STAR OF COURAGE

Miss Lillian Beryl MARSHALL, Isis Highway, COALSTOUN LAKES QLD 4621

On 3 February 1989 Miss Marshall was driving from Maryborough to Biggenden when her car collided with another at the approach to the Sandy Creek Bridge. In the accident Miss Marshall fractured her right ankle and her left heel and injured her chest and right eye. She found she could not stand but on hearing noises from the other car she became aware that the occupant was unconscious. As flames were coming from the engine she crawled to the other car and tried Standing up Miss Marshall unsuccessfully to open the doors. went to her car for tools, returned, smashed the rear window and forced the rear door open. While the car filled with smoke she crawled in to try to drag the driver out but found him trapped. Crawling further in Miss Marshall released him, dragged him to the rear section and had his legs outside the burning car when a passing motorist stopped to assist. In the rescue attempt Miss Marshall received burns to her left elbow, a finger and thigh.

By her actions Miss Marshall displayed conspicuous courage in circumstances of great peril.

Miss Christin MUELLER, 6/51 Kirribilli Avenue, KIRRIBILLI NSW 2061

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On 17 December 1988 Ms Mueller, an employee of the Taronga Park Zoo, went to join a colleague photographing the Ms Mueller was outside the tigers' cage when she saw tigers. a tiger seize her colleague from behind. Running in to the cage to help her she came face to face with the tiger. She grabbed her legs and attempted to pull her head and neck away When the tiger proved too strong and the from its jaws. pressure too intense she was forced to let her go and she was pulled further and further away from the exit. Ms Mueller made several rescue attempts and repeatedly entered the tigers' cage until a keeper arrived and assisted her by manoeuvring the tiger and his mate into an adjoining Ms Mueller's colleague was taken to hospital enclosure. where she later died of her injuries.

By her actions Ms Mueller displayed conspicuous courage in circumstances of great peril.

Mr Leonard Joseph Matheson ALLEN, 1 Grove Road, HAWTHORN VIC 3122

On 29 May 1988 Mr Allen, aged 74 years, was walking in the Smart Street Reserve, Hawthorn, when he heard a shot. Seeing that a violent struggle involving the police was taking place nearby he ran to assist. He found a policeman trying to remove a powerfully-built assailant who was lying face down pinning a policewoman beneath him. Mr Allen took hold of the offender's wrists and together with the policeman pulled him from her. As the policewoman stood up the offender made several unsuccessful attempts to strike Mr Allen before running away.

By his actions Mr Allen displayed considerable bravery.

Mrs Connie Ascrizzi, Late of 13 Essex Street, NEWTON SA 5074

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On 30 January 1989 Mrs Ascrizzi was aboard a paddle boat with members of her family on the lake within the Thorndon Park Reserve, Paradise. The boat capsized about ten metres from the shore and several persons, including Mrs Ascrizzi and her three-year-old nephew, were displaced into the water. Mrs Ascrizzi, who could not swim, dived beneath the surface of the water to rescue her nephew. Having grasped him she stood, with her mouth and nose beneath the water, and held him above her head until he was taken from her. Mrs Ascrizzi later died as a result of her immersion in the water.

By her actions Mrs Ascrizzi displayed considerable bravery, thereby losing her life.

(Posthumous Award)

Mr Michael David BLUNDEN, 14 Military Road, SEMAPHORE SOUTH SA 5019

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On 23 August 1989 Mr Blunden was carrying his three year old son out of the Commonwealth Bank at Morphett Vale when a man pushed him out of the way and ran into the bank. Waiting, he saw the man hold out his arms to the teller who handed him two separate rolls of money. Mr Blunden left the bank and was standing with others on the ramp when the Believing that he was holding a gun offender came out. Mr Blunden put out his foot to trip him, causing him to stumble and hit his head on a metal railing. When the offender got up and ran across the street to the toilet block he threatened bystanders by indicating that he was holding a Mr Blunden handed his child to a woman nearby and qun. followed him. He passed on information to bank officers who When they brought the struggling offender were in pursuit. out of the toilet Mr Blunden assisted by holding his wrists and legs until police arrived.

