

alive but were further endangered by fire which had broken out in the basement.

Leader Franks (H.R.S.) immediately started to form a tunnel in the debris and in spite of the fire and the water being played on it, had succeeded in making contact with the trapped women. The tunnel was by now ten feet long and Rescue Man Sheryer had entered behind Leader Franks removing the debris as it was being passed to him by Franks.

Unfortunately the water started a collapse of the debris which, together with the fire, made further rescue attempts impossible and Rescueman Sheryer had to get out of the tunnel, Leader Franks being pulled out by his feet. He was sent back to his station for a complete change of clothing having been soaked through by water but returned to finish his spell of duty.

(Sgd.) E.W. Hurden

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Copy of Statement by J.H. Wooster

I would like to bring to your notice the conduct of the undermentioned men, who made a very difficult and dangerous attempt to rescue two women trapped at No. 77 Shardeloes Road. The house was on fire and although the N.F.S. were continually playing water on the burning debris Leader J. Franks of Station "P" 61 continued to tunnel into it and was being soaked by water all the time. He was assisted throughout by A. Sheryer, working under terrible conditions in smoke and heat. I consider that these men are worthy of some recognition of their fine attempt to save lives at grave risk to their own lives and health.

(Sgd.) J.H. Wooster

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