

STAR OF COURAGE

May 1992

District Officer Alan David DWYER
New South Wales Fire Brigades

During the night of 1 April 1990 District Officer Dwyer attended a major fire and explosions in a liquid petroleum gas tank farm at St Peters. Following an order to withdraw from the area because of the danger of imminent serious explosions, a head count revealed that one firefighter was missing. Without regard for his personal safety, District Officer Dwyer, accompanied by another firefighter, re-entered the danger zone and searched for the missing man until advised by radio that the man had been located and was safe. Station Officer Dwyer then withdrew from the danger zone and shortly after the first of a series of boiling liquid expanding vapour explosions took place.

By his actions Station Officer Dwyer displayed conspicuous courage.

Firefighter Kevin FLETCHER
New South Wales Fire Brigades

During the night of 1 April 1990 Firefighter Fletcher attended a major fire and explosions in a liquid petroleum gas tank farm at St Peters. Following an order to withdraw from the area because of the danger of imminent serious explosions, a head count revealed that one firefighter was missing. Without regard for his personal safety, Firefighter Fletcher, accompanied by another firefighter, re-entered the danger zone and searched for the missing man until advised by radio that the man had been located and was safe. Firefighter Fletcher then withdrew from the danger zone and shortly after the first of a series of boiling liquid expanding vapour explosions took place.

By his actions Firefighter Fletcher displayed conspicuous courage.

STAR OF COURAGE

Constable First Class Bernard KOZAKIEWICZ
New South Wales Police Service

On the afternoon of 26 July 1990 Constable First Class Kozakiewicz was assisting with other police in the pursuit of two men on foot following a high speed car chase. Outrunning other police officers, Constable Kozakiewicz closed in on one of his quarry and brought him to the ground. The second man threatened Constable Kozakiewicz with a pistol and ordered him to release his companion, warning the Constable that he would be killed if he failed to comply. Following Constable Kozakiewicz's failure to meet his demand the armed man repeated his threat, which this time resulted in compliance and an attempt to reason with him. The armed man then demanded Constable Kozakiewicz's pistol which he refused to surrender. Taking advantage of a momentary distraction Constable Kozakiewicz lunged towards the armed man, took possession of the pistol and grappled with him until the arrival of other police officers.

By his actions Constable First Class Kozakiewicz displayed conspicuous courage.

Mr David Harry John LUMB
6 Captains Way
Oxley Cove
BANORA POINT NSW 2486

On the night of 12 May 1990, while serving as Chief Officer on the Liquid Gas Carrier "KELVIN", Mr Lumb entered heavy seas to assist an injured survivor of a foundered vessel. "KELVIN" had gone to assist the two occupants of an inflatable liferaft, the only survivors of the crew of a game fishing boat which had foundered in severe conditions off south-eastern Victoria. Shortly before "KELVIN" was alongside the liferaft was capsized by a large wave and one of the survivors, who had been injured in the loss of the game-fishing boat, was unable to swim to the gangway. Without regard for his personal safety, Mr Lumb jumped into the sea to assist the injured survivor. Heavy waves swept both men under the stern of "KELVIN", which was pitching considerably and struck Mr Lumb, stunning him slightly. For one hour, in a heavy swell with waves of five metres in height and winds of 50 to 60 knots Mr Lumb remained with the injured survivor but eventually lost contact with him. Later, Mr Lumb boarded "KELVIN"'s rescue boat, searched for the injured man until further deterioration in conditions forced the abandonment of the recovery action.

By his actions Mr Lumb displayed conspicuous courage.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Master Fadi Mohamed BITAR
31 Hedges Street
FAIRFIELD NSW 2165

On 15 June 1990 Fadi Bitar, then aged 16, rescued an elderly woman from a burning house at Cabramatta. Fadi, in company with a friend, entered the burning house through a broken window to render assistance to the resident. Although driven out by the intense heat and smoke, Fadi re-entered the house by another window. Despite suffering respiratory difficulties from smoke inhalation, he eventually located the resident, overcome by fumes. With the assistance of his companion he removed her from the burning house and carried her to safety.

By his actions Master Bitar displayed considerable courage.

Mr Robert Leslie COWAN
Fourth Avenue
GOGANGO QLD 4702

On the night of 28 December 1990 Mr Cowan rescued two people from a sinking utility in the flooded Gogango Creek. Using a four metre aluminium dinghy with a five horse power motor, Mr Cowan and a companion operated in conditions made hazardous by the very strong current, substantial and fast moving flood debris, torrential rain and darkness. Their only guide to the two distressed people were calls for help, which necessitated stopping the motor of the dinghy on several occasions to listen. Despite the danger of overloading the dinghy, Mr Cowan and his companion elected to take both people on board rather than leave one exposed to increased risk in what had become a life-threatening situation. The return journey involved a battle against the current, a high closing speed with flood-borne debris, and imminent danger of swamping the heavily burdened dinghy.

By his actions Mr Cowan displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr John Frederick DOYLE
8 Clovelly Road
RANDWICK NSW 2031

In the early hours of 24 June 1989 Mr Doyle attempted to rescue an injured person trapped in a burning vehicle following a multiple collision at Surry Hills. Despite the immediate danger from flames and smoke, and increasing hazard of explosion, Mr Doyle entered the blazing vehicle and attempted to remove the unconscious passenger until forcibly restrained by a bystander. As Mr Doyle was removed from the car the interior was swept by flames.

