

STAR OF COURAGE

Mr Scott Daniel BAILEY
76 Thomas Street
NEDLANDS WA 6009

On the afternoon of 6 July 1991 Scott Bailey, then aged 17, swam through dangerous seas at Cape Freycinet to assist a drowning fisherman. Scott, who was visiting Cape Freycinet with his father and brother, was one of several people in the vicinity when a fisherman fell eight metres from rocks into a heavy sea. Despite cold conditions, a strong current and large swell, Scott stripped, dived 10 metres into the sea, and swam for 15 minutes carrying a sealed bucket and hauling a rescue line. On reaching the unconscious fisherman, Scott spent some time attempting, unsuccessfully, to revive him and then commenced bringing him back to shore. During the return journey the rescue line parted and Scott twice had the fisherman pulled from his grip by rough waves. Scott's condition was reduced by these events and he was forced to abandon his attempt to bring the fisherman to the shore. Scott needed to be assisted from the water by family members and others participating in the rescue attempt from the shore.

By his actions Mr Bailey displayed conspicuous courage.

Mr Mitchell John HANCOCK
38 Mackays Road
COFFS HARBOUR NSW 2450

Early in the afternoon of 19 June 1991 at Coffs Harbour, Mr Hancock, then a student at Orara High School, initiated action to overpower and restrain a youth armed with a rifle. The youth was on open ground and had fired a number of shots in the direction of students and teachers, wounding three of them. Without regard for his personal safety, and conscious of the need to avert further bloodshed, Mr Hancock ran with three other students across open ground to tackle the youth and restrain him. Throughout their approach the youth continued to fire at students and teachers, and without the prompt and courageous actions of Mr Hancock and his fellow students this life threatening situation could have had even graver consequences.

By his actions Mr Hancock displayed conspicuous courage.

STAR OF COURAGE

Senior Constable Michael Francis SYMES
Queensland Police Service

During the night of 18-19 May 1990 Senior Constable Symes controlled an armed man at Tambo while securing the release of two hostages, maintaining psychological pressure to prevent widespread shooting, and eventually overpowering the offender. A little before midnight a man armed with a rifle shot a motorist, threatened others, and walked the streets of Tambo firing indiscriminately. Constable Symes, who was unarmed for most of the time, engaged the man in conversation and although repeatedly threatened by him remained in his company until just before daybreak. During this time Constable Symes influenced the offender to desist from shooting a number of other people and to release two hostages he had taken. Despite the danger of his position, Constable Symes maintained a commanding perspective and arranged for the streets to be cleared, the wounded motorist to be evacuated, police support called and civilian assistants deployed. Eventually, disregarding the increased risk to his personal safety, Constable Symes closed in on the gunman and overpowered him.

By his actions Senior Constable Symes displayed conspicuous courage.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Jeffrey Brian ACKLAND (Posthumous Award)
Late of 18 Kookaburra Avenue
NORTH BENDIGO VIC 3550

Next-of-Kin: Mrs Julie Anne ACKLAND
18 Kookaburra Avenue
NORTH BENDIGO VIC 3550

On the afternoon of 16 March 1991 Mr Ackland gave his life in attempting to rescue a boy from drowning near Tandara Pondage. Mr Ackland was fishing near Tandara Pondage when he was told by two boys that one of their companions was in difficulties in the turbulent waters immediately below the spillway on Pyramid Number 1 Main Channel. Without hesitation and with full knowledge of the danger involved, Mr Ackland plunged fully clothed into the water to assist the drowning boy. The unconscious boy was recovered but Mr Ackland was overcome by the force of the surging waters and was swept away. The rescued boy later died in hospital.

By his actions Mr Ackland displayed considerable bravery thereby losing his life in the rescue attempt.

Mr Adrian ALEXANDER
4 Jesmond Street
SURREY HILLS NSW 2010

On 24 December 1985 an offender armed with a knife stabbed three people in front of a hotel in Rundle Street, Adelaide. Mr Alexander and a companion chased him as he ran towards Rundle Mall. As they ran after him, the offender was turning and threatening them with the knife, but they persisted in the chase and eventually caught him. Mr Alexander was at last able to grab him from behind, pinning both arms to his sides. Together with his companion they pushed him to the ground where he dropped the knife and was subsequently handcuffed.

By his actions Mr Alexander displayed considerable bravery in preventing the escape of a dangerous offender among the Christmas shopping crowds.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Constable First Class John BELBIN
Tasmania Police Service

Early in the morning of 7 September 1990 Constable First Class Belbin disarmed an offender at Salamanca Place, Hobart. The offender was holding an armed smoke grenade, at that time believed to be a fragmentation grenade, which he indicated he would use to obtain possession of a firearm to take his own life. Without regard for his own safety Constable Belbin moved in on the offender and grasped the grenade, keeping the offender's hand firmly clasped around the fly-off lever until other Police officers rendered assistance. Constable Belbin then took the smoke grenade to a clear area and with the help of another officer rendered it safe.