By his actions Mr Blunden displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Ross Gordon CUPPER, 4 Viewway, NEDLANDS WA 6009

On 11 September 1989 Mr Cupper was working in premises behind the Milligan Hostel, Murray Street, Perth. He heard screams from the Hostel and saw smoke issuing from Mr Cupper picked up a fire extinguisher the upper storey. and entered the building. On reaching the upper floor he found dense smoke leaking past the door of a room. He for and entered the building. He forced the door open and discharged the extinguisher. He saw a man lying on the floor and attempted to pull him to safety but was Obtaining another fire forced to retreat for air. extinguisher and re-entering the room, he discharged it, then pulled the man into the hall and led him to safety. Mr Cupper was then told another man was trapped in the building. He re-entered it, found a man disoriented by smoke, and led him to safety from the upper floor of the Hostel.

By his actions Mr Cupper displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Paul DARRAGH, C/- Commonwealth Bank, Morphett Vale Branch, 178 Main South Road, MORPHETT VALE SA 5162

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On 23 August 1989 Mr Darragh was working in a strong-room of the Commonwealth Bank at Morphett Vale when he saw a man wearing a balaclava standing in front of a teller. Mr Darragh did not see him holding anything in his hands but when he began to run towards the door he chased him. Bystanders indicated that the offender had run into the car Mr Darragh continued to run until he reached a toilet park. block. Entering he saw a man struggling to take off his parka but unsure if this was the offender he left to consult another bank employee who had joined him. They entered the toilet block, took hold of the man and dragged him struggling At this time Mr Darragh saw bank notes and a pistol outside. lying on the toilet floor. When another man offered to help, Mr Darragh ran back to pick up some of the bank notes before returning to check on the welfare of his fellow employees.

By his actions Mr Darragh displayed considerable bravery.

Constable Megan DAVIS, New South Wales Police Force

On 27 February 1989 at about 10.15 p.m. Constable Davis received a radio call to attend HMAS Watson Naval Base where a man was threatening to jump over the cliff. At the Memorial Chapel Constable Davis saw a sailor walking around the cliff edge screaming hysterically. She also saw another sailor negotiating with him. She ran to the scene where it The other sailor seemed that the sailor was about to jump. Seeing that both men struggled with him and called for help. were in danger Constable Davis jumped the safety fence, and grabbed the hysterical man by the left arm in an attempt to The struggle continued and she felt herself pull him back. sliding down the cliff face with the two men. Constable Davis called for more assistance and with help dragged the sailor back from the edge towards the safety fence where he was restrained.

By her actions Constable Davis displayed considerable bravery.

Able Seaman Edmond DIAZ, Royal Australian Navy

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On 27 February 1989 at about 10.15 p.m. a young sailor attempted to jump from the cliff near the Memorial Chapel at Watsons Bay. Able Seaman Diaz found the sailor standing on the cliff edge and approached him cautiously. He talked to him for 20 minutes and passed him cigarettes until at last the sailor turned to face the sea and appeared to Able Seaman Diaz reached out and grabbed him by the jump. back of the shirt. During the struggle which ensued both men were in danger of falling but at this time a policewoman came to their assistance and together they dragged him back from the edge towards the safety fence. Shortly afterwards the distressed sailor was restrained and Able Seaman Diaz accompanied him to hospital.

By his actions Able Seaman Diaz displayed considerable bravery.

Miss Grace Philomena DOWLING, Late of 36 Clarkes Road, Ballyphehane, CORK CO CORK EIRE (Posthumous Award)

On 6 February 1988 Miss Dowling visited the Main Beach, Surfers Paradise. She and a friend were about to enter the surf when they were told that a young boy was drowning. They could see the boy's head in the water about thirty yards from the shore. After unsuccessfully asking others to help, Miss Dowling, using her surfboard, went to his aid, but lost the board in the strong undertow. She became exhausted before reaching the boy and was unconscious when brought ashore. Miss Dowling did not respond to artificial resuscitation and later died in hospital.

By her actions Miss Dowling displayed considerable bravery thereby losing her life.

Mr Aubrey Ernest DRAYTON, 279 Brighton Avenue, TORONTO NSW 2283

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On 11 October 1987 Mr Drayton was outside his house in Brighton Avenue, Toronto, when he became aware of a fire burning in the second-storey bedroom of a neighbouring house. On being told that a baby was in the bedroom he entered the house, hurried upstairs and tried to enter the burning room. He was forced back by heat and smoke. Mr Drayton then crawled into the room, searched for the baby, found him in the second cot and, standing up, lifted him out and carried him to safety.