By his actions Mr Doyle displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Neale Michael DUNPHY
"Roselea"
GOGANGO QLD 4702

On the night of 28 December 1990 Mr Dunphy rescued two people from a sinking utility in the flooded Gogango Creek. Using a four metre aluminium dinghy with a five horse power motor, Mr Dunphy and a companion operated in conditions made hazardous by the very strong current, substantial and fast moving flood debris, torrential rain and darkness. The only guide to the distressed people were calls for help, which necessitated stopping the motor of the dinghy on several occasions to listen. Despite the danger of overloading the dinghy, Mr Dunphy and his companion elected to take both people on board rather than leave one exposed to increased risk in what had become a life-threatening situation. The return journey involved a battle against the current, a high closing speed with flood-borne debris, and imminent danger of swamping the heavily burdened dinghy.

By his actions Mr Dunphy displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Senior Firefighter Eric Stephen EDMISTON
New South Wales Fire Brigades

During the night of 1 April 1990 Senior Firefighter Edmiston attended a major fire and explosions in a liquid petroleum gas tank farm at St Peters. Firefighter Edmiston, with other firefighters set up a ground monitor projecting a stream of water over the erupting liquid petroleum gas tanks. With two of the tanks and a road tanker burning and the risk of an explosion high, the firefighters were ordered to evacuate the area. At this time it was apparent that the water stream from the monitor was not reaching all the tanks. Aware of the danger, Firefighter Edmiston, remained with the other crew members after the evacuation order, advanced further into the danger zone, repositioned the monitor closer to the liquid petroleum gas tanks and then withdrew. Shortly after the first of a series of boiling liquid expanding vapour explosions occurred.

By his actions Senior Firefighter Edmiston displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Donald John HART
14 Coconut Drive
NORTH NOWRA NSW 2451

In the early hours of 24 June 1989 Mr Hart participated in the rescue of injured people from a burning vehicle following a multiple collision at Surry Hills. Despite the immediate danger from the flames and smoke, and increasing risk of explosion, Mr Hart released the driver and attempted to rescue an unconscious passenger from a blazing car until driven back by intense heat and fumes. Mr Hart then endeavoured to fight the fire until the arrival of Fire Brigade units.

By his actions Mr Hart displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Thanh Van HO
84 Poinciana Street
INALA QLD 4077

In the early hours of 25 November 1990 Mr Ho awoke to find that the house in which he lived was ablaze. He ran through the house waking the other occupants then moved outside. Believing that children were still inside Mr Ho re-entered the burning house and had made his way through the intense flames and smoke before learning that the children had been safely evacuated. When leaving the house Mr Ho collapsed. He suffered severe burns to his hands and arms.

By his actions Mr Ho displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Christopher John JOHNSON
2/59 Donald Road
QUEANBEYAN NSW 2620

On 12 September 1989 at about 11.50 pm a fire broke out on the first floor of a hotel in Queanbeyan. Walking towards the hotel Mr Johnson could smell and see the smoke. When he saw police entering the hotel he volunteered to assist and followed them upstairs. One of the police officers kicked a door partly open. As smoke poured out he assisted in an attempt to push the door further open, and saw a hand on the floor behind. Together Mr Johnson and the police officer tried unsuccessfully to pull the person around the door. At that time Mr Johnson's hair began to catch on fire and, coughing from the smoke, he went to a dark corner of the hallway to breathe fresh air. There he became disoriented and was let down a side stairway to the street.

By his actions Mr Johnson displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Martin Horst JUNKER
46 York Street
-BOULDER WA 6432

On 20 January 1991 at Kalgoorlie Mr Junker, an off duty fireman, rescued two children from a burning house. After alerting the Police and the Fire Station, Mr Junker ran from his house to the burning house nearby. When told that a baby was missing he entered the rear door through thick smoke, located the baby, and took her outside to her mother. He re-entered the house, this time on his hands and knees to look for a small boy who was also thought to be in the house. Mr Junker found him in a bedroom and ran outside with him.

By his actions Mr Junker displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Robert Patrick LEE
78 Goodman Street
WHYALLA SA 5600

On 3 April 1991 Mr Lee went to a neighbour's burning house knowing that an elderly man was inside. Mr Lee went to the back entrance where two men had unsuccessfully tried to enter the house through the kitchen which was burning fiercely. With a wet cloth over his face and carrying a charged garden hose, Mr Lee managed to pass through the kitchen to the bathroom where he found the elderly resident overcome by smoke and in a state of shock. As they could not leave the way he had come in he dragged the man through the extremely dense smoke to the lounge room. By this time another neighbour had entered by the front door and assisted Mr Lee in taking the overcome man to safety.

By his actions Mr Lee displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Simon Paul McEVOY
82 Hills Street
GOSFORD NSW 2250

On the night of 12 May 1990, while serving as a Trainee on the Liquid Gas Carrier "KELVIN", Mr McEvoy participated in the recovery of a fellow crew member and the attempted rescue of an injured man in heavy seas. "KELVIN" was rendering assistance to the survivors of a game fishing boat, which had capsized in severe conditions off south eastern Victoria, when heavy seas carried away an injured survivor and "KELVIN"'s Chief Officer. Mr McEvoy volunteered, with other members of "KELVIN"'s company, to man a rescue boat. In a heavy swell with waves up to five metres in height and winds of 50 to 60 knots, Mr McEvoy and his fellow crewmen manoeuvred their open five metre boat in imminent danger of capsize or swamping. After locating and recovering "KELVIN"'s Chief Officer, McEvoy and the crew of the rescue boat continued their search for the other man until further deteriorating conditions forced them to abandon the attempt.

By his actions Mr McEvoy displayed considerable
bravery.

