Hindlaugh*

Donors 2011

We are most grateful to the following individuals, companies, charitable trusts and police forces for their generous donations and support:

INDIVIDUALS, COMPANIES AND TRUSTS

The Worshipful Society of Apothecaries
The Worshipful Company of Armourers and Brasiers
Association of Anaesthetists
A V & S Cohen Charitable Trust
Colchester Medical Society
Mr J Dehn (Legacy)
Four Graphics Ltd
The Haberdashers' Company
The Hon Mrs Sarah Lopes
Minories Holdings Limited
Orders and Medals Research Society
Shropshire County Council
Sinclair Charitable Trust
J A Swire Charities
The Rev K H Wayne (In Memoriam)
White Oak Charitable Trust
Mr R B Woods CBE

POLICE FORCES

British Transport Police
Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Central Scotland Police
Cleveland Police
Devon & Cornwall Constabulary
Dyfed Powys Police
Fife Constabulary
Gloucestershire Constabulary
Grampian Police
Hampshire Constabulary
Hertfordshire Constabulary
Humberside Police
Lancashire Constabulary
Norfolk Constabulary
Northamptonshire Police
Northumbria Police
South Wales Police
Staffordshire Police
Strathclyde Police
Suffolk Constabulary
Sussex Police
Tayside Police
West Mercia Constabulary
West Yorkshire Police

Governors

We should like to thank the following for their generous donations:

LIFE GOVERNORS

Lord Ashcroft KCMG
Mr T Bunting
Mr & Mrs Richard Burbridge
Mr & Mrs Michael Campbell
Mr Richard Corfield
Mr Richard Dick
The Hon Gilbert Greenall CBE
Mr & the Hon Mrs A E G Heber-Percy
Mr Robert Hiscox
Mr Patrick Hungerford
Mr Nigel Hurst-Brown
Mr and Mrs D E Laing
Mr and Mrs I M Laing
Mr Peregrine Massey
Mr Richard Oldfield
Mr & Mrs Charles Peel
Mr & Mrs Richard Titley
Mr & Mrs T Walduck
Sir Samuel Whitbread KCVO JP
Mr Tony Worth

GOVERNORS

Sir Jeremy Bagge Bt DL
Mr Craig Barclay
Mr & Mrs David Barnett

Mr G R Barratt
Mr R Beaumont
Mr P W Bedford
Mr & Mrs K P Benham
Mr R Berghuys
Dr Robert Bethel
Mr Andrew Bignold
Lt Col Gordon Birdwood
Captain J Boddington KStJ
Mr & Mrs M J Brooke
Sir Andrew Buchanan Bt
Captain W W F Chatterton Dickson RN
Mr S W Clarke
Mrs Marilyn Clegg
Lord Crathorne
Colonel J R G Crisp
His Honour Judge H M Daniel
Mr M D Drury CBE
Mr & Mrs Mark Dumas
Mr & Mrs John Eagle
Mr G L Eccleshall
Mr G E Garland
Captain B N Gibbs DL
Mrs Didy Grahame OBE MVO
Mr John Grandy
Mr & Mrs Peter Helmore
Mr E P Horne BEM
Mr & Mrs Gareth Lewis
Maj Gen Patrick MacLellan CB CVO MBE
Kathy Milligan OAM JP

David Milligan OAM JP
Dame Elizabeth Neville DBE QPM
Duke of Northumberland DL
Mr Rupert Novis
Maj Gen D Pennefather CB OBE
Lord Petre
Mrs Lynda Rose MBE
Mrs Clare Russell JP
Mr R S Sandhu MBE DL
Mr N Sealy
Mr T Shah
Mr William Shelford
Sir Nigel Southward KCVO
Mr J Spicer OBE
The Lady Louisa Spicer
Mr G Staple CB QC
Mr D M Steen
Mr J M A Tamplin, MBE TD
Mrs Susan Thornely DL
Mr Alan Titchmarsh MBE DL
Dame Janet Trotter DBE
Mr Rupert Uloth
Dr E O Walwyn-Jones
The Rev K H Wayne (*deceased*)
Duke of Wellington KG LVO
OBE MC DL
Mr Richard Wilkin LVO MBE
Dr Roger Willoughby
Mr B A Wiseman
Dr R B Woodd-Walker

How to become a Governor

The Royal Humane Society is run by a Committee, who are the Trustees of the charity. Becoming a Governor of the Society provides an opportunity for those who are supporters of the Society to become a little more involved.

Governors are invited to the Annual General Court, where they will meet Committee Members and fellow Governors as well as some of the Society's award recipients whose awards are being presented. Governors' names are printed in the Annual Report, of which they will be sent a copy, in recognition of their interest. Governors also receive priority invitations to our biennial fundraising event.

Our Royal Charter, granted in 1959, stipulated a subscription of one guinea a year to become a Governor or ten guineas for a Life Governor. Unfortunately we now have to charge a little more, as follows:-

Life Governor	£1,000
Joint Life Governors (for a couple)	£1,500
Governor (per annum)	£80
Joint Governor (per annum)	£120

You may pay by cheque but please consider paying by Standing Order. There is a form for this on page 31.

