

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

VICTORIA

Mr Graeme Francis JACKMAN, 50 Gloucester Street, Grovedale Vic 3216

Mr Jackman is a Foundation Member of the Torquay State Emergency Service (SES). Prior to this he served with the Grovedale and Torquay Fire Brigades. During his distinguished and exceptional service over 30 years with the SES, Mr Jackman has led the local service as Controller for three extended periods and has served as Deputy Controller and Team Leader. His exceptional knowledge in the area of Road Crash Rescue has benefited many. Apart from personally saving a number of lives of crash victims, Mr Jackman has been such an effective trainer of other SES volunteers that the benefits to road accident victims has been multiplied. He has also performed roles as a mentor, counsellor and confidant. There is nothing that Mr Jackman cannot do; no matter where he is in the local district, he will drop everything to attend a callout, whether it be a road crash, storm damage, cliff rescue, flood or any other scenario that involves the SES. Mr Jackman was instrumental in securing new local headquarters in 1992, in building a rescue vehicle and in fundraising for a new rescue truck, and is currently involved in negotiations for new headquarters in a new location within Torquay. Mr Jackman has been recognised within the SES on a number of occasions. He is the recipient of the "Director's Award for Outstanding Support and Dedication" and was awarded a Group Bravery Citation for his significant part in the rescue of a teenager from a potentially fatal rockfall at Jan Juc in 2002. The operation was highly dangerous to rescuers but was successfully executed, thanks mainly to Mr Jackman's cool and calming presence and his advanced knowledge of procedures.

QUEENSLAND

Mr Rhys William FRASER, 4 Barton Street, Toowoomba Qld 4350

Mr Fraser has provided outstanding service to the Queensland community in relation to disaster management since joining the State Emergency Service (SES) volunteer in 1977. He accepted the position of Local Controller of the Rockhampton Unit in 1985, a position he held until taking a permanent appointment in 1996 as Area Manager with the (then) Bureau of Emergency Services. In 2004 he was appointed as South West Regional Director, Emergency Management Queensland. Mr Fraser has always been at the forefront in relation to disaster management issues and initiatives. His corporate knowledge and operational expertise have proven invaluable in many occasions, thus ensuring greater efficiency in assisting communities. He has also worked diligently to ensure mitigation strategies and practices have become common practice throughout his region. His management style has ensured that staff have been developed and mentored to ensure they reach their capacity to fulfil their roles professionally and to reach their potential. The professionalism and trust that Mr Fraser has developed with numerous colleagues have allowed him to implement disaster management initiatives and programs in a seamless and productive manner. Mr Fraser has developed close, long-lasting relationships with senior officers, community leaders, volunteers and many members of the public. He has always undertaken his responsibilities with the community's interest as the focus. Mr Fraser has been involved in many projects and achieved significant results through his commitment and dedication to the disaster management genre.

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Mr Horace Vickers HUNT, 97 Alcock Road, Elimbah Qld 4516

Mr Hunt joined the Volunteer Marine Rescue (VMR) at Bribie Island in 1998 and, in the ensuing years, has given his voluntary service and expertise to the Squadron and the VMR in a wide range of roles. He currently serves as a Vessel Commander at Bribie Island. He was instrumental, in his earlier years, in the development and implementation of training requirements and programs and served as the Unit Training Coordinator. Mr Hunt also volunteered his service on numerous sub-committees investigating and formalising project requirements for the expansion and betterment of the Squadron. Throughout, Mr Hunt has been genuinely dedicated in all areas of VMR operations, including participating in search and rescue, administration and management, and the development and delivery of training programs. Mr Hunt has worked his way through the VMR system of training to become a senior skipper of rescue vessels, and provides training to new members. More recently as the State Training Coordinator he has been instrumental in the writing, presentation and introduction of the new training syllabus for VMRACQ. He has also served on several management committees including numerous executive positions.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Mr Rodney Alan PATERSON, 27 Pateman Place, South Yunderup WA 6208

