

STAR OF COURAGE

Major Patrick Alexander CULLINAN,
4/45 Waverley Street,
BONDI JUNCTION N.S.W. 2022

Major Cullinan led an Army Alpine expedition to Pakistan to climb to the summit of Broad Peak, a height of 8047 metres. They reached the summit on 16 August 1986 and Major Cullinan the last member of the team to begin the descent met a German climber who had become irrational from an attack of cerebral oedema. Appreciating that the German would have perished without help Major Cullinan, who was then on his own, decided to bivouac in a small hole between the true and false summit of the peak and wait for the morning before attempting a most hazardous descent from the summit ridge. Wearing a full down suit and equipped with a bivvy bag Major Cullinan was able to protect the German climber from the intense cold over night and was able to light his stove and melt sufficient snow in the early hours of the morning to prevent dehydration. The descent, which included negotiating a long narrow ridge line varying in widths to less than one metre with sheer drops on either side, was successfully completed. By the afternoon of that day the German climber was unable to walk.

By his actions Major Cullinan displayed conspicuous courage in most perilous circumstances.

Constable Rodney Lew EDWARDS
Queensland Police Force

On 10 July 1986 three cars collided at the intersection of Main and Paton Streets, Kangaroo Point. Hearing the sound of the collision and seeing flames coming from one of the cars Constable Edwards, who was at a shop nearby, drove to the scene. The burning car was on its side. A woman, whose body was on fire, was lying on the roadway with her feet caught in the windscreen. With assistance, Constable Edwards put out the fire on the woman and dragged her from the car to the roadside. When told that a child remained in the car he ran back and reaching, through the windscreen, tried unsuccessfully to find the buckle of the seat belt. The child's clothes were burning. He freed its arm from the harness but an explosion in the back of the car and a rush of hot air forced him to turn away. Again he reached through the windscreen and grabbed the child's hands but could not free it. The heat then became so intense that Constable Edwards could no longer get near the car. He attempted to save the child by using a fire extinguisher until the car became engulfed in flames.

By his actions Constable Edwards displayed conspicuous courage in most perilous circumstances.

STAR OF COURAGE

Senior Constable Brian Colin John SUMMERS
Western Australia Police Force

On 31 March 1987 Senior Constable Summers was off duty and driving over the Causeway, Perth, when he heard a loud noise and saw an overturned car burst into flames. He ran back to the car and, after warning bystanders to keep clear in case it exploded, he knelt down and saw the driver hanging from his seat belt, with his right side and legs covered in flames. He leaned through the window and tried unsuccessfully to move the man towards him. Withdrawing to breathe in fresh air he again reached in to the car and pulled the semi-conscious, injured driver out through the window face first. Assisted by bystanders he moved him to safety and returned to the car which was burning fiercely and searched for any remaining passengers.

By his actions Senior Constable Summers displayed conspicuous courage in most perilous circumstances.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Eric Mainman CARROLL,
55 Carlyle Road,
EAST LINDFIELD N.S.W. 2070

On 6 February 1986 Mr Carroll, aged 70 years, went to serve a man who entered his jewellery shop in Centrepont Arcade, Sydney. A second man entered and threatened him with a gun which Mr Carroll tried unsuccessfully to grab. At this time the other offender, who had been removing ring pads from the shop window walked past and Mr Carroll seized him around his waist and locked him in. As the armed offender faced them both Mr Carroll kicked him. He then moved to assist his accomplice who had escaped with a bag of jewellery. A struggle ensued during which Mr Carroll grabbed the gun and continually hit the offender with it until the police arrived.

By his actions Mr Carroll displayed considered bravery.

Aircraftsman Clinton Shane CROOK,
C/- Officers Mess,
RAAF Base,
WAGGA WAGGA NSW 2650

On 11 July 1986 three cars collided at the intersection of Main and Paton Streets, Kangaroo Point. Hearing the sound of the collision Mr Crook ran to the scene and saw a car on its side on fire at the rear. Taking a fire extinguisher from a shop nearby he sprayed it on the car but with little success. Then aware that there was a woman trapped inside he used the extinguisher to smash the front windscreen. With assistance from two other men, he dragged out the woman who was on fire and placed her on the road. Although the fire had spread throughout the car Mr Crook then tried to release a child still trapped in its safety harness. He only moved from the car when advised by a police officer to stand clear while the police officer tried to release the child himself. Shortly after there was a small explosion and the car was totally engulfed in flames. In the attempted rescue Mr Crook received burns to his hands.