If you'd like to become a Governor please complete the Standing Order and the Gift Aid Declaration section of the form on page 31 and 32.

Financial overview

Incoming resources for the year amounted to £108,443. Last year incoming resources amounted to £102,174. Adjusting for income from the fundraising event in 2011 & the substantial legacies in 2010 compared with those for 2011 incoming resources increased by £2,011 for the year under review. Expenditure was £101,970 (compared with £83,028). Adjusting for the event costs of £13,710, there was an increase of £5,232 in expenditure during the year. This is mainly due to the apparent increase in the charge for rent & rates over the previous year: in fact the 2010 charge was over £3,000 lower as a result of previously disputed items proving not to be payable. The market value of our investments increased by £23,559 during the year.

SUMMARY OF INCOME	2011 £	2011 %	2010 £	2010 %
Investment income	30,275	28	29,709	29
Donations	32,582	30	31,059	30
Legacies received	3,845	3	41,155	40
Bank and other interest	26	0	38	0
Income from events	41,568	38	–	0
Other sundry income	147	0	213	0
Totals	108,443	100	102,174	100

This was due to a continued recovery in the financial markets and effective decision making by trustees. The general fund, which is unrestricted, increased by £31,945 over the year.

Included in this figure is an unrealised profit on revaluation of investment assets at the year end.

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURE	2011 £	2011 %	2010 £	2010 %
Awards and presentations	3,609	4	2,233	3
Cost of staging events	13,710	13	–	0
Rent and rates	10,776	10	7,336	9
Salaries	58,571	58	55,708	67
Management and administration	10,441	10	13,715	17
Investment management	4,047	4	2,978	4
Public relations and media	816	1	1,058	1
Total	101,970	100	83,028	100

Net incoming (outgoing) resources	6,473	(19,146)
Realised and unrealised (loss)/gain on investments	25,472	(56,377)
Increase (decrease) in funds	31,945	(75,523)

Independent Examiner

Ridley Marreco & Co. Ltd.
Dove House
Mill Lane
Barford St Michael OX15 0RH

Bankers

Drummonds at the
Royal Bank of Scotland
London SW1P 3LR

Solicitors

Wedlake Saint
Crown House
47/49 High Street
Redbourne
Herts. AL3 7LW

Investment Managers

Ingenious Asset Management Ltd
15 Golden Square
London W1F 9JG

2011 in figures

In 2011, 368 awards were made to people whose brave deeds saved a total of more than 200 lives:

Silver Medals	2
Bronze Medals	5
In Memoriam Testimonials	2
Testimonials on Vellum	32
Testimonials on Parchment	85
Certificates of Commendation	99
Resuscitation Certificates	143

The awards were made as follows:

Members of the public	199
Police officers	169

We also gave two annual awards:

Stanhope Gold Medal	1
Police Medal	1

Ways of donating to the Society

Please support us, by making a donation, in our work of honouring brave people who put the lives of others before their own.

CHEQUE

A cheque should be made out to "Royal Humane Society".

BANK STANDING ORDER

If you would like to commit to regular payments, a Standing Order form is on page 31. This should be returned to the Society.

GIFT AID

Under the Gift Aid Scheme, we can claim back tax at the standard rate. This means that every pound you donate is actually worth £1.25 to us. Just complete the Gift Aid form and return it to us.

CHARITY AID FOUNDATION

As a registered charity we can accept CAF vouchers as long as they are a donation and not a payment for goods or services.

LEGACIES

All gifts and bequests to the Society by Will are exempt from Inheritance Tax and gifts of assets (shares, works of art etc) are not liable to Capital Gains Tax.

DONATION IN MEMORY OF A LOVED ONE

Supporters frequently ask family and friends for donations to charity, in place of flowers or other gifts, at a funeral. If you wish, your funeral director will be happy to collect the donations on your behalf and forward them to us.

BECOME A GOVERNOR

If you do decide to become a regular donor you may like to become a Governor. Please see page 27, where you will find information about Governors' privileges.

Standing Order

To: The Manager

Bank _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Please pay the sum of £ _____

each month quarter year

To the Royal Humane Society,
Drummonds at Royal Bank of Scotland,
49 Charing Cross, London SW1A 2DX

Sort Code 160038

Account 10321074

From my Account No.

Sort Code

- -

Starting on ____ / ____ /20 ____

My Name _____

My Address _____

Postcode _____

Signed _____ Date _____

Gift Aid Declaration

When you have chosen in which way you would like to support us, please complete the relevant section and return to us with your payment if appropriate

I am a UK taxpayer and would like the Royal Humane Society to treat all donations in the six years prior to today's date and in future as Gift Aid donations. If I cease to be a taxpayer, or the amount of tax I pay falls below the amount reclaimed by the Society, I will inform you accordingly.

Title _____

Forename(s) _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Signed _____ **Date** _____

The illustration is of a button worn on the uniform of the Society's staff. There were safety officers working in Hyde Park from approximately 1825 until 1954.

The emblem of the Society shows a cherub blowing a torch in an attempt to re-kindle it. The Latin inscription reads 'Lateat scintillula forsan', meaning 'Perhaps a tiny spark lies therein'.



PHOTO: JAN STARNES, COURTESY OF DIX NOONAN WEBB



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