By his actions Mr Drayton displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Peter Bruce FITZALAN, 25 Cobra Street, DUBBO NSW 2830

On 26 September 1989 Mr Fitzalan was inside his caravan in the Dubbo City Caravan Park when he was alerted by a quickly moving vehicle passing by. He went outside and saw smoke. Upon investigating he found a caravan on fire, with smoke coming from its door and windows. Mr Fitzalan undid the front window hatch of the caravan and saw flames on one wall and half the ceiling. Another person attempted to enter the caravan, believing that someone could be inside, but was prevented by heat and smoke. Mr Fitzalan then entered, crawled to the back bedroom, located a baby on the bed and carried him to safety.

By his actions Mr Fitzalan displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Christopher John HOLBOURN, 1/144 Seaview Road, HENLEY BEACH SA 5022

On 7 August 1989 Mr Holbourn was a student pilot aboard the Grumman Cougar aircraft VH-UNP when it crashed during night flying training near the Cessnock Aerodrome. Also aboard the aircraft were the instructor and another student pilot. Mr Holbourn received severe facial injuries on impact and lost consciousness for a short time. Recovering, he assisted the instructor, who was immobile and severely injured, from the aircraft to a place of safety. At this time the starboard engine was on fire and fuel was leaking from a broken fuel line less than two metres from the engine. Mr Holbourn then re-entered the aircraft cabin to turn off the aircraft's electrical system to eliminate that possible source of ignition.

By his actions Mr Holbourn displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Robert Mark JONES, Lynch Street, STRAHAN TAS 7468 (Mr Jones has been missing since 13 August 1990 when the the vessel he was aboard sank off the coast of Tasmania)

On 28 May 1989 at about 10.15 p.m. a fishing vessel, the "NGOONGOMANDA", struck a rock at Cape Sorell, immediately west of Surging Point. The weather at that time was extreme with forty-knot north to north-east winds, three to four-metre seas and a three-metre swell. Mr Jones was asked to assist in the vessel's recovery and with a companion set out from Strahan in a 5-metre aluminium dinghy. As they crossed the Harbour and neared Hell's Gates it began to rain heavily. Another fishing vessel, the "BRID RIVER", having answered a distress call was standing by to tow the "NGOONGOMANDA". On reaching Surging Point he spent two to three hours operating the dinghy while his companion secured a number of tow lines between the two vessels. After three attempts they were able to rescue one of her crewmen who was stranded on the rocky shore. Because of the weather conditions they returned in the lee of the "NGOONGOMANDA" as it was towed into the They were then taken on board for the return to the harbour. Strahan wharf area.

By his actions Mr Jones displayed considerable bravery.

Master Andrew Brian NEWCOMBE, 90 Station Road, BURPENGARY QLD 4505

On 2 April 1989 Andrew Newcombe, aged 15, and a companion, were bike-riding and saw a car attempt to cross the flooded O'Brien's Road at Burpengary. When the car was swept across Burpengary Creek Andrew ran down the embankment and Swimming more than 50 metres through dived into the water. debris to the car, he went to the driver's side and continually beat upon the window. The driver, a woman, opened the door slightly and as the car began to fill with water Andrew pushed it closed. Aware that the car would shortly sink he told the woman to take off her shoes, wind the window down, and climb out. He helped her by putting his hands under her armpits, pulled her through the window and supported her as the car sank. Having joined his friend, all three swam 50 metres until they could walk from the water. After the driver was helped to a nearby house, Andrew and his companion, who were covered with lizards and spiders, collected their bikes and rode home.

By his actions Andrew Newcombe displayed considerable bravery.

Mr John David NIELSEN, Lettes Bay, STRAHAN TAS 7468

On 28 May 1989 at about 10.15 p.m. a fishing vessel, the "NGOONGOMANDA", struck a rock at Cape Sorell, immediately west of Surging Point. The weather at that time was extreme with forty-knot north to north-east winds, three to four-metre seas and a three-metre swell. Mr Nielsen was asked to assist in the vessel's recovery and with a companion set out from Strahan in a 5-metre aluminium dinghy. As they crossed the Harbour and neared Hell's Gates it began to rain heavily. Another fishing vessel, the "BRID RIVER", having answered a distress call was standing by to tow the "NGOONGOMANDA". On reaching Surging Point he spent two to three hours securing tow lines between the two vessels. After three attempts they were able to rescue one of her crewmen who was stranded on the rocky shore. Because of the weather conditions they returned in the lee of the "NGOONGOMANDA" as it was towed into the They were then taken on board for the return to the harbour Strahan wharf area.