By his actions Mr Crook displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Constable Mathew Marcius DONNELLY,
Queensland Police Force

On 22 March 1986 Constable Donnelly and another policeman, both of whom were off duty, drove in an ambulance to Wurruku Street, Mornington Island. There they confronted an intoxicated man armed with a loaded .22 calibre rifle. They ordered him to put the rifle down but he refused and threatened them with it. He continued his threats until another man approached him from a parked truck. At that time Constable Donnelly ran from the ambulance, and took cover behind a grader blade and then began to run to the truck when the offender fired near it. The offender then pointed the rifle at the ambulance and another policeman ordered him to lower it. The offender then fired, but, when he went to reload the rifle, Constable Donnelly rushed at him knocking him to the ground. After a struggle Constable Donnelly, with assistance, overpowered the offender.

By his actions Constable Donnelly displayed considerable bravery.

Ambulance Officer Frederick John DOWERS,
83 Milford Avenue,
PANANIA NSW 2213

On 5 August 1986, at about 9.30 p.m., a milkman became entangled in fallen overhead power lines in Houston Road, Yagoona. His companion went to his assistance but collapsed on top of him. In torrential rain and high winds Ambulance Officer Dowers was one of two members of Bankstown Station who attended. Taking a spine board from the ambulance he attempted with assistance to lever one man away from the other and from the live power lines. This proved difficult until with the use of a plastic headed rake the man was released. The remaining man was lying face-down with wires wrapped around his body. When a loose wire had been secured with a piece of wood Ambulance Officer Dowers, with assistance, used a spine board and a quilt and dragged the patient clear.

By his actions Ambulance Officer Dowers displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Harry William GLENNY,
9 Edithvale Road,
EDITHVALE VIC 3196

On 15 March 1985 a car collided with a school bus, driven by Mr Glenny, at the intersection of Karingal Drive and Cranbourne Road, Frankston. The bus caught fire on the left hand side blocking the door and leaving the rear emergency window as the only exit. There were 22 children on the bus some of whom had fallen on the floor of the aisle. Mr Glenny shepherded them to the back and picked up some of the children and passed them out. The whole of the front of the bus was now on fire and it was full of smoke. When one of the pupils refused to leave the bus without the school budgerigar Mr Glenny returned for it and handed the large cage out. He then assisted in moving the children on to the footpath. Shortly after the bus exploded.

By his actions Mr Glenny displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Garry John HABLER, (Posthumous award)
Late of Unit 1 "Bonhaven",
Werona Street,
Buddina Beach,
CALOUNDRA QLD 4551

NOK:

Mr and Mrs M.J. Habler,
75 Woodstock Street,
MARYBOROUGH QLD 4650

On 3 May 1987 Mr Habler was fishing with his family and friends at Noosa National Park when his wife was swept from the rocks and into the sea by a freak wave. Mr Habler removed some of his clothing and jumped into the water to rescue her. Bystanders who were trying to assist from the shore saw Mr Habler reach his wife and they held on to a fishing line which was thrown out to them, but it snapped. They then disappeared from sight.

By his actions Mr Habler displayed considerable bravery thereby losing his life.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Master Brendon John HANSON,
9 Coral Court,
LALOR VIC 3075

On 16 October 1986 a party of students from Lalor North High School were visiting a rice silo at Moulamein. Brendon Hanson was among the children who were playing in the rice unaware that the augers were operating. When he saw that one of the girls was sinking into the rice he ran down the mound of rice and began to dig. Brendon continued digging until one of the silo doors was opened and he slid outside the silo. Brendon then joined others at the top who were trying to stop the rice from falling into the cone.

By his actions Master Hanson displayed considerable
bravery.