Mr Angus McINTOSH
4 Kew Place
DHARRUK NSW 2770

On 16 September 1990 while travelling on the Great Western Highway at Minchinbury Mr McIntosh stopped to render assistance at a burning car which had collided with a power pole. The injured driver of the damaged vehicle was trapped in the driver's seat. Mr McIntosh entered the rear of the vehicle, which was then engulfed in flames, and dragged the injured person to the rear seat and removed him from the car. As Mr McIntosh carried the driver to a place of safety the burning car exploded and was completely destroyed.

By his actions Mr McIntosh displayed considerable
bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Grahame MADDEFORD
Lot 21 North Bank Road
BELLINGEN NSW 2454

On 30 December 1989 Mr Maddeford was riding his jet ski in the mouth of the Bellinger River at Urunga when his attention was drawn to an overturned boat about 400 metres off shore. Battling three metre waves and a strong rip he rode his surf ski to the boat. On arrival Mr Maddeford saw three children wearing life jackets and two men, only one with a life jacket, drifting apart. He got off his jet ski, swam to the two youngest children and transported them to shore. When he returned to the others Mr Maddeford gave his life jacket to one of the men who was in difficulties then took the third child to the beach. He returned for one of the men, got off his jet ski again and swam to him but had trouble bringing the very heavy man in to the shore on the ski. He then returned to rescue the second man. This operation took over an hour. A third man who had been on the boat was missing. Mr Maddeford joined in the search on his jet ski and only returned to shore when he was running out of fuel.

By his actions Mr Maddeford displayed considerable
bravery.

Constable Paul Edward MASSEY
New South Wales Police Service

In the early hours of 24 June 1989 Constable Massey participated in the attempted rescue of a trapped passenger from a burning vehicle following a multiple collision at Surry Hills. Despite the immediate danger from flames and smoke and the increasing hazard of consequent explosions from nearby blazing vehicles, Constable Massey entered a burning car and attempted to remove the trapped passenger until driven out by intense heat and fumes.

By his actions Constable Massey displayed
considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Constable Murray Brock MAYDAY
New South Wales Police Service

In the early hours of 24 June 1989 Constable Mayday participated in the rescue of injured people from two burning vehicles following a multiple collision at Surry Hills. Despite the immediate danger from the flames and smoke of three separately burning cars and the increasing hazard of consequent explosions, Constable Mayday removed the unconscious driver of one car and then assisted in the removal of the burning driver of another. Although aware of the imminent risk of explosion of the blazing vehicles Constable Mayday remained in the vicinity attempting to control the fires until the arrival of Fire Brigade units.

By his actions Constable Mayday displayed considerable bravery.

Firefighter Jeffrey John MAYTHERS
New South Wales Fire Brigades

During the night of 1 April 1990 Firefighter Maythers attended a major fire and explosions in a liquid petroleum gas tank farm at St Peters. Firefighter Maythers, with other firefighters, set up a ground monitor projecting a stream of water over the erupting liquid petroleum gas tanks. With two of the tanks and a road tanker burning and the risk of an explosion high, the firefighters were ordered to evacuate the area. At this time it was apparent that the water stream from the monitor was not reaching all the tanks. Aware of the danger, Firefighter Maythers remained with the other crew members after the evacuation order, advanced further into the danger zone, repositioned the monitor closer to the liquid petroleum gas tanks and then withdrew. Shortly after the first of a series of boiling liquid expanding vapour explosions occurred.

By his actions Firefighter Maythers displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Station Officer Christopher Michael O'BRIEN
New South Wales Fire Brigades

During the night of 1 April 1990 Station Officer O'Brien attended a major fire and explosions in a liquid petroleum gas tank farm at St Peters. Station Officer O'Brien, with other firefighters set up a ground monitor projecting a stream of water over the erupting liquid petroleum gas tanks. With two of the tanks and a road tanker burning and the risk of an explosion high, the firefighters were ordered to evacuate the area. At this time it was apparent that the water stream from the monitor was not reaching all the tanks. Aware of the danger, Station Officer O'Brien remained with the other crew members after the evacuation order, advanced further into the danger zone, repositioned the monitor closer to the liquid petroleum gas tanks and then withdrew. Shortly after the first of a series of boiling liquid expanding vapour explosions occurred.

By his actions Station Officer O'Brien displayed considerable bravery.

Firefighter Glen Raymond O'BRIEN
New South Wales Fire Brigades

During the night of 1 April 1990 Firefighter O'Brien attended a major fire and explosions in a liquid petroleum gas tank farm at St Peters. Firefighter O'Brien, with other firefighters set up a ground monitor projecting a stream of water over the erupting liquid petroleum gas tanks. With two of the tanks and a road tanker burning and the risk of an explosion high, the firefighters were ordered to evacuate the area. At this time it was apparent that the water stream from the monitor was not reaching all the tanks. Aware of the danger, Firefighter O'Brien remained with the other crew members after the evacuation order, advanced further into the danger zone, repositioned the monitor closer to the liquid petroleum gas tanks and then withdrew. Shortly after the first of a series of boiling liquid expanding vapour explosions occurred.

By his actions Firefighter O'Brien displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mrs Lena Mary PANG-QUEE
2458 Sunter Road
HUMPTY DOO NT 0836

On the night of 6 October 1990 Mrs Pang-Quee was camped near a remote creek in the Daly River district with her family. She awoke to see a crocodile come through the mosquito netting wall of the tent and move towards her husband who is partially incapacitated as the result of a stroke. Mrs Pang-Quee threw a small child out of the crocodile's path and helped her husband to get clear. Her movements attracted the attention of the crocodile which charged Mrs Pang-Quee, grabbing her around the chest in its jaws; inflicting crushed and broken ribs, puncture wounds and internal injuries on her before being driven off by her adult son.