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

Mr David Eric DOUGLAS
NORMANTON QLD 4890

On the night of 28 February 1991 Mr Douglas overpowered an armed man at Croydon. On learning that a man, armed with a rifle and known to him, was threatening to shoot members of his own family Mr Douglas and another person sought him out with the intention of dissuading him from his purpose. During the confrontation the armed man pointed the loaded and cocked weapon at Mr Douglas threatening to shoot him. While the man was engaged in conversation Mr Douglas restrained him by pinning his arms until assistance arrived. Mr Douglas then disarmed the man.

By his actions Mr Douglas displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Oswald FARRUGIA
3 Occupation Road
KYEEMAGH NSW 2216

On 13 July 1991 Mr Farrugia attempted to disarm an offender during a robbery in a liquor store at Brighton. Mr Farrugia, a customer in the store, went to the assistance of the female cashier who was being threatened with a gun, struck the offender and threw him to the floor. Despite being injured in the struggle which followed, Mr Farrugia was able to partially remove the offender's balaclava enabling him to later supply a description before the offender, still armed, escaped. Mr Farrugia followed the man out the door, saw him enter a car, shouted the registration number to witnesses and then gave chase in his own car. After losing the offending vehicle Mr Farrugia returned to the liquor store and gave assistance to other victims of the offence until police arrived.

By his actions Mr Farrugia displayed considerable courage.

Mr Andrew Malcolm FORD
77 Prince James Avenue
COFFS HARBOUR NSW 2450

Early in the afternoon of 19 June 1991 at Coffs Harbour, Mr Ford, then a student at Orara High School, assisted in overpowering and disarming a youth armed with a rifle. The youth was on open ground and had fired a number of shots in the direction of students and teachers, wounding three of them. Without regard for his personal safety, and conscious of the need to avert further bloodshed, Mr Ford ran with three other students across open ground to grapple with the youth and disarm him. Throughout their approach the youth continued to fire at students and teachers, and without the prompt and courageous actions of Mr Ford and his fellow students this life threatening situation could have had even graver consequences.

By his actions Mr Ford displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Bruce William FOX
15 Brendon Street
NORTH RYDE NSW 2113

On 4 September 1991 Mr Fox rescued a baby from a fire in premises above a shop at North Ryde. When told by a woman that her baby was still in an upstairs bedroom, Mr Fox attempted unsuccessfully to gain entry by the burning stairs. He then climbed a ladder to an awning and opened the window of the baby's bedroom. He was twice driven back by the heat and smoke before he heard the baby crying. He then entered the smoke filled room and located her by following the sound of her crying and carried her to safety.

By his actions Mr Fox displayed considerable courage.

Mr Peter GRANT
28 Caltowie Place
COFFS HARBOUR NSW 2450

Early in the afternoon of 19 June 1991 at Coffs Harbour, Mr Grant, then a student at Orara High School, participated in overpowering and restraining a youth armed with a rifle. The youth was on open ground and had fired a number of shots in the direction of students and teachers, wounding three of them. Without regard for his personal safety, and conscious of the need to avert further bloodshed, Mr Grant ran with three other students across open ground to tackle the youth and restrain him. Throughout their approach the youth continued to fire at students and teachers, and without the prompt and courageous actions of Mr Grant and his fellow students this life threatening situation could have had even graver consequences.

By his actions Mr Grant displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Paul Jacob HARRISON
265 Banksia Street
IVANHOE VIC 3079

On the morning of 26 January 1990 Mr Harrison placed his personal safety in jeopardy to rescue an injured fellow crewman. While serving as Mate on an ocean-going dredge Mr Harrison was supervising work on the foredeck when a mooring line began releasing from its bollards. The flailing end of the line injured and incapacitated a seaman, leaving him in a position of danger of further injury and possible death. Without regard for the risk to his own safety Mr Harrison immediately entered the arc of the whipping line's end and removed the injured seaman to safety. In effecting the rescue Mr Harrison was himself injured.

By his actions Mr Harrison displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Yettie LAM
30 Arthur Street
RANDWICK NSW 2031

Early on the afternoon of 2 November 1991 Mr Lam rescued a young girl from a burning vehicle at Randwick. Alerted to the situation by the girl's mother who was removing a younger child, Mr Lam at once recognised the risk to the girl trapped inside the blazing vehicle. Without concern for his own safety Mr Lam smashed a window and entered the vehicle. Despite the extreme hazard of his position Mr Lam searched in the dense smoke until he located the child and although experiencing burns to his face and hands and suffering smoke inhalation brought her to safety.

