

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise men who attempted to rescue a colleague following an explosion in a mine at Nymboida, New South Wales on 12 January 1976.

Mr Ian Gordon CARTER
Mr Neil William McLENNAN
Mr Trevor John McLENNAN
Mr John James TAPP, deceased

At approximately 3:00pm on 12 January 1976, an explosion occurred at the Nymboida colliery, located about 40 kilometres west of Grafton. The explosion occurred about 370 metres along the tunnel when gas and coal dust ignited as the men were preparing to blast the coal face in readiness for digging the following day. Four badly injured miners managed to stagger themselves to near the mine entrance where they were met and assisted by their colleagues. Conscious that one miner had not emerged and, aware that a rescue team was hours away, several miners entered the burning mine to rescue their colleague, and found the young man deceased at the seam coalface. Two other miners also entered the mine and helped to carry the body outside.

For their actions, the recipients are recognised by the award of the Group Bravery Citation.

Mr Ian Gordon CARTER
3 Charles Street
BLACKALLS PARK NSW 2283

Mr Neil William McLENNAN
16 Struit Crescent
METFORD NSW 2323

Mr Trevor John McLENNAN
20 Hilldale Drive
BOLWARRA HEIGHTS NSW 2320

Mr John James TAPP, deceased
Late of New South Wales

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise of four members of the Queensland Police Service who rescued a woman from the Storey Bridge in Fortitude Valley, Queensland on 5 November 2010.

Senior Constable Lee James GADD
Constable Andrew James HAWKINS
Senior Constable Paul Keith QUIN
Constable Adam Gary STAFFORD

On the night of 5 November 2010, police responded to a call about a female intending to jump off the Storey Bridge near Fortitude Valley. When police arrived at the scene, the woman had climbed onto the bridge superstructure, and was about eighty metres above ground level. Another woman was also on the girder holding on to the disturbed woman. As the disturbed woman inserted herself through the cross bracing of steel beams one of the police officers climbed onto the structure and grabbed her under the arms. She then dropped, forcing him to take hold of her full weight. He managed to maintain his grip on the woman as she yelled at him saying she wanted to die. Two of his colleagues quickly climbed onto the structure and removed the other woman on the girder to safety. The officers then assisted their colleague in holding the disturbed woman as she continued to struggle for approximately twenty minutes. When the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service arrived, they secured a harness and line onto the woman and brought her to safety.

For their actions, the recipients are recognised by the award of the Group Bravery Citation.

Senior Constable Lee James GADD Senior Constable Paul Keith QUIN
Constable Andrew James HAWKINS Constable Adam Gary STAFFORD

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise of young men who attempted to rescue a man from the Murrumbidgee River in Tuggeranong, ACT on 3 March 1974.

The Reverend William Nairn MORRIS

On the afternoon of 3 March 1974, a Ghanaian man was swimming in the Murrumbidgee River at Pine Island, Tuggeranong. After seeing the man go under and not resurface, three young men entered the murky water and dived down to about three metres to locate the man. After hearing onlookers' calls for help, another man also entered the water, and after a few dives located the man at the bottom of the river. He grabbed hold of the lifeless body and swam him to the surface. He was then assisted by others to pull him back to the riverbank. Sadly, despite CPR, the man was unable to be revived.

For their actions, the recipients are recognised by the award of the Group Bravery Citation.

The Reverend William Nairn MORRIS

PO Box 374

ALBION PARK NSW 2527

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise members of the Fingal Rovers Surf Life Saving Club who rescued several people from rough seas at the Tweed River Bar, Tweed Heads, New South Wales on 3 January 2004.

Mr Peter James BAIRD
Mr Byron Willard DOUGLAS
Mr Douglas John FORSYTH

On 3 January 2004, a charter dive vessel with twelve people attempted to negotiate the bar at Point Danger, Tweed Heads. In treacherous conditions and driving rain, the motor cut out and a wave swamped the vessel, throwing those on board into the water and out to sea. At the time, visibility was poor and the swell was two to three metres breaking the full width of the bar. One lifeguard paddled a rescue board to reach the vessel, getting several victims to hang onto the board and others to hold a rope. Two other lifeguards launched an inflatable boat to rescue others. Another pair of lifeguards launched a second boat however they were hindered from reaching the victims due to the debris from the swamped vessel however they managed to provide rescue tubes to those in the water. Both rescue boats operated in very dangerous sea conditions.