Mr Paterson has served the community of Western Australia with distinction over many years as both a volunteer and staff member of the Fire and Emergency Services Authority (FESA) State Emergency Service (SES). He is the embodiment of the FESA SES professional. After serving 4 years with the Bush Fire Service, Mr Paterson joined the SES in 1984. He was instrumental in establishing the Canning/South Perth SES Unit where he served as Training Manager, Deputy Local Manager and Local Manager. On operations, whether they are cyclone, flood or search, Mr Paterson's quiet and confident demeanour and the manner in which he goes about the job have always instilled confidence in those most affected. He has been inspirational to his colleagues, both to permanent and volunteer members as well as to the broader community. Mr Paterson has held a number of positions within volunteer units and the FESA organisation and has never avoided the responsibilities involved. In particular, he has continuously assisted with the development of training material for Western Australia as well as for national training manuals. Prior to his accepting a contract with the SES in 1992, he was considered the State authority in air search and went on to co-write The National Training Package. His training courses are always of a high standard and you can always be assured that only those who are competent will get through. His loyalty and commitment to his volunteer units have been outstanding. He is held in high regard for his willingness to listen to members' issues, resolve their problems and support them in times of trouble. Mr Paterson has not only organised numerous courses for volunteers and staff but also undergone extensive personal training and development. Throughout his career, both as a volunteer and staff officer, he has continually enhanced and maintained his own high level of skill and trade knowledge.

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SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Mr Donald John SKINNER, South Terrace, Haslam SA 5680

Mr Skinner joined the Ceduna State Emergency Service (SES) in 1977. Over the years he has forsaken his plumbing business responsibilities many times to attend SES taskings throughout the Far West Coast, some taskings lasting several days. He has been the Controller of Ceduna and Streaky Bay SES Units for various periods of time. He has also served as Training and Rescue Officer within the Ceduna and Streaky Bay Units, and has used his expertise in the past in the design of SES Rescue Trailers. He was also involved in the training of a group of aboriginal men from Yalata in basic rescue techniques in 2000 at Fowlers Bay in 2000. Mr Skinner has been described as “the backbone of training for the West Coast”. He has also been involved in almost every Vertical Rescue tasking on the Far West Coast over the past 20 years, and was heavily involved in leading the SES/National Parks clean-up of the Koonalda Cave to return the cave to its pristine condition. Mr Skinner has also been a qualified SCUBA diver and has assisted National Parks in the location and recording of historic shipwrecks in the area. He has also established a marine radio base at his house, listening for distress calls, and was recently involved in obtaining information on an injured seaman on a fishing vessel for medical authorities. He also possesses a private boat equipped and ready to respond for marine rescue should the need arise. Mr Skinner’s service to his community has been selfless and outstanding.

Mrs Joan STANTON, Para Hills SA 5096

Mrs Stanton has been an operational member of the South Australian Sea Rescue Squadron for over 28 years and has performed operational duties as Skipper, Crew Member and Radio Operator, and attended numerous emergency callouts, often in adverse weather conditions and at considerable personal risk. During her time as a member, Mrs Stanton has also served in a variety of positions on the Executive Committee, including as Secretary for 13 years, and is currently in her third term as Commodore; ie, the presiding officer of the organisation. Under her guidance, the Squadron has undergone significant expansion and significantly improvements in the standard of rescue vessels and facilities, including the upgrading of the Squadron’s headquarters at West Beach, and the operation of a 365 days per year marine radio emergency monitoring service, on which Mrs Stanton continues to perform rostered duty. In 1997 Mrs Stanton was awarded Life Membership of the Squadron and in 1998 named the Boating Industry of SA "Boatperson of the Year". She is also a longstanding delegate of the Volunteer Marine Rescue Council of South Australia and has made a significant contribution to the continued development of Volunteer Marine Rescue activities throughout South Australia. Mrs Stanton’s commitment to her community has been selfless and outstanding.