Mr Bruce Kenneth HARTAS,
117 Summerland Circuit,
KAMBAH A.C.T. 2902

On 10 April 1987 a deranged man went on a rampage at St Peter and Paul's Primary School, Garran where he picked up a hammer, menaced students and staff members. Entering a playing field he chased and caught a nine year old boy and struck him on the face with a hammer. After hearing screams for help Mr Hartas ran to the field and called to the offender who advanced on him wielding the hammer above his head. A struggle ensued and Mr Hartas was struck on the right wrist. Others came to help and Mr Hartas assisted in tackling the offender to the ground and restraining him until police arrived.

By his actions Mr Hartas displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Miss Tracey Lee KEMP,
65 Monash Street,
LALOR VIC 3075

On 16 October 1986 a party of students from Lalor North High School were visiting a rice silo at Moulamein. Tracey Kemp was among the children who were playing in the rice unaware that the augers were operating. When she saw that one of the girls had been sucked down into the rice she ran down and helped to push the rice away. Tracey screamed to the teachers for help as the girl was covered over the head with rice. After one of the silo doors was opened she slid down through the rice and outside.

By her actions Miss Kemp displayed considerable bravery.

Constable David John LACEY,
Queensland Police Force

On 11 April 1986 Constable Lacey was a member of a police patrol which intercepted a stolen utility at Kowanyama. The offender leapt out in front of the police car, loaded a 30.30 Winchester rifle and pointed it at Constable Lacey. Ordered out Constable Lacey walked towards the offender attempting to persuade him to hand the rifle over. The offender threatened to shoot him and when another police officer arrived he again refused to put down his rifle but agreed to Constable Lacey's request that he walk with him to the police station. On the way the offender pointed the rifle at Constable Lacey's back and at his head. Having indicated that he would hand the rifle over the offender then refused to do so and walked away with it. A short time later when Constable Lacey, in the police car, again confronted him he stopped and pointed his rifle at him. Constable Lacey then grabbed a rifle from the car, aimed it at the offender and ordered him to drop his. Meanwhile another police officer fired a shot from behind the police car knocking the rifle from the offender's hands and Constable Lacey was able to arrest him.

By his actions Constable Lacey displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Constable Glenn William MILLS,
New South Wales Police Force

On 5 August 1986, at about 9.30 p.m., a milkman became entangled in fallen overhead power lines in Houston Road, Yagoona. His companion went to his assistance but collapsed on top of him. In torrential rain and high winds Constable Mills joined Ambulance Officers who were attempting to rescue the men. A spine board was used to lever one man away from the other and from the live power lines. Then an attempt was made to release the remaining man who was lying with wires wrapped around his body. Constable Mills assisted in freeing him by placing a wooden log on the wires to ensure that the rescuers did not come into contact with them.

By his actions Constable Mills displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Elia RIGALI
255 Mary Street,
WANNEROO W.A. 6065

On 20 February 1987 Mr Rigali went to the aid of his friend who, when inspecting a water leak, had fallen 25 metres down a well at Wanneroo. Looking down he could see him floating on the bottom. He ran to get a rope. Although afraid of heights Mr Rigali descended the ladder which was attached to the side of the well calling words of encouragement to his friend as he went. On reaching him he put a rope around his waist, tied it to one of the steps and pulled on it to try and lift his friend above water level. With his legs and his right arm wedged between the wall and the ladder Mr Rigali hung on to the rope with his left arm. A short time later he lost consciousness himself and was rescued by officers of the Fire Brigade.

By his actions Mr Rigali showed considerable bravery in attempting to save the life of his friend.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Thomas Arthur ROACH,
1 Meadow Close,
BEECROFT N.S.W. 2119

On 30 November 1986, at about 9.15 p.m., Mr Roach was waiting in a line of customers at the Kentucky Fried Chicken Shop, Carlingford. A man wearing a beanie with eye slits pulled down over his face went to the counter and pointed a double barrelled shotgun at the manager. He placed a bag on the counter and demanded that money be placed in it. When Mr Roach said "you have got to be joking" the offender pointed the shot gun at him and said to him "hit the deck". But Mr Roach grabbed at the gun and a struggle ensued. The offender succeeded in pulling the gun away and ran towards the door. Throwing a container of coleslaw at the offender Mr Roach gave chase and outside the shop grabbed hold of him and called for help without avail. The offender escaped but Mr Roach gave the number of the car to police and he and two accomplices were later apprehended.