By his actions Mr Nielsen displayed considerable bravery.

Mr John Regan NORTHOVER, 16/4 Perina Way, CITY BEACH WA 6015

On 10 July 1989 Mr Northover was waiting in line inside the Challenge Bank, Rokeby Road, Subiaco. A man entered the bank and pushed his way to the front of the line. The man then passed a plastic bag to the teller in front of him and to the teller beside him and asked them to fill the bags with money. Mr Northover realised that a robbery was taking place and, not knowing whether the robber was armed, grabbed him around the chest and pinned his arms to his side. A struggle ensued and two other men came to Mr Northover's assistance. During the struggle the robber discharged a starting pistol and bit Mr Northover on the hand. The robber was restrained until the police arrived.

By his actions Mr Northover displayed considerable bravery.

Miss Caroline PURCELL, 51 Pearse Road, Ballyphehane, CORK CO CORK EIRE

On 6 February 1988 Miss Purcell visited the Main Beach, Surfers Paradise. She and a friend were about to enter the surf when they were told that a young boy was They could see the boy's head in the water about drowning. thirty yards from the shore and asked some passers-by to While her friend went to attempt to rescue him assist. Miss Purcell remained to ask some others for help. She then followed her friend, who was now 10 yards ahead of her, into the water. Miss Purcell was caught in the undertow and was continually knocked under the water by the waves. Although she tried to swim for the shore she could make no progress. Miss Purcell was about to give up when a young man swam close She gave him her hand and he brought her to the to her. shore where they raised the alarm.

By her actions Miss Purcell displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Anthony Joseph SPANDLER, 48 Stockdale Street, DICKSON ACT 2602

On 1 April 1989 Mr Spandler was one of several employees of the Australian Capital Territory Electricity and Water Authority who were measuring flows in the flooded Cotter Two colleagues suffered a mishap and jumping from River. One was dislodged and carried their boat, held onto trees. downstream by the force of the river. Going to his assistance Mr Spandler jumped into the river and managed to get within a few feet of him when they were swept under some debris. When they emerged the two had become separated in the turbulent water and Mr Spandler was forced to abandon his Returning to the bank he ran back to his other attempt. colleague and found him still in the river clinging to a tree. He went for help and returned with some rope while a fellow employee drove to the scene. Mr Spandler re-entered the freezing water to take the rope to his colleague and with assistance a successful rescue was carried out.

By his actions Mr Spandler displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Mitchell BILJABA, Punmu Aboriginal Community, Great Sandy Desert, Via MARBLE BAR WA 6760

On 6 October 1989 a light aircraft crashed into Port Hedland Harbour. Mr Biljaba and the other passengers climbed out on to the wing but the plane sank after approximately one minute. Although he could not swim Mr Biljaba held a twoyear-old child while treading water. His head went under the water several times in the three to four minutes it took a rescue boat to reach them.

For his actions Mr Biljaba is commended for brave conduct.

Constable Colin Victor BOTT, Queensland Police Force

On 28 March 1989 Constable Bott was driving to work through Chermside when he stopped to assist a backhoe driver who had been shot. After the injured man had been removed by ambulance Constable Bott called for police assistance and approached a house where a man had fired six shots indiscriminately into the street. He knocked on the door but received no response. Fearing for the safety of some schoolgirls approaching the house Constable Bott kicked the door in and observed a number of live and spent bullets on the floor inside. On entering the house he saw a man bleeding profusely from his head lying on the floor with a semiautomatic .22 calibre rifle across his body. He was later confirmed to be dead.

For his actions Constable Bott is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Colin Leslie CHALLACOMBE, 31 Richard Street, MARYBOROUGH QLD 4650

On 3 February 1989 Mr Challacombe was driving towards Maryborough when he saw that two cars had been involved in a head-on collision near Sandy Creek Bridge. One car was on fire with the dashboard section well alight. Going to assist he saw the unconscious occupant's legs protruding from the car and that his head and hands were burned. With assistance he pulled him out and carried him to safety. Mr Challacombe then called for the Emergency Services and gave first aid until they arrived.