By his actions Mr Lam displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Nathan John McKELLIGOTT
38 Francis Street
COFFS HARBOUR NSW 2450

Early in the afternoon of 19 June 1991 at Coffs Harbour, Mr McKelligott, then a student at Orara High School, participated in overpowering and disarming a youth armed with a rifle. The youth was on open ground and had fired a number of shots in the direction of students and teachers, wounding three of them. Without regard for his personal safety, and conscious of the need to avert further bloodshed, Mr McKelligott ran with three other students across open ground to tackle the youth and disarm him. Throughout their approach the youth continued to fire at students and teachers, and without the prompt and courageous actions of Mr McKelligott and his fellow students this life threatening situation could have had even graver consequences.

By his actions Mr McKelligott displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Colin James Grahame MACKIE
1 Isaac Smith Street
KINGSFORD NSW 2032

On the morning of 19 August 1991 Mr Mackie attempted to detain and disarm an offender following an armed robbery at Eastlakes Golf Club. Mr Mackie, who was in the club house at the time of the robbery, pursued the armed man on foot and onto a bus. Displaying a high sense of public duty and disregarding his personal safety, he grappled with the offender until they both fell off the bus. Despite being threatened with a gun Mr Mackie maintained his efforts and during the struggle a shot was fired at close range. An attempted second shot by the offender failed when the gun jammed. Although shaken off Mr Mackie continued the pursuit on foot and by car until it was clear that the offender had escaped.

By his actions Mr Mackie displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr John Alwyn RODGER
Coochin Road
BOONAH QLD 4310

On the night of 7 February 1991 Mr Rodger participated in the rescue of a family of six from raging floodwaters at Boonah. Mr Rodger, in company with a friend, responded to calls for help from three children. They had been swept away when their parents' car was washed from the Coochin Road near Dugandan Bridge by rapidly rising and fast moving floodwaters. Without regard for his personal safety, Mr Rodger dived into the water and gathering the three children swam them to safety. Despite the continuing dangers from the strength of the flow and floating debris Mr Rodger again entered the floodwaters and with his friend assisted the parents and a baby to safety.

By his actions Mr Rodger displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Graeme Bernard SAMUELS
41 Orana Crescent
PEAKHURST HEIGHTS NSW 2210

On the morning of 5 March 1991 Mr Samuels, a Security Officer with the Federal Airports Corporation, restrained an armed man threatening public safety at Kingsford Smith Airport. The offender, suffering from a dangerous personality disorder, had endeavoured to damage motor vehicles, inflicted bodily harm on a number of people and was threatening members of the public, Security Staff and Police with a knife when Mr Samuels took action. Without regard for the dangers to himself Mr Samuels briskly moved a female Security Officer to safety and tackled the offender, bringing him to the ground and enabling other personnel to subdue him. Although armed with a heavy torch, Mr Samuels did not use it in restraining the offender as he did not wish to inflict unnecessary injury. In the course of his struggle with the offender Mr Samuels received a stab wound in the spinal area, resulting in him losing the use of his legs.

By his actions Mr Samuels displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Alexander SEAWRIGHT
2 Riley Street
EAST INNISFAIL QLD 4860

On the afternoon of 9 February 1991 Mr Seawright rescued an Innisfail resident from the hazardous waters of the South Johnstone River at Innisfail. At the time of the rescue the river was swollen and carrying a large quantity of debris from recent heavy rains. A tidal flow of five to six knots was running and crocodile and sea snake sightings had been reported. Despite the circumstances Mr Seawright unhesitatingly entered the water and swam to provide assistance to the man who was at this stage caught in a whirlpool. Mr Seawright managed to clear the man from the whirlpool and although close to exhaustion continued the rescue operation until he brought him to the wharf. In spite of Mr Seawright's efforts the man later died as a result of his immersion.

By his actions Mr Seawright displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Douglas Alvin SHARP (Posthumous Award)
late of Lot 1 Elizabeth Drive
LUDDENHAM NSW 2750

Next-of-Kin (son): Mr Darryl Adrian FLYNN
2 George Street
RIVERSTONE NSW 2765

On the afternoon of 22 September 1991 Mr Sharp gave his life while saving a young friend from drowning in a dam at Luddenham. Mr Sharp was taking children for a ride in his motor boat when one of his passengers fell overboard. Mr Sharp, not a strong swimmer, cut the motor and immediately went over the side to assist. Although experiencing difficulties and sinking three times he was able to keep the boy's head clear of the water and support him until friends arrived. Despite the efforts of friends and neighbours Mr Sharp could not be revived, and lost his life as a result of the rescue.

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

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Michael Anthony VAN NIEKERK
12 Suncoast Road
BLACKMANS BAY TAS 7052

On the morning of 30 May 1991 Mr Van Niekerk detained an emotionally unstable and armed man at Moonah while police assistance was requested. The man armed with a shotgun entered the factory where Mr Van Niekerk was employed and asked to speak with a female employee, in whose presence he planned to kill himself. He also indicated that any attempt to frustrate his intention would result in violent action. Concerned for the safety of other employees, Mr Van Niekerk persuaded the offender to move to an isolated area and kept him engaged in conversation while police were called. Without regard for his personal safety, Mr Van Niekerk remained with the armed man through several periods of extreme agitation and maintained a steady endeavour to convince the offender to surrender his weapon. The man was subsequently disarmed by police without harm to bystanders.