By her actions Mrs Pang-Quee displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Peter PANGQUEE
56 Dalwood Crescent
MALAK NT 0812

On the night of 6 October 1990 Mr Pangquee was camped near a remote creek in the Daly River district with his parents and young relatives. He was asleep when a crocodile burst through the mosquito netting and grabbed his mother around her chest crushing her. Mr Pangquee ran to the crocodile and tried to push it back out of the tent, at the same time sliding his hands up its snout and sticking his fingers into its eyes. The crocodile stopped, then started to move back. Mr Pangquee grabbed it again and this time it released his severely injured mother from its jaws and retreated, leaving the vicinity of the camp. Mr Pangquee then drove his mother to an outstation from where she was evacuated by air ambulance.

By his actions Mr Pangquee displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Andrew Neil ROBERTS (Posthumous Award)
Late of 120A Cashel Street
ST MARYS SA 5042

(Next-of-Kin) Mr and Mrs P. ROBERTS
120A Cashel Street
ST MARYS SA 5042)

On 10 December 1990 Mr Roberts went to the rescue of a young woman in difficulty while swimming at Wangi Falls. Mr Roberts was a member of a small touring party visiting the Litchfield Park area and had called at Wangi Falls for a swim in the pool at the foot of the Falls. When two members of the party experienced problems in coping with the strong rotating current near the base of the main waterfall Mr Roberts unhesitatingly responded to their calls for help by swimming to the young woman furthest from the bank. Although the woman had gone under when he reached her, Mr Roberts brought her to the surface and gave his diminishing strength to supporting her in the demanding conditions. Both Mr Roberts and the woman sank beneath the water before help could reach them.

By his actions Mr Roberts displayed considerable bravery.

Mr William Adamson SWAN
Unit 20, Riverview Residence
Burt Street
COLLIE WA 6225

On 29 August 1990 Mr Swan, then aged 70, was told that his neighbour had been stabbed in the chest and that the intruder was still in the house and still armed. Mr Swan, without regard for his own safety, ran to assist his wounded neighbour who was in a near-exhausted condition and unable to continue the defence of himself and his family against his attacker. Mr Swan engaged the armed assailant and in the ensuing violent struggle twice disarmed him. Despite suffering contusions and abrasions during the struggle, Mr Swan persisted and eventually restrained the assailant and held him until the arrival of the police.

By his actions Mr Swan displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Paul Benjamin TOUSSAINT-JACKSON
8 William Street
NORTH SYDNEY NSW 2060

On the night of 12 May 1990, while serving as Third Officer on the Liquid Gas Carrier "KELVIN", Mr Toussaint-Jackson participated in the recovery of a fellow crew member and the attempted rescue of an injured man in heavy seas. "KELVIN" was rendering assistance to the survivors of a game fishing boat, which had capsized in severe conditions off south eastern Victoria, when heavy seas carried away an injured survivor and "KELVIN"'s Chief Officer. Mr Toussaint-Jackson volunteered, with other members of "KELVIN"'s company, to man a rescue boat. In a heavy swell with waves up to five metres in height and winds of 50 to 60 knots, Mr Toussaint-Jackson and his fellow crewmen manoeuvred their open five metre boat in imminent danger of capsize or swamping. After locating and recovering "KELVIN"'s Chief Officer, Mr Toussaint-Jackson and the crew of the rescue boat continued their search for the other man until further deteriorating conditions forced them to abandon the attempt.

By his actions Mr Toussaint-Jackson displayed considerable bravery.

Constable Joshua TREVILLION
New South Wales Police Service

In the early hours of 24 June 1989 Constable Trevillion participated in the rescue of trapped passengers from burning vehicles following a multiple collision at Surry Hills. Despite the immediate danger from the flames and smoke of three separately burning cars and the increasing hazard of consequent explosions, Constable Trevillion rescued the injured driver of one car and attempted to release a trapped passenger of another until driven back by intense heat and flames. Although injured Constable Trevillion remained at the scene rendering assistance to the survivors until help arrived.

By his actions Constable Trevillion displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Paul Anthony VELLA
67 Herbert Street
ROCKDALE NSW 2216

In the early hours of 24 June 1989 Mr Vella rescued the unconscious driver of a burning vehicle following a multiple collision at Surry Hills. Despite the immediate danger from the flames and smoke, and the imminent risk of explosion from three separate burning vehicles, Mr Vella removed the unconscious driver from a blazing car. Aware of the hazardous nature of the situation, Mr Vella remained in the vicinity giving assistance to the injured man until help arrived.

By his actions Mr Vella displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Kenneth Richard WALLING
12 Laythorne Road
NOLLAMARA WA 6061

On 17 April 1991 Mr Walling was fishing at Port Hedland Beach when his attention was attracted to three children being carried out to sea by the receding tide. Without regard for his personal safety Mr Walling responded immediately by diving fully clothed into the one metre waves and swimming over 100 metres to the most endangered child. On reaching him Mr Walling experienced difficulty with the distressed child and took him to a moored drum, where he was able to calm the boy and await additional help. He then noticed that one of the other children was being carried into a dangerous situation. Despite his depleted strength Mr Walling left the relative safety of the moored drum and, taking the boy with him, swam against the tide in an endeavour to assist the second child. By this time the second child had received other assistance and Mr Walling brought the first boy safely to the shallows.