For his actions Mr Challacombe is commended for brave conduct.

Probationary Constable Jonathan Paul Stanley CORNELIUS, New South Wales Police Force

On 17 September 1989 Probationary Constable Cornelius was called to a fire in a Kings Cross hostel. Three occupants had dropped down an air shaft from the second floor into an adjacent shop and all were injured. Probationary Constable Cornelius, the first to enter the shop, found one injured man still in the bottom of the ventilation shaft. He jumped into the shaft, a distance of two metres, to assist the semi-conscious man and remained for approximately 10 minutes in the thickening smoke suffering severe breathing difficulties until an ambulance officer arrived. Burning debris was falling while Probationary Constable Cornelius broke down a rear door with an axe to allow the patient to be removed.

For his actions Probationary Constable Cornelius is commended for brave conduct.

Mrs Joan Doreen EGOROFF, 37a Barton Street, MAYFIELD NSW 2304

On 11 July 1989 Mrs Egoroff was in her Mayfield shop talking to a customer when a man armed with a knife entered and demanded money. Mrs Egoroff handed him fifty dollars from the till. When the man asked for cigarettes she threw an empty milk crate at him. At the same time the customer threw an empty drum hitting the offender on the shoulder. The man turned the knife towards the customer but ran away when Mrs Egoroff began to scream that the police were coming.

For her actions Mrs Egoroff is commended for brave conduct.

Miss Erin Lee EVA, 45 Wills Street, LARGS BAY SA 5016

On 21 December 1989 six-year-old Erin Eva was walking home with her grandmother. As they crossed a railway line at Largs Bay the warning signals began to operate indicating that a train was approaching. At this point her grandmother fell to the ground across the railway line breaking her arm and she was unable to move. She called to Erin who returned to help her but was unable to lift her. Erin assisted her grandmother to drag herself clear of the line as the train approached.

For her actions Erin Eva is commended for brave conduct.

Leading Seaman John William Francis GRANTHAM, Royal Australian Navy

On 12 March 1989 Leading Seaman Grantham was a member of a two-man, steaming party escorting an Indonesian fishing vessel under tow to Broome. In the early hours of the morning the weather deteriorated to the extent that a decision was made to transfer the 13 fishermen to the Patrol Boat HMAS "WOLLONGONG". Before this could be done the Indonesian vessel collided with HMAS "WOLLONGONG" and began to break up and sink causing the fishermen to panic. Leading Seaman Grantham went below decks to ensure that all the fishermen were clear and with the assistance of the other member of the steaming party assisted all the fishermen aboard the towing ship by way of a berthing line and ladder. The fishing vessel which had now drifted 20 metres off the bow of HMAS "WOLLONGONG" sank beneath them. Leading Seaman Grantham was rescued by a line thrown to him.

For his actions Leading Seaman Grantham is commended for brave conduct.

Petty Officer David John GRAY, Royal Australian Navy

On 12 March 1989 Petty Officer Gray was in charge of a two-man, steaming party escorting an Indonesian fishing In the early hours of the vessel under tow to Broome. morning the weather detoriorated to the extent that a decision was made to transfer the 13 fishermen to the Patrol Boat HMAS "WOLLONGONG". Before this could be done the Indonesian vessel collided with HMAS "WOLLONGONG" and began to break up and sink causing the fishermen to panic. Petty Officer Gray went below decks to ensure that all the fishermen were clear and with the other member of the steaming party assisted all the fishermen aboard the towing ship by way of a berthing line The fishing vessel which had now drifted 20 and ladder. metres off the bow of HMAS "WOLLONGONG" sank beneath them. Petty Officer Gray was rescued by a line thrown to him.

For his actions Petty Officer Gray is commended for brave conduct.

Senior Constable Geoff HALL, New South Wales Police Force

On the night of Sunday 19 February 1989 Senior Constable Hall and a companion launched the Forster Surf Club's inflatable rescue boat to assist three fishermen, who were in a disabled boat on the Forster-Tuncurry Bar, at the entrance to Wallis Lake. After searching for some time they found the boat overturned on the bar with the three men clinging to it. It was between the inner waves and outer waves of up to four metres. While attempting to reach the men a wave broke over the rescue boat and pushed it on to the propeller of the overturned vessel causing instant deflation to one of the pontoons. Because of the damage to the rescue boat Senior Constable Hall and his companion had to bring all three men ashore in one trip. After a slow and hazardous voyage they all reached the beach safely.