By his actions Mr Van Niekerk displayed considerable bravery.

Mr George VASILJEVIC
10 Sussex Street
CABRAMATTA NSW 2166

On the evening of 10 June 1991 Mr Vasiljevic saved a trapped motorist from drowning in flood waters at Cabramatta. Heavy rains had flooded Cabramatta Creek and resulted in serious local flooding which carried away a light car driven by a Cabramatta woman. Hearing her call for help, Mr Vasiljevic immediately swam through the cold and rapidly moving water to the car where he took hold of her and began the difficult journey to safety. Despite the great personal risk occasioned by the powerful and swirling flood stream, Mr Vasiljevic brought the woman to safety in a neighbour's yard.

By his actions Mr Vasiljevic displayed considerable bravery.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Gary Rodney ANDERSON
6 Dixon Street
BEACONSFIELD WA 6162

On the morning of 30 September 1991 in heavy conditions off Scarborough, Mr Anderson boarded an uncontrolled vessel and brought the crew and injured skipper to safety. Mr Anderson was First Mate on the Fremantle Volunteer Sea Rescue Vessel NEC-RIOO which answered a distress call from a pleasure cruiser in passage from Rottnest Island to Fremantle. In seas of three to four metres with winds gusting to 40 knots, the distressed cruiser was proceeding under its own power and with an unmanned helm towards Three Mile Reef; on board were the injured skipper and four passengers. Well aware of the dangers to the cruiser's company and equally aware of the risk to his own safety, Mr Anderson made a hazardous transfer from the rescue craft. Having with difficulty established himself on board he brought the cruiser under control, rendered first aid to the injured skipper, comforted the passengers then brought the vessel safely to sheltered waters.

For his actions Mr Anderson is commended for brave conduct.

Mrs Julie Annette BROWN
304A Armidale Road
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

On the morning of 15 June 1991 at Tamworth Mrs Brown participated in the evacuation of victims from a house made dangerous by a recent gas explosion. With another neighbour Ms Brown entered the unstable remains of the dwelling and assisted in the removal of two injured children. Despite live electric wires, fire and the imminent danger of further explosion, Mrs Brown remained standing by to render further assistance while two seriously injured adults were evacuated from the ruined house.

For her actions Mrs Brown is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Raymond Shane BUTLER
Unit 4/5 Angie Court
MERMAID WATERS QLD 4218

On 3 August 1990 Mr Butler, a taxi driver, stopped to offer assistance to any occupants of a car which had crashed in a ditch at Burleigh Heads. The damaged car was burning in the engine compartment and the sole occupant was trapped in the rear seat area. While Mr Butler was endeavouring to free the occupant the fire spread through the fire-wall to the interior of the car. Despite resistance by the trapped man and the danger of his position Mr Butler persisted in his efforts until he was able to drag the man free and move him to a position of safety. The interior of the car was then engulfed in flames.

For his action Mr Butler is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Darren Greame Kenneth CAMPBELL
4 Leeander Crescent
RAVENSWOOD TAS 7250

On the morning of 16 December 1990 Mr Campbell participated in the attempted rescue of a child from a burning dwelling unit at Ravenswood. Mr Campbell had attended the fire to offer assistance when he learned that a child was trapped inside. Disregarding the risk to his personal safety, he unhesitatingly entered the burning building and searched for the child until driven back by the intense heat and dense smoke. Mr Campbell and another man later re-entered the unit with a hose and continued searching in life-threatening conditions until forced to abandon the attempt by the increasing flames, heat and smoke.

For his actions Mr Campbell is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Gordon CAMPBELL
22 Ellis Street
CONDELL PARK NSW 2200

Early in the morning of 18 January 1990 Mr Campbell resisted the demands of an armed offender following the robbery of a service station at Yagoona. After the hold-up the offender ordered Mr Campbell, a customer, into his car and ordered him at gun point to drive off. Mr Campbell grappled with the armed man and gained possession of the rifle, which he subsequently used to restrain the offender with the assistance of another customer.

For his actions Mr Campbell is commended for brave conduct.

Constable Glenn Michael CLARKE
New South Wales Police Service

On 27 March 1991 near Green Point Constable Clarke participated in the rescue of an injured firefighter from a rapidly advancing bushfire. In company with another police officer, Constable Clarke was travelling in a police vehicle to take up a position for traffic control in a bushfire affected area when their situation was threatened by a sudden change in the speed and direction of the fire. They delayed their escape from the danger zone to take on board an injured and partly immobilised member of the Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade who lay in the path of an advancing wall of flame. As they brought him into the vehicle the fire engulfed the area, exposing the three occupants of the vehicle to multiple hazards from asphyxiation, combustion of the vehicle, and fuel tank explosions. Later they were able to drive through the still burning area and deliver the injured firefighter to safety.