By his actions Mr Walling displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Ms Debra Anne WALTERS
8 Stewart Street
MURRUMBEENA VIC 3163

In the early hours of 28 January 1991, Ms Walters resisted an armed robbery in the office of the Cadillac Bar in Carlton. Although under threat from a loaded crossbow and restrained with thumbcuffs, Ms Walters broke free. She grabbed the crossbow, which the intruder had put down in order to place money in his bag, and fired the arrow into the ceiling. The intruder tried to recover the crossbow but Ms Walters threw it to the floor and attempted to push him towards the door. Blows were exchanged and a violent struggle followed with Ms Walters continually telling her assailant to leave. Eventually the offender stopped, produced a 14 centimetre knife and backed out of the office.

By her actions Ms Walters displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Mark John WHEATLEY
7/11 Bayswater Street
DRUMMOYNE NSW 2047

On the night of 12 May 1990, while serving as an Integrated Rating on the Liquid Gas Carrier "KELVIN", Mr Wheatley participated in the recovery of a fellow crew member and the attempted rescue of an injured man in heavy seas. "KELVIN" was rendering assistance to the survivors of a game fishing boat, which had capsized in severe conditions off south eastern Victoria, when heavy seas carried away an injured survivor and "KELVIN"'s Chief Officer. Mr Wheatley volunteered, with other members of "KELVIN"'s company, to man a rescue boat. In a heavy swell with waves up to five metres in height and winds of 50 to 60 knots, Mr Wheatley and his fellow crewmen manoeuvred their open five metre boat in imminent danger of capsize or swamping. After locating and recovering "KELVIN"'s Chief Officer, Mr Wheatley and the crew of the rescue boat continued their search for the other man until further deteriorating conditions forced them to abandon the attempt.

By his actions Mr Wheatley displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Master David Graeme WIESE
145 Kent Road
HAMILTON VIC 3300

On 28 April 1991 David Wiese, then 14 years old, saw two young men clinging to an overturned kayak on Hamilton Lake at Hamilton. One of the men started to swim to the bank but when he was approximately 20 metres out appeared to be in serious trouble and called for help. David entered the extremely cold water, swam to the man and assisted him to the shore. An attempt by an off duty Police Officer to rescue the other man was unsuccessful due to the extremely cold water.

By his actions David Wiese displayed considerable bravery.

Master Billy ZAMAGIAS
43 Lime Street
CABRAMATTA NSW 2166

On 15 June 1990, Billy Zamagias, then aged 15, assisted in the rescue of an elderly woman from a burning house at Cabramatta. Billy, in company with a friend, entered the burning house through a broken window to render assistance to the resident. Although driven out by intense heat and smoke, Billy re-entered the house by another window, suffering lacerations and electrical shocks in the course of his search. Eventually Billy and his companion were able to remove the resident from the smoke filled home through another window and carry her to safety.

By his actions Master Zamagias displayed considerable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr James Mathew ASHBY
21 Windsor Street
-RICHMOND NSW 2753

On 7 November 1990 Mr Ashby witnessed a head on collision between a car and a van on the Bells Line of Road at Mount Tomah. As a result of the collision the van, which was wedged tightly against the other vehicle, caught fire. Mr Ashby ran to the van to help release the injured driver but the door was jammed. He attempted unsuccessfully to beat out the flames which were now coming into the cabin area. With the assistance of two other men Mr Ashby pulled the driver through the window and dragged him to a place of safety shortly before the van exploded.

For his actions Mr Ashby is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Stuart William BAILLIE
12 Mitchell Street
WHYALLA SA 5608

On 3 April 1991 Mr Baillie went to a neighbour's burning house knowing that an elderly man was inside. He was unable to enter the house by the back entrance because of the ferocity of the fire in the kitchen. He went in through the front door but was driven back by the dense smoke. Mr Baillie then heard a call for help from the interior of the house. He again entered the house and this time succeeded in reaching the lounge room where he was able to assist another neighbour in dragging the shocked and smoke affected resident to safety.

For his actions Mr Baillie is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Miss Hannah Marie BAIRD
4 Deodar Drive
BURLEIGH HEADS QLD 4220

In the early hours of 20 November 1990, Miss Hannah Baird, then aged 13, was awoken by the sound of a woman screaming. She went to her mother's bedroom and turning on the light saw a man holding her struggling mother down on the bed. After arming herself with a kitchen knife Hannah returned to her mother's bedroom and demanded that the man release her mother. After a moment's hesitation the man ran from the room pursued by Hannah who abandoned the chase as he ran into a neighbouring yard.

For her actions Miss Baird is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Jeffrey Robert BORLACE
4 Rapsey Court
WODONGA VIC 3690

On 28 January 1991 Mr Borlace, a volunteer fireman was awoken by his Fire Brigade audio pager and proceeded directly to a house fire in Wodonga. On arrival he saw three other firemen at the house which was well alight with flames coming through the roof. Mr Borlace ran up the drive and climbed over some solid iron gates which he then unlocked to gain access to the rear of the building. After another fireman had broken a window and removed a person from inside Mr Borlace looked inside and saw a small child lying on the floor. There was thick smoke down to the level of the tops of the beds. Without breathing apparatus he entered the house through the broken window and saw another child on one of the beds. Mr Borlace passed the child who was on the floor out through the window, went back into the room, rescued the child from the bed and as he did so, saw another child whom he also rescued.