For his actions Senior Constable Hall is commended for brave conduct.

Mr John Raymond HARBER, 5/90 Toorak Road West, SOUTH YARRA VIC 3141

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On 5 March 1987 Mr Harber was awoken in his South Yarra flat by the sound of an explosion. He dressed and ran to an apartment block where the first floor was on fire. woman on a balcony was being urged to jump but could not because her lower legs had been blown off. Mr Harber c Mr Harber climbed up a brick wall between two buildings and was pushed by bystanders onto the balcony ledge. Intense heat was coming The injured woman pulled herself up from the burning room. to a position where Mr Harber could reach her. He helped her over the balcony wall, with flames now over their heads, and dropped her to others on the ground. An injured man was also on the balcony but was too far away for Mr Harber to reach him.

For his actions Mr Harber is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Paul Lloyd HARDIE, 7/10 Church Street, RANDWICK NSW 2031

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On 17 September 1989 Ambulance Officer Hardie was called to a fire in a Kings Cross hostel. Three occupants had dropped down an air shaft from the second floor into an adjacent shop and all were injured. One of the injured men was still in the bottom of the ventilation shaft being attended by a police officer. Ambulance Officer Hardie jumped two metres into the shaft to treat the man, although experiencing severe breathing difficulties in the thickening smoke. Burning debris was falling while the police officer broke down a rear door with an axe to assist in the patient's removal.

For his actions Ambulance Officer Hardie is commended for brave conduct.

Master Joshua Cain HEFFERNAN, 64 Henderson Road, BURPENGARY QLD 4505

On 2 April 1989 Joshua Heffernan, aged 13, and a companion were bike-riding and saw a car attempt to cross the flooded O'Brien's Road at Burpengary. When the car was swept across Burpengary Creek Joshua Heffernan and his friend dived into the water. Swimming to the car Joshua tried unsuccessfully to open the door. He swam to a tree and clung to it until the car sank and he was joined by his friend with the driver. Together they all swam until they could walk out of the water. After the driver was taken to a nearby house, Joshua and his companion, who were covered in lizards and spiders, collected their bikes and rode home.

For his actions Joshua Heffernan is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Ronald Barry KEARSLEY, 25 Manooka Road, MORPHETT VALE SA 5162

On 23 August 1989 Mr Kearsley was at work at the Commonwealth Bank, Morphett Vale, when he saw a colleague pass a bundle of money from the teller's grille to a man wearing a parka. Seeing another colleague follow the offender from the bank Mr Kearsley jumped the counter and ran out into Church Street. Following bystanders' directions he went to some vacant land behind the bank where he saw his colleague coming from a toilet block. Together they went inside and found the offender. Mr Kearsley grabbed him around the neck and with his colleague dragged him outside and placed him face down on the grass. With the help of others Mr Kearsley held on to the offender until police arrived.

For his actions Mr Kearsley is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Kelvin Theo LANE, 20 South Street, INVERMAY TAS 7248

On 5 October 1989 Mr Lane was travelling on the Frankford Highway when he saw a utility burning in a creek bed. Mr Lane approached the vehicle and saw that the driver was unconscious and that flames were coming from under the dashboard. Mr Lane was having breathing difficulties because of the thick smoke. He started to pull the driver out of the passenger side window and shouted at him in an attempt to wake him. The driver regained consciousness sufficiently to assist in his own removal. Shortly after the petrol tank exploded and the utility was completely burnt out.

For his actions Mr Lane is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Jason Charles LANGDALE, 2/47 Spit Road, MOSMAN NSW 2088

On 17 December 1988 Mr Langdale was working at Taronga Park Zoo when he heard over his two-way radio the call "the tigers are out". Running five hundred metres to the tigers' enclosure and, unaware of where the tigers were he then ran down the passageway and locked the doors of the pens as he went towards a keeper at the far end. When told that a colleague had been attacked he assisted by locking one tiger into a pen and attempted to manoeuvre a second tiger into an adjoining enclosure.

For his actions Mr Langdale is commended for brave conduct.