For his actions Constable Clarke is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr John George CLUNIES-ROSS
COCOS ISLANDS 6799

On the morning of 26 April 1991 Mr Clunies-Ross voluntarily entered an area of extreme danger to rescue an injured crew member from a ditched aircraft off West Island, in Cocos Island Lagoon. The aircraft, carrying 25,000 litres of aviation fuel and saltwater-activated explosive ordnance, had broken up on crashing and discharged highly volatile aviation fuel over a wide area of the lagoon surface. Mr Clunies-Ross brought his motor boat to the accident site, and although recognizing the hazards of imminent conflagration and hull damage from immersed wreckage, proceeded through the danger zone to the remains of the starboard wing. He picked up a seriously injured crew member and two others who were administering Cardiac Pulmonary Resuscitation to the injured man and conveyed them out of the danger area. While at the aircraft Mr Clunies-Ross was calm and reassuring, helping to relieve the post-crash shock of other crew members.

For his actions Mr Clunies-Ross is commended for brave conduct.

Lieutenant Gregory Stephan DAVIES
4/10 Eltham Street
DULWICH HILL NSW 2203

On 11 December 1989 Lieutenant Davies, whilst making an enquiry at an inner Sydney bank observed a man carrying a cotton money bag running towards the bank exit. Lieutenant Davies grappled with the man who resisted violently but lost possession of the money bag. An accomplice overpowered Lieutenant Davies from behind, allowing the two men to flee into the street. He pursued then tackled one of the offenders and engaged in a vigorous attempt to detain them both.

For his actions Lieutenant Davies is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Jamie Russell DAVIS
77 Warring Street
RAVENSWOOD TAS 7250

On the morning of 16 December 1990 Mr Davis participated in the attempted rescue of a child from a burning dwelling unit at Ravenswood. Mr Davis had attended the fire to offer assistance when he learned that a child was trapped inside. Disregarding the risk to his personal safety, he unhesitatingly entered the burning building and searched for the child until driven back by the intense heat and dense smoke. Mr Davis and another man later re-entered the unit with a hose and continued searching in life-threatening conditions until forced to abandon the attempt by the increasing flames, heat and smoke.

For his actions Mr Davis is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Richard Claude FORREST
8 Sally Court
RASMUSSEN QLD 4817

Shortly after midnight on 5 February 1991 Mr Forrest rescued two stranded people from the Barratta Creek north of Ayr. Mr Forrest, a truck driver, responded to a call for assistance from the driver and passenger of a small station wagon who had to abandon their vehicle when it was swept from the road by a torrent of flood water. They swam to a tree where they were cut off by the rapidly rising flow. Placing his own life at some risk Mr Forrest twice swam with a rope across the rapidly flowing waters and brought the two motorists safely through the flooded creek.

For his actions Mr Forrest is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Phillip Kevin FREEMAN
29 Ancrum Street
CASSILIS NSW 2329

On the night of 7 August 1991 Mr Freeman participated in the rescue of three children from a burning house at Cassilis. Informed that the house of friends was on fire, he immediately responded. Entering the burning house Mr Freeman located two children and saw them to safety. Once outside, he was informed that a third child was still in the house. Despite the intense heat and thick smoke Mr Freeman, accompanied by another Cassilis resident, re-entered the blazing building and after a difficult search located the third child and carried him to safety.

For his actions Mr Freeman is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Errol James GILL
Coochin Road
BOONAH QLD 4310

On the night of 7 February 1991 Mr Gill participated in the rescue of a family of six from raging floodwaters at Boonah. Mr Gill, in company with a friend, responded to calls for help from three children. They had been swept away when their parents' car was washed from Coochin Road near Dugandan Bridge by rapidly rising and fast moving floodwaters. Mr Gill assisted his friend to safely bring the children to the shore. Despite the continuing dangers from the strength of the flow and floating debris Mr Gill again entered the floodwaters and with his friend assisted the parents and a baby to safety.

For his actions Mr Gill is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Robert Alfred GRIBBLE
8/12 Cove Avenue
MANLY NSW 2095

On the afternoon of 25 January 1991 Mr Gribble overpowered and detained an armed man at Manly. Mr Gribble was alone in his newsagency when he was surprised by a man who held a knife to his chest and demanded money. As the till was opened the man dropped the knife to waist height giving Mr Gribble the opportunity to grab the offender's right hand, which was holding the knife, and push him backwards through the opening in the counter. Both men overbalanced and in the violent struggle which followed the offender was disarmed and pinned down by Mr Gribble who called for assistance. Fearing that no one had heard his calls Mr Gribble moved the offender closer to the front of the shop where a further struggle ensued during which blows were exchanged before the arrival of the police.