For his actions Mr Borlace is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Constable First Class Kelvin Robert BRADSTOCK
New South Wales Police Service

On the afternoon of 26 July 1990 Constable First Class Bradstock was assisting other police officers in the pursuit of two men on foot following a high speed car chase. As he turned a corner he saw another police officer being held at gun point by one of the men they had been following. Constable Bradstock advanced enabling his fellow officer to disarm the distracted offender, while he subdued the unarmed offender.

For his actions Constable First Class Bradstock is commended for brave conduct.

Constable Timothy Patrick CALMAN
New South Wales Police Service

On the afternoon of 24 October 1990 Constable Calman of the Police Air Wing rescued a wind-surfer in hazardous conditions off Barrenjoey. Constable Calman entered the sea from a Police helicopter and swam through a six metre swell with choppy waves in a 40 knot wind to reach the distressed wind-surfer. Constable Calman then supported the man until the arrival of a Police launch. During the transfer of the exhausted man across the stern, Constable Calman was exposed to further danger from the vessel's propellers and from the violent motion of the launch. He was struck several times about the head and body by the launch during the transfer.

For his actions Constable Calman is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Leslie George CRIDLAND
-25 Linden Avenue
ORANGE NSW 2800

Early in the morning of 30 May 1991 Mr Cridland rescued a two-year-old boy from a burning house at Orange. Mr Cridland, who had been awoken and informed of the fire by his wife, found his neighbour's house burning fiercely and full of heavy smoke. Although unable to enter on his first attempt, Mr Cridland eventually gained access through a bedroom window and brought out a small boy, slightly injuring himself on the way. Mr Cridland attempted to enter the building again but was prevented by the severe conditions that had developed.

For his actions Mr Cridland is commended for brave conduct.

Constable Richard David ELLIN
Victoria Police Force

In the early hours of 12 January 1991 Constable Ellin with other police officers attended a domestic fire at a two storey block of flats in St Kilda. In heavy smoke Constable Ellin participated in the evacuation of the occupants of the flats, and assisted one resident to safety outside the building. Although the fire was now out of control Constable Ellin re-entered the blazing building and continued the evacuation of the remaining flats, at times having to crawl on his stomach under the dense smoke. All of the occupants were evacuated without loss of life.

For his actions Constable Ellin is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Winston Leonard FABER
21 Stonehaven Avenue
DUBBO NSW 2830

On 6 January 1990 while travelling to Dubbo on the Ballimore Road Mr Faber stopped to render assistance where a vehicle had collided with a tree. The sole occupant of the damaged car was injured and unconscious. A grass fire had started beneath and around the car, and quickly ignited the vehicle itself. Despite the rapid spread of the fire, Mr Faber, with the help of another person, removed the unconscious driver to a place of safety. The car was destroyed by the fire.

For his actions Mr Faber is commended for brave conduct.

Miss Beverly Anne FOYE
69 Peisley Street
ORANGE NSW 2800

While driving into Orange late on the night of 21 October 1990 Miss Foye stopped and offered assistance at the scene of an accident where a utility had collided with a power pole. A fire had broken out in the engine area of the damaged vehicle and fallen power lines lay across the bonnet. The injured driver was pushing against the door but was incapable of leaving the vehicle. Miss Foye opened the door and dragged him out onto the ground. As the fire worsened she removed him to a position of safety and rendered assistance until the arrival of ambulance and police services.

For her actions Miss Foye is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Constable Darren FRANKS
Victoria Police Force

In the early hours of 12 January 1991 Constable Franks was called to assist other police officers at a domestic fire in a two storey block of flats in St Kilda. In heavy smoke Constable Franks participated in the evacuation of the occupants of the flats, and assisted one resident to safety outside the building. Although the fire was now out of control Constable Franks re-entered the blazing building and continued the evacuation of the remaining flats, at times having to crawl on his stomach under the dense smoke. All of the occupants were evacuated without loss of life.

For his actions Constable Franks is commended for brave conduct.

Zone Commander Lance GUDGEON
New South Wales Fire Brigades

During the night of 1 April 1990 Inspector Gudgeon attended a major fire and explosions in a liquid petroleum gas tank farm at St Peters. Following an order to evacuate the area in which Inspector Gudgeon was operating, several firefighters remained to reposition a ground monitor. Although aware of the danger of an imminent explosion Inspector Gudgeon remained at his post within the danger zone until the monitor crew had withdrawn. Shortly after Inspector Gudgeon left the area the first of a series of boiling liquid vapour explosions took place.

For his actions Inspector Gudgeon is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Elie HADDAD
11 Elaine Street
REGENTS PARK NSW 2143

On the afternoon of 8 December 1988 Mr Haddad intervened in an attempted armed robbery of his jewellery shop at Regents Park, preventing possible serious injury to his business partner and his partner's wife. During a struggle Mr Haddad, who was unarmed, suffered severe lacerations before taking possession of a hatchet from an intruder, and eventually overpowering him. Mr Haddad's action enabled his partner's wife, who had been previously attacked, to escape. Mr Haddad also assisted in restraining the other member of the hold-up attempt who was armed with a sawn off shotgun and was struggling with Mr Haddad's business partner.

For his actions Mr Haddad is commended for brave conduct.

Constable Scott Gregory HAYNES
New South Wales Police Service

On the afternoon of 26 July 1990 Constable Haynes was assisting other police officers in the pursuit of two men on foot following a high speed car chase. As he turned a corner he saw another police officer being held at gun point by one of the men they had been following. Constable Haynes attracted the attention of the armed man enabling his fellow officer to disarm the offender. Constable Haynes then participated in subduing the offender.