Detective Sergeant William James LEONARD, Western Australian Police Force

On 13 June 1988 Detective Sergeant Leonard attended an incident at Northam where a man was beneath a house with petrol and matches threatening suicide. For almost two hours Detective Sergeant Leonard tried to persuade the man to come During this time he went under the house to assess the out. situation and to negotiate but the man became agitated and poured petrol onto the ground. Detective Sergeant Leonard and a Fire Officer then crawled back under the house with a line of hose to flush him out. The man then poured petrol over himself and ignited it before being hit by a jet of The fire was extinguished and the person threatening water. suicide was removed.

For his actions Detective Sergeant Leonard is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Walter Ellis McFARLANE, 7 Visser Court, ROCHEDALE QLD 4123

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On 1 June 1989 Ambulance Officer McFarlane was in a car park in Beenleigh when he was told of a car on fire in an adjoining car park. Ambulance Officer McFarlane climbed the dividing two-metre-high fence and ran to the car. He opened the rear door on the driver's side but was forced back by smoke and flames. After opening the other rear door he removed a four-year-old girl to a place of safety and returned in an unsuccessful attempt to save two younger children. Ambulance Officer McFarlane returned to the severely burnt girl and attended her until an ambulance arrived. The girl died some weeks later as a result of injuries received in this fire.

By his actions Ambulance Officer McFarlane is commended for brave conduct.

Constable Ricky Leigh MAXWELL, Tasmanian Police Force

On 19 March 1989 Constable Maxwell and another police officer apprehended a man for a minor traffic offence. After a positive breath test was recorded the driver was asked to accompany the police to Burnie Police Station. The driver then produced a shotgun, aimed it at Constable Maxwell, and cocked it. Constable Maxwell grabbed the gun barrel forcing it upwards. During the following struggle for possession of the gun the offender tried to shoot himself but was overpowered by Constable Maxwell who disarmed him and also removed a knife. With the assistance of the other police officer the offender was handcuffed and driven to the police station.

For his actions Constable Maxwell is commended for brave conduct.

Constable Diane Jarlath MOIR, Victoria Police Force

On 29 May 1988 Constable Moir and a police colleague chased a mentally-ill offender into Smart Street Reserve, Hawthorn. A struggle ensued and Constable Moir tried to assist in restraining the offender and to handcuff him. However she fell to the ground and was pinned under the offender's body. She saw that he had removed her colleague's loaded revolver and grabbed his hand. He fired it and during the continuing struggle she forced the gun towards the ground, pushing the barrel into the soil. A short time later a man came to assist and as the offender was pulled from her Constable Moir held on to the gun and wrenched it from him. The offender then ran away.

For her actions Constable Moir is commended for brave conduct.

Captain Paul Richard NEWALL, 15 Leichhardt Street, RUSE NSW 2560

On 1 April 1989 several employees of the Australian Capital Territory Electricity and Water Authority were measuring flows in the flooded Cotter River. Two of them suffered a mishap in their boat and one man was swept away and carried downstream by the force of the river. Captain Newall, who was driving his family across a bridge, recognised the man as his father-in-law. He stopped the car and donning a life-jacket, jumped into the river. At first he believed he could reach him but the turbulence pushed them in different directions. After losing sight of his father-in-law Captain Newall made his way ashore.

By his actions Captain Newall is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Robin Winston O'BREE, Juanbung Station HAY NSW 2711

On 22 January 1989 Mr O'Bree was driving east on the Barkly Highway between Cloncurry and Mt Isa when he arrived at the scene of a two-car collision moments after it had happened. He saw the driver of one car scramble free as flames were coming from the engine area. After stopping an approaching truck Mr O'Bree freed the unconscious passenger from the front seat and pulled her from the burning car through the back door. Mr O'Bree called for assistance from a nearby station and returned to direct traffic until the police and ambulance arrived.

For his actions Mr O'Bree is commended for brave conduct.

Detective Senior Constable Peter Michael PHELAN, Victoria Police Force

On 13 April 1989 Detective Senior Constable Phelan was off duty and in a bank at Greensborough with his threeyear-old nephew. While at the counter he turned to see an armed man demanding money from the next cashier. As the man repeated his demand Detective Senior Constable Phelan placed his wallet on the counter, drew the gunman's attention away from the cashier and grabbed the revolver to prevent its operation, forcing the barrel towards the ceiling. The gunman tried to escape but was held by Detective Senior Constable Phelan who forced him off balance and struggled with him until he was assisted by another off duty police officer.