For his actions Mr Gribble is commended for brave conduct.

Constable Paul Sidney HEWSON
Australian Federal Police

On the afternoon of 16 December 1989 Constable Hewson and two others attempted to rescue a woman who had been washed from rocks on Beecroft Peninsula and into the Tasman Sea. Despite extremely adverse conditions the three men put to sea in Police Launch "ARGUS". There was a 15 to 20 knot south easterly wind blowing, with a five to six metre swell and a three metre swell angling back off the cliffs. With disregard for their own safety they persevered because a radio report indicated the sighting of a person still swimming. Constable Hewson and his companions searched for more than an hour with "green" water breaking over the launch which on several occasions tipped completely on its side. After recovering the body of the drowned woman they returned to shore with the increased difficulty of no windscreen wipers and the cabin filled with smoke and the smell of burning fibreglass from the burned out wiper motor.

For his actions Constable Hewson is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Paul Anthony HOPWOOD
81 Proctor Parade
CHESTER HILL NSW 2162

Early in the morning of 18 January 1990 Mr Hopwood participated in the capture of an armed offender at a Yagoona service station. Seeing the man attempting to escape with the proceeds of the hold-up in the commandeered vehicle of another customer, Mr Hopwood moved towards the armed man as the other customer grappled with him. Mr Hopwood joined the struggle and played a major part in assisting others in restraining the offender.

For his actions Mr Hopwood is commended for brave conduct.

Mr John Anthony HUTCHINGS
69 Bradman Road
MENAI NSW 2234

On 5 September 1991 Hutchings pulled a small child from the driver's seat of a runaway car at Menai. Mr Hutchings was alerted to the situation by screaming and a scraping sound. He went to the front of his yard and saw a car moving backwards down the hill with a small child hanging from the steering wheel, out of the car, with her feet scraping on the road. Mr Hutchings ran to the car but because of its speed was unable to effect any form of control. Running alongside the car he reached around the open door, grabbed the child, pulled her free and fell with her onto the grass verge at the side of the road.

For his actions Mr Hutchings is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Miss Sandi Louise JURY
5 Buccleugh Street
CASSILIS NSW 2329

On the night of 7 August 1991 Miss Sandi Jury, then aged seven, rescued her sister and helped save her brother from a fire that destroyed their home at Cassilis. Sandi was awoken by a rapidly developing fire in her bedroom. Remaining calm, she telephoned for assistance and acting on police advice commenced to move her younger sister and brother clear of the fire. Despite the intense heat and spreading flames Sandi re-entered the most intense area of the fire, picked up her sister and carried her through the fire to safety. Her brother was rescued by a police officer and a neighbour.

For her actions Miss Sandi Jury is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Robin Brett McFARLANE
6/21 Moore Road
HARBORD NSW 2097

On the afternoon of 28 November 1990 Mr McFarlane resisted an armed member of a criminal group operating in a department store at Brookvale. Mr McFarlane, Loss Prevention Manager at the department store, was restraining a member of the group when the offender drew a .38 calibre hand gun. Despite being struck on the forehead with the butt of the gun Mr McFarlane continued to struggle with the offender until he sustained a bullet wound to his right arm, and was forced to disengage. The struggle and gunshot alerted other security staff and Police officers who arrested other members of the criminal group in the vicinity.

For his actions Mr McFarlane is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Leslie Edward McMAHON
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Late in the morning of 24 October 1991 Mr McMahon rescued a pharmacist from an armed attacker during a robbery attempt at Leederville pharmacy. Mr McMahon who was in the rear of the pharmacy went to the aid of the injured pharmacist who was under attack and wrested a knife from the assailant. Despite a vigorous and hazardous struggle during which he was twice bitten on the arm Mr McMahon continued to engage the robber while the pharmacist called for police assistance. Mr McMahon eventually overpowered and detained the offender until police arrived.

For his actions Mr McMahon is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Robin Lee NORTON
90 Berriedale Road
BERRIEDALE TAS 7011

On the afternoon of 17 February 1991 Mr Norton participated in the rescue of an injured motorcyclist trapped under a burning cycle at Grass Tree Hill. Mr Norton, driving a dump truck, was one of the first to arrive at the site of a head-on collision between two motorcycles on Grass Tree Hill Road. Seeing one of the riders trapped beneath the burning wreckage of the collision Mr Norton, disregarding the intense heat and aware of the hazard of an imminent fuel tank explosion, accompanied another person into the flames and dragged the unconscious motorcyclist clear of danger. Shortly afterwards a motorcycle fuel tank exploded.