By his actions Mr Roach displayed considerable bravery.

Master Nicholas Lee SCHULZ, -
17 Kirwan Avenue,
LALOR VIC 3075

On 16 October 1986 a party of students from Lalor North High School were visiting a rice silo at Moulamein. Nicholas Schulz was among the children who were playing in the rice unaware that the augers were operating. When he saw that one of the girls was sinking into the rice he ran down, dived and held on to her hands while others tried to dig her out. Nicholas only let go when the door was opened and he commenced to slide out the door with the rice. He then went up to help stop the rice from falling into the cone.

By his actions Master Schulz displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Master Simon Jason STRUM,
c/- Hotel Cariari,
San Jose,
COSTA RICA

On 27 September 1986 two men entered a house at Dover Heights through a bedroom window. Simon Strum, aged 15, awoke and, picking up an unloaded air rifle from underneath his bed, jumped out and confronted the offenders. A struggle ensued, during which a shot was fired at Simon and he was struck in the mouth with the butt of a gun, but he chased the offenders as they ran from the room and, when one lost his balance, Simon knocked him down with his air rifle. The other offender escaped outside from whence he threatened to shoot Simon if he did not release his accomplice and at the same time hurled a brick at the window shattering it. Simon, ignoring these warnings, stood guard over the offender until his father came to his assistance. In the struggle Simon suffered a number of chipped teeth, bruising to his mouth and body and abrasions.

By his actions Simon Strum displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Russell Christopher SWENDSON,
(Posthumous award)
Late of 21 Lennox Avenue,
GLEN WAVERLEY VIC 3150

NOK:
Mrs C.A. Swendson,
20 Keyes Street,
ASHBURTON VIC 3147

On 22 July 1985 a fire broke out in a house at Glen Waverley. Thick grey smoke was billowing in the hall when Mr Swendson, when awakened, went to the rescue of one of his young sons who had been heard to scream in a rear bedroom. His wife saw him reappear through a side door. She observed a large cut on his left thigh and he told her to ring for the fire brigade and ambulance. He then turned back down the smoke-filled hall towards the bedrooms and was not seen again.

By his actions in attempting to save his son Mr Swendson displayed considerable bravery thereby losing his life.

Ambulance Officer Alan James WALKER,
44 Haig Street,
BEXLEY NSW 2207

On 5 August 1986, at about 9.30 p.m., a milkman became entangled in fallen overhead power lines in Houston Road, Yagoona. His companion went to his assistance but collapsed on top of him. Ambulance Officer Walker was one of two members of Bankstown Station who attended. He assisted in prising the two men apart by placing a spine board under the arm of one of the men. Then an attempt was made to release the remaining man who was lying with wires wrapped around his body. When a loose wire had been secured with a piece of wood Ambulance Officer Walker assisted by passing a quilt over the man's head and shoulders before he was finally dragged clear.

By his actions Ambulance Officer Walker displayed considerable bravery.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Douglas CONWAY,
31 Thorn Street,
IPSWICH QLD 4305

On 10 July 1986 three cars collided at the intersection of Main and Paton Streets, Kangaroo Point. After hearing the sound of a collision and seeing a car on its side with flames coming from the rear Mr Conway ran over to it. The car was then fully alight and a woman in the front seat was on fire. Mr Conway assisted in dragging the woman from the car to the roadside. Having seen a child still strapped into its seat belt he returned and as a policeman attempted to release it he picked up the policeman's cap and with it tried to protect his face from the intense flames. Mr Conway sustained burns to his hands as a result of his actions.

By his actions Mr Conway is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Murray CREED,
"Glengarry",
Wunnanurra Road,
JERILDERIE NSW 2716

On 16 January 1987 four cars collided on the Goulburn Valley Highway eight kilometres south of Nagambie. One car became rapidly engulfed in flames and the driver was trapped inside. Mr Creed, the driver of one of the cars involved in the accident ran to stop oncoming traffic and then went to the burning car. He saw that the driver was on fire within the burning cabin. After five or six attempts he was successful in opening the door and, with assistance, undid the driver's seat belt and carried him to the side of the road.