For their actions, the recipients are recognised by the award of the Group Bravery Citation.

Mr Peter James BAIRD
2 Chappell Place,
Pottsville Beach NSW 2489

Mr Byron Willard DOUGLAS
2/98 Musgrave Street
KIRRA QLD 4225

Mr Douglas John FORSYTH
195 Byangum Road
MURWILLUMBAH NSW 2484

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise members of the Queensland Police Service who rescued three people from a submerged vehicle trapped in floodwaters at Taroom, Queensland on 16 February 2010.

**Sergeant Arthur William BRENNAN APM
Senior Constable Sebastian Robinson POLLOCK**

In the early evening of 16 February 2010, Senior Constable Pollock and Sergeant Brennan responded to a call that a vehicle was trapped in floodwaters at Brock Creek near Taroom. Two women and a child were sitting on the roof of a Nissan Patrol which was almost submerged and beginning to move. One of the officers used ropes to set the line and anchor points and tied his colleague to the line. Holding the line the officer then entered the water and swam to the vehicle. He secured the child and waded back to shore with her, then rescued the women using the same method.

For their actions, the recipients are recognised by the award of the Group Bravery Citation.

Sergeant Arthur William BRENNAN APM

Senior Constable Sebastian Robinson POLLOCK

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise members of the public who went to the rescue of two girls who were trapped inside a burning house at Kelso, New South Wales on 22 July 2010.

Mr Robert CALLAGHAN
Mr Michael Stephen WYLLIE

On 22 July 2010, as several family members were asleep, a fire began in the lounge room at a house located at Greville Place, Kelso. A fifteen-year-old girl grabbed her one-year-old sister and immediately woke several family members before they escaped from the house through different bedroom windows. When the family of nine gathered outside, they realised two young family members remained inside the burning house. Neighbours, as well as two others working in the area, also ran to the scene and called 000. Unable to enter through the front, the group began to smash holes in the walls and bedroom windows. One of them then used a hose to attack the flames as they moved around the house. After smashing a wall below another window and pulling the insulation out, one man was lifted up into a bedroom. He yelled for the children and felt around the room through the thick smoke. He saw a girl wrapped in a blanket and pulled her outside, where a woman quickly commenced CPR and took the unconscious girl away. The group then managed to retrieve the other girl, who was also unconscious, from the bedroom before she was given CPR.

For their actions, the recipients are recognised by the award of the Group Bravery Citation.

Mr Robert CALLAGHAN
KELSO NSW 2795

Mr Michael Stephen WYLLIE
WINDSOR NSW 2756

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise of men who who rescued two miners following an explosion in a mine at Beaconsfield, Tasmania on 25 April 2006.

(added to the Group Bravery Citation awarded and gazetted on 22 August 2011)

Mr Robert SEARS

The members of mining teams were involved in the rescue of two men trapped in a mine at Beaconsfield, Tasmania in April/May 2006.

On the night of 25 April 2006, a substantial rock fall incident occurred underground at the Beaconsfield Gold Mine where seventeen miners were working. Three of the miners were unaccounted for and, several days later, the body of one of the missing miners was recovered. Within 24 hours, rescuers were able to make contact with the two remaining men who were trapped almost a kilometre below the surface. The first rescue attempt through a direct route to the men was declared unsafe. Drilling a smaller hole through 14.5 metres of rock and lining it with a PVC pipe, the rescuers were able to provide the trapped men with water, food and communications equipment. Drilling of a rescue tunnel began on the night of Thursday 4 May. Substantial work was completed on the Saturday morning, enabling rescue teams to painstakingly drill, bore and blast their way to the men. In the early hours of 9 May, the trapped miners were reached through rock below them which was broken through by rescuers. The men were driven up the spiral shaft to a waiting medical team. At 5:58am, both miners walked out of the lift cage unaided.

For their actions, the recipients are recognised by the award of the Group Bravery Citation.

Mr Robert SEARS
41 Beaufort Street
SOMERSET TAS 7322