For his actions Mr Norton is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Constable Phillip Thomas O'REILLY
New South Wales Police Service

On the night of 7 August 1991 Constable O'Reilly assisted in the rescue of three children from a burning house at Cassilis. Responding to a telephone call from one of the children, Constable O'Reilly entered the burning house where another Cassilis resident had located two children and ensured that they were moved to safety. Outside they were informed that a third child was still in the dwelling. Despite the intense heat and thick smoke Constable O'Reilly, accompanied by the other rescuer, re-entered the blazing house and after a difficult search located the third child and carried him safely clear of the fire.

For his actions Constable O'Reilly is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Edward Clarence PEACOCK
Garden Street
TAMBO QLD 4478

During the night of 18-19 May 1990 Mr Peacock assisted in controlling an armed man in the streets of Tambo. Although aware that the gunman had already shot one person, and despite being threatened himself, Mr Peacock participated with several other members of the community in preventing the deterioration of the situation and possible widespread injuries and deaths.

For his actions Mr Peacock is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Senior Constable Kay Lorraine PIGGOTT
New South Wales Police Service

On 27 March 1991 near Green Point Senior Constable Piggott participated in the rescue of an injured firefighter from a rapidly advancing bushfire. In company with another police officer, Constable Piggott was travelling in a police vehicle to take up a position for traffic control in a bush fire affected area when their situation was threatened by a sudden change in the speed and direction of the fire. They delayed their escape from the danger zone to take on board an injured and partly immobilised member of the Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade who lay in the path of an advancing wall of flame. As they brought him into the vehicle the fire engulfed the area, exposing the three occupants of the vehicle to multiple hazards from asphyxiation, combustion of the vehicle, and fuel tank explosions. Later they were able to drive through the still burning area and deliver the injured firefighter to safety.

For her actions Senior Constable Piggott is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Jason Raymond ROBERTS
128 Woodcourt Road
BEROWRA HEIGHTS NSW 2082

Early in the morning of 16 June 1991 Mr Roberts participated in the rescue of a man from a house fire at Lane Cove. In conditions of intense heat and thick smoke Mr Roberts and a friend entered the house through a window and after a difficult search located the semi-conscious man. Despite the danger of the situation and the physically difficult conditions Mr Roberts and his friend assisted the man to a window and through it to safety.

For his actions Mr Roberts is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Constable Colin James STANFORD
Australian Federal Police

On the afternoon of 16 December 1989 Constable Stanford and two others attempted to rescue a woman who had been washed from rocks on Beecroft Peninsula and into the Tasman Sea. Despite extremely adverse conditions the three men put to sea in Police Launch "ARGUS". There was a 15 to 20 knot south easterly wind blowing, with a five to six metre swell and a three metre swell angling back off the cliffs. With disregard for their own safety they persevered because a radio report indicated the sighting of a person still swimming. Constable Stanford and his companions searched for more than an hour with "green" water breaking over the launch which on several occasions tipped completely on its side. After recovering the body of the drowned woman they returned to shore with the increased difficulty of no windscreen wipers and the cabin filled with smoke and the smell of burning fibreglass from the burned out wiper motor.

For his actions Constable Stanford is commended for brave conduct.

Constable First Class Leigh John STANLEY
Tasmania Police Service

On the afternoon of 5 January 1992 Constable First Class Stanley rescued the six-man crew of the yacht "SILVER MINX", aground on the barway at St Helens in heavy seas. Constable Stanley, a crew member of police vessel "PILLARA", waded and swam 200 metres through rough seas with waves over two metres, a strong cross-tide and winds of 30-40 knots, while towing a rescue line to the stricken yacht. Having reached "SILVER MINX" and secured the rescue line, Constable Stanley with the help of the yacht's crew released an inflatable life raft and assisted them into it; all hands were safely brought on board police vessel "PILLARA".

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

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Robert Leslie SUMMERS
2/306 Armidale Road
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

On the morning of 15 June 1991 at Tamworth Mr Summers participated in the evacuation of victims from a house made dangerous by a recent gas explosion. With another neighbour Mr Summers entered the unstable remains of the dwelling and removed two injured children. Despite live electric wires, fire and the imminent risk of further explosion, Mr Summers remained to rescue two adult occupants seriously injured by the explosion.

For his actions Mr Summers is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Andrew TABORETKIN
26 Mayberry Crescent
LIVERPOOL NSW 2170

In the early hours of 7 February 1991 Mr Taboretkin rescued an unconscious man from a burning flat at Warilla. Seeing smoke coming from an upstairs flat Mr Taboretkin tried unsuccessfully to alert the occupants by knocking on the door. After trying to gain entry by breaking down the door he went outside, climbed to the balcony and entered the burning flat through the balcony door. Disregarding the risk to his personal safety, Mr Taboretkin crawled through the smoke filled flat to the bedroom where he found a man in an unconscious state lying on a smouldering mattress. He then dragged the man to safety and began hosing the flat until the fire brigade arrived.

