Keith Edward GAMBLE, 150 Paton Road, South Hedland, W.A.

On 6 August 1977, Mr Gamble received a call for assistance at a fire in a neighbour's house. The house was fitted with cyclone proof windows and having realised that a small child was caught in the house and that entry was not possible through the doors he obtained a hammer from his nearby home. He broke the window of the child's room and entered the house. The heat was intense and thick black smoke restricted Mr Gamble's visibility but he made his way to the child, guided by the sounds of its crying and coughing. Having reached the child he was guided back to the window by the calling of other helpers. In smashing his way into the house and rescuing the child, Mr Gamble put his own life at risk.

Wayne Robert DIETZE, 69 Gurney Road, Villawood, N.S.W.

On 7 January 1978 following a boat capsize at Wooli, New South Wales, Master Dietze, aged 13 years, noticed that one of the occupants, a non-swimmer, was being washed along by a strong current. He ran along the beach then entered the water and swam out approximately one hundred metres in heavy seas to reach the man who, by now, was semi-conscious.

Master Dietze brought the man safely to the beach and in doing so displayed commendable courage.