For his actions Constable Haynes is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Michael Alexander KAY
-34 Benghazi Road
CARLINGFORD NSW 2118

On 21 January 1991 at Carlingford Mr Kay went to the aid of two neighbours who were in contact with live power lines brought down during a storm. Utilizing a wooden handled garden hoe Mr Kay dragged the power line clear of the victims and held it in a safe position enabling first aid to be rendered.

For his actions Mr Kay is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Peter John KELLY
79 Burbridge Road
HILTON SA 5033

On the night of 22 July 1991 Mr Kelly resisted an armed hold-up attempt at a Marleston service station. Faced with a demand for money by an armed man, Mr Kelly responded by striking him with a hammer. Although aware of the danger from the man's pistol Mr Kelly engaged him in a further physical encounter, eventually putting the intending hold-up man to flight.

For his actions Mr Kelly is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Harald KLOSE
27 Genevieve Road
BULLABURRA NSW 2784

On 7 November 1990 Mr Klose witnessed a head on collision between a car and a van on the Bells Line of Road at Mount Tomah. As a result of the collision the van, which was wedged tightly against the other vehicle, caught fire. Mr Klose ran to the van to help release the injured driver but the door was jammed. With the assistance of two other men Mr Klose pulled the driver through the window and dragged him to a place of safety shortly before the van exploded. Mr Klose then went to the car where an elderly lady in the back seat had sustained injuries. He helped to lift her out and administered first aid until medical assistance arrived.

For his actions Mr Klose is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Donald Allan McCROW
"Pine Grove"
WESTMERE VIC 3351

On 27 July 1991 Mr McCrow was driving on the Ballarat Road at Haddon when he saw a utility hit a bridge pylon, leave the road and burst into flames. Mr McCrow stopped and went to help. The driver was unconscious and pinned hard against the seat. Reaching through the fire which was burning where the gear box is normally installed Mr McCrow was able to remove a small boy through a hole where the engine should have been. He carried the boy to the road where other motorists assisted.

For his actions Mr McCrow is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Andrew Peter MATTHEWS
528 Gold Creek Road
BROOKFIELD QLD 4069

On 28 March 1990 Mr Matthews was returning home when he saw flames coming from an upper window of his boarding house. He ran upstairs, grabbed a fire extinguisher and knocked a hole in the door of the burning room. Entering he saw the occupant lying unconscious on the floor just inside the door. Mr Matthews tried unsuccessfully to drag the man from the room but sprayed him with the extinguisher, until he was driven outside by the heat and smoke.

For his actions Mr Matthews is commended for brave conduct.

Senior Sergeant Peter Ronald MORRISON, APM
South Australia Police Department

On 28 September 1989, whilst off duty, Senior Sergeant Morrison observed smoke issuing from the cell complex at Marla Police Station. Entering the area, Sergeant Morrison found it burning and filled with smoke; a female prisoner was trapped in a blazing cell. At considerable personal risk Sergeant Morrison attempted to remove the prisoner but was twice driven out by the intensity of the heat and fumes. Despite the increasing danger of the situation, he again entered the cell and succeeded in dragging the prisoner clear of the fire. Disregarding his own injuries from the rescue, Sergeant Morrison then carried out appropriate measures to alleviate the discomfort and pain of the prisoner, and undertook the main burden of extinguishing the fire.

For his actions Senior Sergeant Morrison is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr John Frederick NEWTON
290 Auburn Road
YAGOONA NSW 2199

On the afternoon of 8 December 1988 Mr Newton intervened in an attempted armed robbery of his jewellery shop at Regents Park, preventing possible serious injuries to his wife and to his business partner. During a struggle Mr Newton, who was unarmed, suffered lacerations and contusions before taking possession of a sawn-off shotgun from an intruder and eventually overpowering him. Mr Newton's action enabled his wife, who had been previously attacked by this intruder, to escape. Mr Newton then assisted in restraining the other member of the hold-up attempt, who was armed with a hatchet and was struggling with Mr Newton's business partner.

For his actions Mr Newton is commended for brave conduct.

Mr John PERMEWAN
75 Oakey Flat Road
MORAYFIELD QLD 4506

On 3 January 1991 Mr Permewan was awoken by his wife who told him that the house next door was on fire. He ran to his garden hose, jumped the dividing fence and saw that flames issuing from the kitchen window extended well over the height of the roof. After being told that children were inside the burning building Mr Permewan hosed the interior from the kitchen door to enable entry to the seat of the fire in the kitchen. As the fire was brought under control he hosed another neighbour who entered the house and emerged with a little girl. A short time later another child walked through the smoke and fumes.

For his actions Mr Permewan is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Rodney Stephen PETERS
"Warrah Creek"
WILLOW TREE NSW 2339

On the night of 26 January 1991 Mr Peters rescued members of a neighbouring family from flood waters near Willow Tree. The family had been isolated between flooded creeks and were making their way to higher ground when their vehicle was swamped by breakaway waters from Borambil Creek. Mr Peters saw the headlights and came to investigate when they disappeared. He went to meet the family as they left their vehicle, took one child, but was knocked off his feet by the force of the water. He maintained a grip on the boy and started off again only to lose his footing again. Mr Peters made a third attempt carrying one child, holding the hand of another with the mother holding on to him to keep her balance. They had made good progress up the road when the father of the children came out to meet them with a long extension cord secured to a post. Mr Peters and the other man were then able to move the family, one by one, to high ground.

For his actions Mr Peters is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Rupert Henry POTTER
35 Orara Street
WAITARA NSW 2077

On 16 January 1991 Mr Potter extinguished a fire in a house at Waitara and conducted a hazardous search for possible occupants trapped in the building. Immediately on becoming aware that his neighbour's house was on fire Mr Potter, equipped only with a garden hose, attacked the blaze. When the fire was extinguished he thoroughly searched the house in dense smoke, being forced to crawl beneath the stifling fumes.