By his actions Mr Creed is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mrs Joyce Evelyn ELLERY,
6/78 Studley Park Road,
KEW VIC 3101

On 10 April 1987 a deranged man went on a rampage at St Peter and Paul's Primary School, Garran, where he picked up a hammer, menaced students, staff members and damaged property. Mrs Ellery was watching a netball match when the children gave the alarm. She saw the offender chasing a young boy and a man moving towards them. Mrs Ellery walked quickly towards them and when she arrived the offender was swinging the hammer at the man and hitting his arm. A struggle ensued during which another man arrived to assist and Mrs Ellery was able to take the hammer and move away with it. The man was then restrained until police arrived.

By her actions Mrs Ellery is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Uwe ERFURT,
C/- Nurses' Quarters,
Lismore Base Hospital,
LISMORE NSW 2480

On 5 July 1986 Mr Erfurt was on duty at the Lismore Base Hospital when a fire broke out at the Richmond Clinic. Seeing smoke coming from under the door, Mr Erfurt pushed it open and saw the fire in a room which was filled with thick black smoke. He took a blanket, threw it over the flames and crawled along the floor, until he found one of the patients and pulled her towards the door. Re-entering with a torch he saw another woman slumped face downwards on a bed and dragged her to safety.

By his actions Mr Erfurt is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Noel Edward FENNELL,
"Willomurra",
KERSBROOK S.A. 5231

On 12 February 1987 a car collided with a stobie pole near Echunga. Mr Fennell was a passenger in a truck which arrived several minutes after the collision. He heard the driver screaming and struggled to open her door with an iron bar. Driven back by the intense smoke and flames, Mr Fennell tried to beat the fire out. He used an extinguisher on the front passenger door before prising it open sufficiently to put his hand inside the burning car. Mr Fennell attempted to get the passenger out but the fire in the cabin intensified and he was forced away.

By his actions Mr Fennell is commended for brave conduct.

Constable John GROGIN,
New South Wales Police Force

On 6 February 1986 Constable Grogin saw a fight taking place in a jewellery shop at Centrepont Arcade, Sydney. As he ran towards the shop a man ran out and Constable Grogin tackled him. A violent struggle ensued. A bystander came to his assistance and Constable Grogin returned to the shop where another offender was trying to escape from the proprietor who was hitting him with a gun. Taking the gun he pushed the offender back into the shop, forced him to the floor and arrested him.

By his actions Constable Grogin is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr James Neville HALL,
7 Reid Street,
MERRYLANDS N.S.W. 2160

On 6 February 1986 Mr Hall saw a struggle taking place between the proprietor and an offender in a jewellery shop at Centrepont Arcade, Sydney. He ran into the shop as the offender was getting off his knees, and grabbed hold of him and pinned his arms to his sides. Then a struggle began with the offender attempting to escape through the door. Mr Hall pulled him back into the shop and pushed him into a corner. The proprietor hit him over the head with a pistol butt and Mr Hall held on to him until the police arrived.

By his actions Mr Hall is commended for brave conduct.

Private Russell James KIRBY,
6 Pocock Court,
VINCENT QLD 4814

On 10 July 1986 Mr Kirby was involved in a three car collision at the intersection of Main and Paton Streets, Kangaroo Point. As he went to one of the cars which was on its side he heard screams coming from within. Flames were coming out of the windows and the rear was engulfed in flames as he assisted others in pulling a woman then on fire through the front windscreen and placing her on to the road. Mr Kirby used his pullover to beat out the flames on her before they carried her to the roadside.

By his actions Mr Kirby is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Keith Andre MOKRZYCKI,
38 Donaldson Street,
QUEENS PARK W.A. 6107

On 31 March 1987 Mr Mokrzycki was a passenger in a car travelling over the Causeway towards Victoria Park, Perth when a station wagon struck the railing, capsized and burst into flames. He ran back to the overturned car where the driver was hanging upside down with flames around his head. Mr Mokrzycki repeatedly kicked the passenger's side window until it shattered. He leaned through the window into the burning cabin, tried unsuccessfully to pull the driver towards him, but finding this impossible, withdrew to get help.

