

STAR OF COURAGE

Mr Colin Wrenville CARTER
(Posthumous award)

Mrs Glenda Joy CARTER
7 Tudewali Crescent,
KARIONG N.S.W. 2251

On 2 December 1979, Mr Carter and a friend were asked to assist in containing a bush fire in the Mt White - Calga area, New South Wales. Together with three others they commenced to cut a fire break. However, a change of wind direction caused the fire to jump the break making it necessary for all to retreat from the area.

Mr Carter commenced to leave in his vehicle when he realised that his friend was missing. Notwithstanding the fact that in leaving in his vehicle he was at no risk and the danger in returning to the fire area, he went to look for, and found, his friend but by this time the fire had completely surrounded them. Although they sheltered under an overhanging rock the intensity of the fire caused both men to receive severe burns to all parts of their bodies. After the fire passed they returned to the vehicle and Mr Carter, despite his severe burns, drove it about four kilometres to obtain help. He later died from his injuries.

Mr Carter displayed conspicuous courage in returning to a very dangerous fire area to locate his friend, thereby losing his life.

STAR OF COURAGE

Mr Jeffrey PARKINSON
(Posthumous award)

Mrs Geraldine PARKINSON
28 Cooreen Road,
PARK RIDGE QLD 4125

Mr Parkinson, and a lady companion, after leaving the Twin Towns Services Club, Tweed Heads, New South Wales, at 1.15 a.m. on Saturday, 2 February 1980, were accosted by a man, armed with a short barrelled rifle, as they were about to drive away in Mr Parkinson's car. The man menaced them and, after entering the rear passenger seat, forced Mr Parkinson to drive to an isolated area.

As the gunman was preparing to tie them up, Mr Parkinson turned from the front seat and grappled with the man. As he did so he called to his companion to leave the car and summon assistance. During the ensuing struggle the gunman shot Mr Parkinson several times and then fled from the scene. He died as a result of his injuries.

Mr Parkinson displayed conspicuous courage. He lost his life in ensuring the safety of his companion.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Senior Constable Ronald James Arthur BANNING
New South Wales Police Force

On 22 December 1979 at about 2.20 a.m.
Constable Banning, together with other police, attended a house fire in Carlton, Sydney. Constable Banning, upon being advised that a person was trapped inside, entered the house a number of times in order to locate the trapped person, but on each occasion was driven back by the heat and intense smoke. Other police using another point of entry later rescued the person.

By his repeated actions in attempting a rescue Senior Constable Banning displayed commendable courage.

Mr Peter Charles BATES
5 Amanda Way,
REYNELLA S.A. 5161

While swimming in the surf at Christies Beach, South Australia, on 31 January 1980 a young boy became caught in a strong undertow and was swept out to sea. The boy's father immediately swam out through the rough sea to assist him but he, too, got into difficulty. Mr Bates, hearing their calls for help, immediately swam to assist them. Despite the strong undertow and the rough sea he eventually got the young boy to shore. As a result the boy's father was able to reach the shore without further aid. But for Mr Bates' action the boy probably, and the father possibly, would have lost their lives.

Mr Bates displayed commendable courage in going to their aid.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Constable Paul Elbert BEUDEKER
New South Wales Police Force

On 22 December 1979, at about 2.20 a.m., Constable Beudeker, together with other police, attended a house fire in Carlton, Sydney. Upon being advised that a person was trapped inside, and that attempts to effect a rescue from within had so far failed, he broke a window and was thus able to locate and support the person near the opening despite the intense heat and smoke. With the assistance of other police the person was lifted to safety but later died.

By his actions Constable Beudeker displayed commendable courage.

Mr William Crawford CHRISTIE
259 Macquarie Street
HOBART TASMANIA 7000

In Hobart, Tasmania, at about 3.15 a.m. on 16 June 1980 Mr Christie returned to his flat, after earlier leaving a friend asleep on the premises, to find that a fire had started. Mr Christie entered the flat a number of times in an attempt to find his friend but was continuously driven back by, and almost overcome by, thick black smoke. In company with another person he again attempted to locate his friend but without success, due to the heat and smoke, and the friend perished.

By his actions in attempting to rescue his friend Mr Christie displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Miss Carole Ann DUNKLEY
37 Lyndhurst Road
SEAFORD S.A. 5169

On 18 July 1980 while surfing at Seaford Beach, South Australia, Miss Dunkley saw an elderly man in difficulty in a strong rip some distance from shore. Miss Dunkley paddled her surfboard to the man, who by this time was completely exhausted, assisted him on to the surfboard and, despite the strong rip, eventually got him to shore after a long struggle.

Miss Dunkley displayed commendable courage in rescuing the man in such circumstances.

First Class Constable Charles Arthur NEWTON
New South Wales Police Force

On 22 December 1979 at about 2.20 a.m. Constable Newton, together with other police, attended a house fire in Carlton, Sydney. Constable Newton, fearing for the safety of any person inside, with another police officer forced entry and although they detected movement inside the house they were driven back by the heat and intense smoke. After a number of unsuccessful attempts at this same point of entry they assisted other police at another point to rescue the person.

By his actions First Class Constable Newton displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Dennis Ralph NOLL
54 Conroy Street
PT AUGUSTA S.A. 5700

On 26 May 1980 while returning from a fishing trip at Smoky Bay, South Australia, Mr Noll and two other persons were thrown into the water when their boat overturned. After a number of attempts to right the boat one of the party decided to swim to shore for help. Mr Noll stayed with the other member, a fourteen year old boy, and supported him while the boat drifted toward the shore. Eventually, after reaching shallow water the boy stopped breathing. Mr Noll attempted to revive him, but failed. He then carried his body to shore and in so doing received severe lacerations to his feet from a bed of razor fish.

Mr Noll displayed commendable courage in attempting to save the life of the boy.

Mr Bryan Arthur PARNHAM
9 Salvador Road
WEST HOBART TASMANIA 7000

In Hobart, Tasmania, at about 3.15 a.m., on 16 June 1980 Mr Parnham, while driving his taxi, was stopped and told that a fire had started in nearby premises. Upon learning that a person was inside attempting to rescue a friend, he immediately entered the building and led the rescuer, who at that stage was in danger of being overcome by the smoke, to safety. He then re-entered the building on a number of occasions and although he located the trapped person he was unable to move him to safety.

By his actions Mr Parnham displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Constable Bruce Ernest STARKEY
New South Wales Police Force

On 22 December 1979 at about 2.20 a.m.
Constable Starkey, together with other police, attended a house fire in Carlton, Sydney. Constable Starkey, fearing for the safety of any person inside, with another police officer forced entry and, although they detected movement inside the house, they were driven back by the heat and intense smoke. After a number of unsuccessful attempts at this same point of entry they assisted other police at another point to rescue the person.

By his actions Constable Starkey displayed commendable courage.

Constable Craig Stephen YOUNG
New South Wales Police Force

On 22 December 1979 at about 2.20 a.m.
Constable Young, together with other police, attended a house fire in Carlton, Sydney. Upon being advised that a person was trapped inside Constable Young entered the house a number of times in order to locate the trapped person but on each occasion was forced back by the heat and intense smoke. Other police using another point of entry later rescued the person.

By his repeated actions in attempting a rescue Constable Young displayed commendable courage.