

STAR OF COURAGE

Mr Robert Beresford NELSON  
20 Greville Street,  
CLOVELLY NSW 2031

On 3 May 1979 Mr Nelson, an employee of the Public Transport Commission of New South Wales witnessed an armed robbery in the pay office of the Randwick Bus Depot. Mr Nelson told another employee, who immobilized the robbers' car with a bus. When the robbers rushed from the pay office Mr Nelson pursued them on his motor bike, despite shots being fired in his direction. When the robbers attempted to steal another vehicle the other employee tackled the offenders and Mr Nelson knocked one to the ground with his motor bike. Mr Nelson then assisted the other employee to overpower the robbers, despite another shot being fired and despite being severely hit about the back of the head.

Mr Nelson displayed conspicuous courage and placed himself in great danger in thwarting a robbery by two armed and dangerous men.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Sergeant Third Class Brian Peter CARSON  
New South Wales Police Force

On 5 November 1979, at Faulconbridge, New South Wales, Sergeant Carson attended an accident in which a car had come to rest on a railway line. Ambulance officers in attendance had placed a stretcher containing one of the injured persons on an adjoining line. On seeing a train approaching on this line Sergeant Carson rushed in front of the train and, unaided, lifted the injured person from the stretcher to safety as the train went by.

Sergeant Carson displayed considerable bravery in rescuing the injured person from the path of a fast moving train.

Chief Inspector Stanley Russell DAWSON  
South Australian Police Force

Late in the evening of 16 March 1980 a mentally deranged man, who had been drinking, was threatening to ignite his home at Murray Bridge, South Australia, after dowsing it with 8 gallons of petrol. Upon reaching the scene, Chief Inspector Dawson approached the man, who was sitting on a mat outside the front door of the house, and, notwithstanding his threats to ignite the petrol, engaged him in conversation for some 20 minutes thus distracting his attention so that his family could move away from the area. The man, however, became agitated and threw a lighted match on to a petrol impregnated carpet and Chief Inspector Dawson, notwithstanding the risk of an explosion, rushed inside the house, extinguished the match, and overpowered the man.

By his actions Chief Inspector Dawson displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Able Seaman Anthony John McLEOD

H.M.A.S. Albatross  
R.A.N. Air Station  
NOMRA N.S.W. 2540

On the night of 21 August 1979 Able Seaman McLeod was walking past a dangerous cliff at Watson's Bay, New South Wales, known as 'The Gap', when he saw an obviously distressed young man at the cliff edge threatening to jump. Able Seaman McLeod was able to calm the man but when police arrived the man moved forward and slipped near the edge. Able Seaman McLeod rushed forward and, despite the danger of falling, pulled the man to safety.

Able Seaman McLeod displayed considerable bravery in rescuing the man from the dangerous cliff edge.

Mr Daryl John STREETS  
West Ridge Road  
PENGUIN TAS 7316

On 8 November 1979 at Burnie, Tasmania, a young woman who had been undergoing psychiatric treatment in hospital, climbed to the top of the narrow jib of a large crane, at the Burnie wharf, and was threatening to jump to the ground some 25 metres below. Mr Streets, a Burnie Fire Brigade Officer, was raised on a platform to within 3 metres of the girl. He then climbed to the top of the jib and, although in danger of himself falling if the woman attempted to jump, after gaining the young woman's confidence, assisted her down the crane to the raised platform which lowered her to safety. Mr Streets displayed considerable bravery in effecting a rescue in such hazardous circumstances.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Detective Senior Constable Robert Leslie ANDERSON  
New South Wales Police Force

On 7 August 1979, a heavily armed bank robber occupied a vacant top floor home unit at Bondi, New South Wales, and refused to surrender to police saying that he would detonate a large quantity of dynamite. When attempts failed to have the man surrender, a team of four police, including Detective Senior Constable Anderson, entered the premises. During a fierce struggle with him, one of the police was shot. The robber was later shot and killed by another police officer.

By his efforts as a member of the police team, Detective Senior Constable Anderson displayed commendable courage.

Mr Michael Joseph BELL  
70 Herbert Street  
TUMUT NSW 2720

On 24 September 1977 at Yass, New South Wales, an argument developed in a hotel bar, following which a man left the premises but returned shortly afterwards armed with a rifle and a sword. He fired the rifle at the man with whom he had been arguing, wounding him. Mr Bell immediately tackled the offender and wrested the rifle from him. Although he was then hit with the sword, Mr Bell continued to tackle the offender until the man was overpowered by police and other civilians.

By his actions Mr Bell displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Detective Sergeant Third Class William George Frederick BULL  
New South Wales Police Force

On 7 August 1979, a heavily armed bank robber occupied a vacant top floor home unit at Bondi, New South Wales, and refused to surrender to police saying that he would detonate a large quantity of dynamite. When attempts failed to have the man surrender, a team of four police, including Detective Sergeant Bull, entered the premises. During a fierce struggle with him, Detective Sergeant Bull was shot and wounded. The robber was later shot and killed by another police officer.

By his efforts as a member of the police team, Detective Sergeant Bull displayed commendable courage.

Mr John Ronald FAULL  
Viola Avenue  
MT DANDENONG VIC. 3767

On 2 June 1979, at Vermont, Victoria, Mr Faull was a passenger in a motor car which arrived at the scene of an accident in which one of the vehicles involved had burst into flames, trapping a young woman inside. As the driver's door was locked Mr Faull broke the car window and, despite the intense heat, released the seat belt and pulled the unconscious woman from the car.