For his actions Mr Taboretkin is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mrs Sally Ann THOMSON
14 Worrall Street
EAST BURWOOD VIC 3125

On the morning of 20 May 1991 Mrs Thomson prevented an armed bank robbery at East Burwood. A man armed with a knife was threatening Mrs Thomson, a customer in the bank, while demanding money from a teller. Despite the peril of her situation she wrested the knife from his possession and put him to flight. When the offender was subsequently captured he was found to be suffering from a severe personality disorder and capable of inflicting serious injury. Mrs Thomson's actions not only thwarted the attempted robbery, but safeguarded others present from the possible risk of serious harm.

For her actions Mrs Thomson is commended for brave conduct.

Chief Inspector Leonard George TOPPING
New South Wales Police Service

On the night of 22 January 1991 Chief Inspector Topping rescued a woman from a burning house at Yennora. When told that a nearby house was alight and that a woman was inside Inspector Topping ran to the scene to assist. He went to the side of the house and smashed a window but was unable to locate anyone. Hearing the woman inside screaming he kicked in a side door and entered the fiercely burning house. Inspector Topping searched the rooms until he located the confused woman at the rear of the building and carried her back through the house to safety.

For his actions Chief Inspector Topping is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Nigel Raymond VIPAN
47 Sofala Avenue
LANE COVE NSW 2066

Early in the morning of 16 June 1991 Mr Vipin participated in the rescue of a man from a house fire at Lane Cove. In conditions of intense heat and thick smoke Mr Vipin and a friend entered the house through a window and after a difficult search located the semi-conscious man. Despite the danger of the situation and the physically difficult conditions Mr Vipin and his friend assisted the man to a window and through it to safety.

For his actions Mr Vipin is commended for brave conduct.

Constable Michael Raymond WEBB
Queensland Police Service

On the night of 28 February 1991 Constable Webb was informed that a man armed with a rifle was threatening to shoot members of his own family. Constable Webb, accompanied by a friend of the offender, sought him out with the intention of dissuading him from his purpose. During the confrontation the armed man pointed the loaded and cocked weapon at Constable Webb, threatening to shoot him. Despite the risk to his personal safety Constable Webb kept the man engaged in conversation until the person assisting was able to rush the man from behind. Constable Webb then restrained the man and subdued him; during this action the rifle discharged into the ground.

For his actions Constable Webb is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Gary Vincent WELLDON
Albert Street
TAMBO QLD 4478

During the night of 18-19 May 1990 Mr Weldon assisted in controlling an armed man in the streets of Tambo. Although aware that the gunman had already shot one person, and despite being threatened himself, Mr Weldon participated with several other members of the community in preventing the deterioration of the situation and possible widespread injuries and deaths.

For his actions Mr Weldon is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Evan Andrew WILLIAMS
151 Warwick Street
WEST HOBART TAS 7000

On the afternoon of 17 February 1991 Mr Williams rescued three injured motorcyclists from burning wreckage at Grass Tree Hill. Mr Williams, riding his own machine in company with two of the people later injured, was present when two cycles collided head-on on Grass Tree Hill Road. One motorcycle fuel tank exploded on impact, and both machines were engulfed in flames. Disregarding his own personal safety, Mr Williams dragged two of the unconscious riders clear of immediate danger and with the assistance of another person removed a third motorcyclist from the wreckage to a place of safety. Shortly afterwards the fuel tank of the second damaged motorcycle exploded.

For his actions Mr Williams is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Jimmy WILLIAMS
74 Village Road
JERVIS BAY NSW 2540

On the afternoon of 16 December 1989 Mr Williams and two others attempted to rescue a woman who had been washed from rocks on Beecroft Peninsula and into the Tasman Sea. Despite extremely adverse conditions the three men put to sea in Police Launch "ARGUS". There was a 15 to 20 knot south easterly wind blowing, with a five to six metre swell and a three metre swell angling back off the cliffs. With disregard for their own safety they persevered because a radio report indicated the sighting of a person still swimming. Mr Williams and his companions searched for more than an hour with "green" water breaking over the launch which on several occasions tipped completely on its side. After recovering the body of the drowned woman they returned to shore with the increased difficulty of no windscreen wipers and the cabin filled with smoke and the smell of burning fibreglass from the burned out wiper motor.

For his actions Mr Williams is commended for brave conduct.

Mr John James WILLSHIRE (Deceased)
Late of Arthur Street
TAMBO QLD 4478

Next-of-Kin: Mrs Alice Aldina WILLSHSIRE
Arthur Street
TAMBO QLD 4478

During the night of 18-19 May 1990 Mr Willshire assisted in controlling an armed man in the streets of Tambo. Although aware that the gunman had already shot one person, and despite being threatened himself, Mr Willshire participated with several other members of the community in preventing the deterioration of the situation and possible widespread injuries and deaths.

For his actions Mr Willshire is commended for brave conduct.