By his actions Mr Mokrzycki is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Brian Ronald NEILL,
2/5 Adelaide Terrace,
EDWARDSTOWN S.A. 5039

On 18 July 1987 Mr Neill was driving across a bridge at Parkholme when he saw a young boy being swept down the swollen creek. He jumped fully clothed into the cold, turbulent waters, grabbed him and supported him above the water line. Mr Neil travelled with the boy on his back for a distance of two kilometres until they were pulled from the creek exhausted.

By his actions Mr Neill is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Frank Dean ROSS,
38 Zenobia Crescent,
MODBURY S.A. 5092

On 21 March 1987 a man fell 12 metres down a well on a reserve at Paradise. He had been in the well for 45 minutes and was in a weakened condition when Mr Ross and a companion heard his cries for help and went to his assistance. Mr Ross climbed down the well and grabbed the man. He hung on to, supported and encouraged him for almost an hour in the wet, cold and dark conditions. Timber continually fell from the sides of the well as Mr Ross helped to attach a hose, and later, ropes to the man. As he was lifted from above Mr Ross guided him and then climbed out himself.

By his actions Mr Ross is commended for brave conduct.

Prison Officer Peter James SIMS,
12 Waterhouse Crescent,
DRIVER N.T. 5787

On 18 July 1986 a fire broke out in a cell at Darwin Prison. When the alarm was raised by prisoners Prison Officer Sims went to the cell, and, when the door was opened, flames, thick black smoke and fumes emerged into the yard. The smoke thinned a little and he saw the prisoner alight at the rear of the cell. Prison Officer Sims walked through the flames and, beating the burning clothing from the prisoner's shoulders and upper arms, propelled him to the door. In spite of Prison Officer Sims' attempt the prisoner died some days later of third degree burns.

By his actions Prison Officer Sims is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Cesar Oscar SOLIS,
5 Couch Street,
SUNSHINE VIC 3020

On 16 January 1987 four cars collided on the Goulburn Valley Highway eight kilometres south of Nagambie. One car became rapidly engulfed in flames and the driver was trapped inside. Mr Solis, a passenger in one of the cars involved in the accident, ran to assist. As a bystander opened the door, the driver, with his clothes on fire, fell on to the road beside the car and Mr Solis tried to beat out the fire with his shoe. He helped to carry him to the side of the road and then went to another car in an attempt to assist those there still trapped inside.

By his actions Mr Solis is commended for brave conduct.

Miss Jacqueline Faye STANYER,
Block 86B,
ROBINVALE VIC 3549

On 25 November 1986 a fire broke out in a house at Robinvale. Miss Stanyer, who was staying nearby, ran into the backyard and, picking up a garden hose, carried it inside through the thick black smoke. She saw a man seated in the middle of the kitchen. He was on fire and surrounded by burning papers and debris. Miss Stanyer turned the hose on him, went over and tried to move him but as she did so the flesh fell from his leg. Leaving him in the chair she dragged him to the kitchen door but could not get the chair through the door because the man wore a calliper on his leg. She kept hosing him down until two other men came to her assistance.

By her actions Miss Stanyer is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Phillip Gordon STONE,
3 Maling Place,
GILMORE ACT 2905

On 10 April 1987 a deranged man went on a rampage at St Peter and Pauls Primary School, Garran where he picked up a hammer, menaced students, staff members and damaged property. Mr Stone, a bus driver, was waiting for the children to leave school when some little girls gave the alarm. He ran up a bank towards the netball courts and saw two men, one of whom was swinging a hammer in the direction of the other. Mr Stone ran to assist, and approaching the offender from behind, he seized him around the neck and shoulders and grabbed the hammer from him. They fell to the ground but with assistance Mr Stone was able to restrain the man until police arrived.