Mr Faull displayed commendable courage in freeing the woman from the burning vehicle.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Gregory Shane FISHER  
3 Hernay Crescent  
PORT LINCOLN S.A. 5606

On 24 November 1979, Mr Fisher and two friends were fishing from the edge of a cliff at Sleaford Bay, near Port Lincoln, South Australia, when one of his companions slipped and injured himself in falling about thirty-five feet on to a small sloping ledge at the water's edge. Following an unsuccessful attempt to pull his companion to the top of the cliff by rope, Mr Fisher, together with a police constable, an ambulance officer and another fisherman, climbed down to the base of the cliff. Mr Fisher and the others assisted the ambulance officer to carry the injured person around the point of the cliff to safety despite the risk of being washed into the sea through the slope of the ledge and heavy seas.

By his actions Mr Fisher displayed commendable courage.

Detective Sergeant Third Class Graham William FRAZER  
New South Wales Police Force

On 7 August 1979, a heavily armed bank robber occupied a vacant top floor unit at Bondi, New South Wales, and refused to surrender to police saying that he would detonate a large quantity of dynamite. When attempts failed to have the man surrender, a team of four police, including Detective Sergeant Frazer, entered the premises. During a fierce struggle with him, one of the police was shot. The robber was later shot and killed by another police officer.

By his efforts as a member of the police team,  
Detective Sergeant Frazer displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Ian Robin HUSDELL  
35 Union Street  
LARGS BAY S.A. 5016

On 20 March 1980, at Remarkable Rocks, Kangaroo Island, South Australia, Mr Husdell, a teacher with a group of high school students visiting the area, slipped from the rocks into the sea whilst attempting to rescue a youth who had earlier fallen into the water. For about 2 hours Mr Husdell supported the young man in the water until a heavy surge wave separated the two. The youth was drowned, and Mr Husdell was swept ashore and became wedged in a crevice in the rocks. As a result of his rescue attempt Mr Husdell suffered immersion and was badly bruised.

By his attempted rescue Mr Husdell displayed commendable courage.

Mr Ivan Charles MANSKEY  
17 Passat Street  
PORT LINCOLN S.A. 5606

On 24 November 1979, Mr Manskey, an ambulance officer, was advised that a person had been injured as a result of falling over a cliff at Sleaford Bay, near Port Lincoln, South Australia. At the scene, Mr Manskey and three other persons climbed down to the base of the cliff where the injured person was lying on a small ledge sloping to the edge of the water. Mr Manskey examined the person's injuries and then, assisted by the others, carried him around the point of the cliff to safety despite the risk of being washed into the sea through the slope of the ledge and heavy seas.

By his actions Mr Manskey displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Nicholas OLYNICK  
104 Letitia Street  
NORTH HOBART TAS 7000

On 2 March 1980, Mr Olynick saw an upturned boat in the sea off Blackmans Bay on the South East coast of Tasmania. When he saw people in the water Mr Olynick immediately donned a life jacket and wet suit and, despite the very rough seas and prevailing adverse conditions, made his way by surf board to the capsized vessel. After he had brought one person ashore, Mr Olynick returned to the boat to rescue another person and then, when the vessel had drifted close to the shore, he assisted other persons on shore to bring the remainder of the persons from the boat on to the beach.

By his repeated and sustained efforts Mr Olynick displayed commendable courage.

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Constable Robert John STOWELL  
South Australian Police Force

On 24 November 1979, Constable Stowell was advised that a person had fallen over a cliff at Sleaford Bay, near Port Lincoln, South Australia. At the scene, Constable Stowell, together with an ambulance officer, and two other persons, climbed down to the base of the cliff where the person was lying, injured, on a small sloping ledge. Constable Stowell and the others assisted the ambulance officer to carry the injured person around the point of the cliff to safety, despite the risk of being washed into the sea through the slope of the ledge and heavy seas.

By his actions Constable Stowell displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Albert John TOZER  
9 Hermay Crescent  
PORT LINCOLN S.A. 5606

On 24 November 1979, at about 1.00 p.m., Mr Tozer, arrived at Sleaford Bay, near Port Lincoln, South Australia, to go fishing when he was told that a person had earlier fallen over a cliff and was injured. In company with a police constable, an ambulance officer and a companion of the injured person, Mr Tozer climbed down to the base of the cliff where the person was lying on a small sloping ledge. Mr Tozer and the others assisted the ambulance officer to carry the injured person around the point of the cliff to safety, despite the risk of being washed into the sea through the slope of the ledge and heavy seas.

By his actions Mr Tozer displayed commendable courage.

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Detective Senior Constable James Edward WOODEN  
New South Wales Police Force

On 7 August 1979, a heavily armed bank robber occupied a vacant top floor unit at Bondi, New South Wales, and refused to surrender to police saying that he would detonate a large quantity of dynamite. When attempts failed to have the man surrender, a team of four police including Detective Senior Constable Wooden, entered the premises. During a fierce struggle with him, one of the police was shot. The robber was later shot and killed by another police officer.

By his efforts as a member of the police team,  
Detective Senior Constable Wooden displayed commendable courage.