For his actions Detective Senior Constable Phelan is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Barry John SHARPE, 14 Turner Street, NORTHAM WA 6401

On 13 June 1988 Senior Fire Officer Sharpe responded to a call from the police. A man was beneath a house at Northam with a can of petrol and matches and was threatening suicide. After almost two hours of trying to persuade the man to come out, Senior Fire Officer Sharpe and a Police Officer crawled under the house with a line of hose in an attempt to flush him out. The man then poured petrol over himself and ignited it before being hit by the jet of water from Senior Fire Officer Sharpe's hose. The fire was extinguished and the person threatening suicide was removed.

For his actions Senior Fire Officer Sharpe is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Peter Andrew SQUIRE 34 Hind Avenue, FORSTER NSW 2428

On the night of 19 February 1989 Mr Squire and a companion launched the Forster Surf Club's inflatable rescue boat to assist three fishermen, who were in a disabled boat on the Forster-Tuncurry Bar, at the entrance to Wallis Lake. After searching for some time they found the boat overturned on the bar with the three men clinging to it. It was between the inner waves and outer waves of up to four metres. While attempting to reach the men a wave broke over the rescue boat and pushed it on to the propeller of the overturned vessel causing instant deflation to one of the pontoons. Because of the damage to the rescue boat Mr Squire and his companion had to bring all three men ashore in one trip. After a slow and hazardous voyage they all reached the beach safely.

For his actions Mr Squire is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Steven Ross WARD, 219 St George's Terrace, PERTH WA 6000

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On 15 December 1989 Mr Ward was at Blue Bay, Halls Head, Mandurah, when his attention was attracted by faint calls for help coming from a swimmer about 400 metres from the shore. Mr Ward undressed and swam to an elderly man who had swallowed a large amount of water and was sinking beneath the waves. Mr Ward held the man around the neck and tried unsuccessfully to swim back to shore. Taking him by the shoulder to keep his head above the water he towed him ashore in conditions described as moderate to rough with a strong rip running from the beach.

For his actions Mr Ward is commended for brave conduct.

Constable Peter Griffith WHITNEY, Western Australia Police Force

On 13 June 1988 Constable Whitney was called to an incident at Northam where a man was beneath a house with petrol and matches threatening suicide. Constable Whitney crawled under the house to talk to the man who became agitated and threatened to ignite the petrol he had already poured on the ground. Constable Whitney called for assistance and continued to help in negotiations for a further two hours. The man was finally flushed out by a fire hose but not before he had set fire to himself.

For his actions Constable Whitney is commended for brave conduct.

GROUP CITATION FOR BRAVERY

Flying Officer David Norman WEIR Flying Officer Wayne David MURRAY Flight Sergeant Brian Keith GREEN Sergeant Peter Thomas HAYTON Leading Aircraftman Adrian Mark CHENOWETH

No. 5 Squadron, Royal Australian Air Force

On the afternoon of 8 December 1988 an Iroquois helicopter took off from Royal Australian Air Force Base, Fairbairn, in response to a request to evacuate two 16-yearold girls suffering from hypothermia from a camp site in the Koscuisko National Park. On arrival in the Park two attempts were made to reach the camp site; they both failed. The crew was then told that the condition of the girls was deteriorating. While aware of the hazardous nature of flying in conditions of low cloud, continuous rain, snow patches and failing light it was decided that a third attempt should be made to evacuate the hypothermic girls. Windy conditions severely restricted the operations of the helicopter. At this attempt the crew was successful in bringing the helicopter to a position at the camp site where it was possible to place the evacuees in it. The crew was then advised that two more girls were suffering from hypothermia and that their condition was critical. They too were loaded into the helicopter which by this time was in excess of its authorised weight limit for the prevailing conditions. Following a power assessment the helicopter was manoeuvred to a point where it could fly down the Snowy River Valley to The transit flight to the Cooma Hospital was Cooma. completed without incident.

Accordingly this warrant is issued in recognition of the bravery in extraordinary circumstances of Flying Officer Weir, Flying Officer Murray, Flight Sergeant Green, Sergeant Hayton and Leading Aircraftman Chenoweth of No. 5 Squardon, Royal Australian Air Force.