By his actions Mr Stone is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Mark William THOMPSON,
C/- State Works Department,
MT ISA QLD 4825

On 22 March 1986 Mr Thompson was driving with some companions when they saw an offender pointing a rifle at two policemen who were behind a truck. He approached the offender from behind and, when he was twenty five metres from him, the offender turned and pointed the gun at them. Mr Thompson reasoned with the offender who lowered the rifle, but as Mr Thompson returned to the truck the offender fired and the bullet ricocheted and struck his right knee. Although injured Mr Thompson went to assist when the offender was knocked to the ground and recovered the rifle.

By his actions Mr Thompson is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Murray William TURNER,
8 Jasmine Close,
TOUKLEY NSW 2263

On 2 April 1987 Mr Turner was fishing with a companion at Snapper Point. On seeing a large wave coming they turned to run but his companion fell, hit his head on the rocks and was washed out to sea. Mr Turner threw a life buoy into the water and then swam out fifty metres to reach him. He placed the buoy over his companion's head and felt for his pulse without success. Mr Turner remained in the water for forty minutes until two surf board riders came to his assistance. Later he and his dead companion were lifted from the sea by helicopter.

By his actions Mr Turner is commended for brave conduct.

Master Nathaniel VUKIC,
13 Grace Avenue,
FRENCHS FOREST NSW 2086

On 9 June 1986 Nathaniel Vukic, aged ten, and a girl companion were playing on a mini bike in bushland at Belrose. The girl was sitting on the bike when an offender grabbed her by the hair and after she screamed went to strike her. Nathaniel who was sitting on the rear of the bike kicked the offender in the groin causing him to fall to the ground in pain. The children then escaped on the bike.

By his actions Nathaniel Vukic is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Robert George WATERS,
5 Kaesler Road,
HAHNDORF S.A. 5245

On 12 February 1987 a car collided with a stobie pole near Echunga. Driving over a hill Mr Waters saw the damaged car. Stopping, he attempted to stamp out a small grass fire nearby. He then tried to open the car doors with a jemmy and, after some minutes, with assistance, was able to lift the woman driver out and carry her to safety. A passenger was still trapped in the car and smoke was coming from underneath the dashboard. Mr Waters returned to use a fire extinguisher on the flames which had become quite fierce inside the cabin. He persevered until the extinguisher was empty and the fire took control of the car.

By his actions Mr Waters is commended for brave conduct.

Miss Sharon Anne WATKINS,
Lot 1A,
Pillars Road,
BANGHOLME VIC 3175

On 15 March 1985 a car collided with a school bus at the intersection of Karingal Drive and Cranbourne Road, Frankston. The bus caught fire on the left hand side blocking the door and leaving the rear emergency window as the only exit. Miss Watkins, the bus supervisor, calling the children to join her, went to the window and tried unsuccessfully to kick it out with her feet. She tried again and as the window fell out she jumped and took one of the children with her. She then pulled the children from the bus and assisted in moving them to the footpath before it exploded.

By her actions Miss Watkins is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Constable Paul Alexander ZOHN,
Queensland Police Force

On 22 March 1986 Constable Zohn and another policeman, both of whom were off duty, drove in an ambulance to Wurruku Street, Mornington Island. There they confronted an intoxicated man armed with a loaded .22 calibre rifle. They ordered him to put the rifle down but he refused and threatened them with it. After he fired in the direction of bystanders who had come forward to reason with him Constable Zohn again talked to him but he reloaded the rifle and fired at the Constable. When the offender was knocked to the ground by the other policeman Constable Zohn then ran forward to assist in overpowering him.

By his actions Constable Zohn is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Paul ZOONTJENS,
1104 North East Road,
ST AGNES S.A. 5097

In December 1986 Mr Zoontjens was surfing with a boogy board at Waimea Bay, Hawaii, when a succession of large waves 10-15 feet high came in. Paddling to the shore to escape them, he saw a boy being pulled out to sea in a strong rip and calling for help. Mr Zoontjens paddled back towards him and placed him on his board. They were 1 kilometre off shore and after paddling unsuccessfully for some time Mr Zoontjens was becoming exhausted. He kept encouraging the boy and after twenty minutes, the life savers reached them and they were able to paddle back to the shore through waves, then 20-25 feet high.

By his actions Mr Zoontjens is commended for brave conduct.