For his actions Mr Potter is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Constable Matthew James SCHIBECI
New South Wales Police Service

In the early hours of 5 May 1990 Constable Schibeci was instructed to assist a taxi driver who had been assaulted at Randwick. On the arrival of the police the assailant jumped a fence and ran down a narrow laneway pursued by Constable Schibeci and another police officer. As he approached the end of the lane the man became aware of other police officers blocking his way and raised an axe he was holding above his head in a threatening manner. Constable Schibeci ordered the man to drop the axe and when he failed to do so drew his firearm and repeated the order which was again ignored. When the offender was about a metre from the other officers Constable Schibeci, rather than use his firearm, caught up with him, wrestled him to the ground and disarmed him.

For his actions Constable Schibeci is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Ian James SCHOON
42 Castlereagh Road
WILBERFORCE NSW 2756

On 7 November 1990 Mr Schoon was a passenger in a van which collided head on with a car on the Bells Line of Road at Mount Tomah. Immediately after the collision Mr Schoon jumped out of the van and went to the driver's door. Seeing that the driver was injured he decided not to move him but saw flames coming up from underneath the van. Mr Schoon could not then remove the injured man as the door was jammed. With the assistance of two other men Mr Schoon pulled the driver through the window and dragged him to a place of safety shortly before the van exploded.

For his actions Mr Schoon is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Scott Maxwell TAYLOR
44 Elvire Street
WATERMAN WA 6020

On 25 October 1990 Mr Taylor rescued a man threatening suicide by jumping from the eleventh floor of the Royal Perth Hospital. Mr Taylor, a building worker on the Royal Perth Hospital, was among those present when Hospital Orderlies and Police were negotiating with a man who had climbed onto a narrow ledge outside the hospital's eleventh floor and was threatening to take his own life. While Police continued to engage the depressed man in conversation Mr Taylor voluntarily, and wearing a body harness, climbed onto the ledge in a concealed position and at an opportune moment grappled him away from the edge and restrained him until he was hauled to a position of safety.

For his actions Mr Taylor is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Christopher George TURNBULL
Main Road
GORDON TAS 7150

On the afternoon of 18 May 1991 Mr Turnbull rescued an unconscious man from a burning car at Middleton. The car had left the road out of control, crashed and caught fire with the driver unconscious and belted in his seat. Mr Turnbull, who had heard the crash from his house ran to the scene of the accident. Aware of the imminent danger of explosion, he leaned his entire body into the burning car, released the seat belt and dragged the driver to a place of safety. Shortly after the petrol tank ignited and the entire vehicle was engulfed in flames.

For his actions Mr Turnbull is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Constable Robert John YOUNG
Victoria Police Force

In the early hours of 12 January 1991 Constable Young with other police officers attended a domestic fire at a two storey block of flats in St Kilda. In heavy smoke Constable Young participated in the evacuation of the occupants of the flats, and assisted one resident to safety outside the building. Although the fire was now out of control Constable Young re-entered the blazing building and continued the evacuation of the remaining flats, at times having to crawl on his stomach under the dense smoke. All of the occupants were evacuated without loss of life.

For his actions Constable Young is commended for
brave conduct.

GROUP CITATION FOR BRAVERY

Firefighter Sean Edward DEWLING
Firefighter Mark David TANSWELL
Station Officer Silvio VENTURA

Station 5 Newtown
New South Wales Fire Brigades

On the night of 1 April 1990 "D" Platoon from New South Wales Fire Brigades Station 5, Newtown, was the first to respond to a major fire and explosions in a liquid petroleum gas tank farm at St Peters. With two of the tanks and a road tanker burning and an explosion likely, "D" Platoon operated a pumper from an advanced position to provide pressure for a cooling stream of water to be projected over the emptying liquid petroleum gas tanks. Despite the hazards of their position, "D" Platoon continued to operate the unit until the order to evacuate was given. Shortly after their withdrawal from the danger zone the first of a series of boiling liquid expanding vapour explosions took place.

Accordingly this warrant is issued in recognition of the bravery in extraordinary circumstances of Firefighter Sean Edward Dewling, Firefighter Mark David Tanswell and Station Officer Silvio Ventura.

GROUP CITATION FOR BRAVERY

Firefighter Darrel BOON
Firefighter Scott McCOY
Firefighter James Gordon SHACKLETON
Firefighter Maxwell Bryant WILSON
Firefighter Richard Mark YOUNG

Station 13 Alexandria
New South Wales Fire Brigades

On the night of 1 April 1990 units of New South Wales Fire Brigades Station 13, Alexandria, attended a major fire and explosions in a liquid petroleum gas tank farm at St Peters. With two of the tanks and a road tanker burning and an explosion likely, the crew of No. 13 pumper moved their unit forward to enable a cooling stream of water to be projected over the erupting tanks. Despite the hazards of their position, the crew continued to operate their unit after an order to evacuate was given. During this time the crew of No. 13 Hydraulic Platform also moved their unit into the danger zone, to assist, and remained there until the evacuation order.

Accordingly this warrant is issued in recognition of the bravery in extraordinary circumstances of Firefighter Darrel Boon, Firefighter Scott McCoy, Firefighter James Gordon Shackleton, Firefighter Maxwell Bryant Wilson and Firefighter Richard Mark Young of New South Wales Fire Brigades No. 13 Station, Alexandria.