

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)**

### ***Queensland***

#### **Mr Reginald James MARSHALL, 53 Kimmax Street, Sunnybank Qld 4109**

Mr Marshall has served the State Emergency Service (SES) in Queensland and his local community with distinction over many years. He joined the SES in 1980 and has subsequently served in a number of executive appointments including Group Leader, Metro Group and Group Leader Operations within the Brisbane City SES Unit. Mr Marshall has many years experience in both training and operations and has regularly provided assistance at major events held in Brisbane. He has also conducted many operations for the Unit. Mr Marshall also supports community events such as ANZAC Day activities, the Bridge to Brisbane Fun Run, 'Riverfire' and during New Year's Eve celebrations, working with the Queensland Police Service and other emergency services and agencies in the Major Incident Room. Mr Marshall has been widely recognised for his outstanding service to the SES and to the Brisbane community and was awarded the Centenary Medal in 2001, the International Year of the Volunteer Medal and the Lord Mayor's Award for Outstanding Service.

#### **Mr Thomas William (Tom) SHORT, 4 Parnell Street, Ormiston Qld 4160**

Mr Short has been a member of the State Emergency Service (SES) in Queensland for over 20 years. In that time, he has served with distinction as Training Officer, Group Leader, Deputy Local Controller and Local Controller. In addition to these leadership roles, Mr Short has a passion for training. For many years he has assisted with training at Area and Regional levels and is well known for his training delivery in Flood Boat and Air Observation. Under his outstanding leadership, the Redland SES Unit has expanded its membership, developed its operational capacity and enhanced its assets. Mr Short has always supported disaster response in other areas and has been a member of Task Forces to NSW floods, damage/flooding caused by Cyclone Larry, the Innisfail floods and violent storms in the Brisbane region. Mr Short has also served as a State Rescue Competition Judge and acted on numerous occasions as a Team Coach and Manager.

#### **Mr Peter TAYLOR, 21 Covington Street, Chinchilla Qld 4413**

Mr Taylor has been an active member of the State Emergency Service (SES) for over 30 years and has served his community diligently and tirelessly. Despite recent serious ill health, he is always the first to raise his hand to assist wherever needed. He has been the Local Controller of the Chinchilla SES Unit since 1992 and, under his leadership, the Unit is a well equipped, well trained and operationally ready group of dedicated individuals. Mr Taylor is always part of the team when deployed and is a dedicated operator. It would be extremely difficult to find someone who has diligently given so much to assist others. He has served the SES and the Queensland community, particularly in the Chinchilla district, with distinction.

## EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

### ***Western Australia***

#### **Mr Alfred George BAIRSTOW, Albany WA 6330**

Mr Bairstow has served the emergency services and the community of Western Australia with distinction for over 35 years. He was a driving force in the establishment of the Albany Sea Rescue Squad (ASRS) in 1975 and, since then, he and his son have performed maritime search and rescue operations off the coast of south west Australia. In the early years the Albany State Emergency Service (SES) and the ASRS were combined and Mr Bairstow and his son split their time between SES and marine duties and incidents. Nevertheless, they averaged approximately 15 rescues a year, with most rescues being carried out using two steel workboats *Kundalee* and *Kallaroo*. These boats were often taken on the 17 nautical miles' trip to the notorious 'The Gap' area in the Great Southern Ocean to perform rescues, searches or retrieve bodies, often in treacherous conditions. Mr Bairstow remains a dedicated member of the team; he is a consummate professional highly skilled at his craft. He has evolved through the ASRS as a skipper, trainer and mentor, and is a major asset to Volunteer Marine Rescue as a whole.

#### **Mr Colin James BAIRSTOW**

Mr Bairstow has served the emergency services and the community of Western Australia with distinction for over 35 years. He began his involvement with the Albany Sea Rescue Squad (ASRS) when only 14 years of age when his father played a leading role in establishing the Squad. Since then, he and his father have performed maritime search and rescue operations off the coast of south west Australia. In the early years the Albany State Emergency Service (SES) and the ASRS were combined and Mr Bairstow and his father split their time between SES and marine duties and incidents. Nevertheless, they averaged approximately 15 rescues a year, with most rescues being carried out using two steel workboats *Kundalee* and *Kallaroo*. These boats were often taken on the 17 nautical miles' trip to the notorious 'The Gap' area in the Great Southern Ocean to perform rescues, searches or retrieve bodies, often in treacherous conditions. In his current position as Engineer and Senior Skipper, Mr Bairstow is a consummate professional highly skilled at his craft. He has developed into an outstanding skipper, trainer and mentor, and is a major asset to Volunteer Marine Rescue as a whole.

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)**

### **Mr Gary John GIFFORD, WA**

Mr Gifford has been an influential member of the emergency services in Western Australia for over 10 years with the Fire and Emergency Services Authority (FESA). A former police officer, he was initially appointed in the FESA as a regional Director in the Pilbara Kimberley for the WA State Emergency Service (SES). He had many successes in the role particularly in modernising and improving the response capability in vulnerable communities. He worked extremely hard to improve relationships amongst all services, and oversaw and led many emergency responses. More recently he has been employed in a senior operational role as an Assistant Chief Operations Officer, being responsible for natural hazard planning for operations, and has been instrumental in improving the FESA's preparedness and response capabilities. Mr Gifford has provided outstanding leadership in the development of Operational Doctrine related to the SES functions of the FESA ensuring that the one-service all-hazard philosophy has been adopted. He has also been influential in developing the support of key SES volunteers in this regard and has used opportunities such as leadership forums and SES conferences to develop this strategy. Mr Gifford has served the FESA and the community of Western Australia with distinction.

### ***South Australia***

### **Mr Robert William PYCROFT, Lipson SA 5607**

Mr Pycroft has served the State Emergency Service (SES) in South Australia and his local community with distinction over many years. In 1978 he was a member of the steering committee formed to create the Port Lincoln SES Unit, and he subsequently served as the Unit's Foundation Deputy Controller and Rescue and Training Officer. He was instrumental in training personnel of most of the units that were formed on the Eyre Peninsula over the following years, especially in the disciplines of light and heavy rescue and vertical rescue. He also used his previous Army Reserve experience in dealing with aspects involving members' welfare. Mr Pycroft continued in these capacities until assuming the position of Unit Controller. On relinquishing this position after some years he remained as an ordinary member of the Unit until moving to Lipson, some 50kms away. He then transferred to the Tumby Bay Unit where he acted as Training Officer until becoming the Unit Manager in 2009. He has recently been involved in other local community activities, including the Tumby Bay Area School and fundraising for the Royal Flying Doctor Service of Australia, and as a volunteer driver for the Australian Red Cross and Meal on Wheels.