

STAR OF COURAGE

Mr Constantinos BOUKOUVALAS, 881 Centre Road Bentleigh East Vic 3165

In the early hours of the morning of 17 November 1994, Mr Boukouvalas endangered his life by entering a burning cabin several times to rescue the children trapped inside. Mr Boukouvalas, a school teacher, was accompanying a group of children from Melbourne who were camped at a caravan park outside Canberra. On learning that a cabin was on fire with a number of children inside, Mr Boukouvalas ran to the cabin removing some flammable items of clothing as he went. Seeing that five children were outside but two were still inside he entered the cabin but was driven back by the flames and smoke. Taking a deep breath he re-entered the cabin and went further inside and saw a child's leg on fire. He dragged the boy out by the leg and left him with other teachers for first aid treatment. Mr Boukouvalas again entered the cabin but just as he stepped inside an explosion threw him back out the door and onto the ground. Regaining his feet Mr Boukouvalas went inside again but was driven back by the increased intensity of the fire. He indicated that he would make another attempt to rescue the boy still inside but was restrained by others. After helping to extinguish the fire Mr Boukouvalas was taken to hospital where he was treated for extensive burns to his body.

By his actions Mr Boukouvalas displayed conspicuous courage.

Mr Spencer John BRASSEY, 68 McNeill Road, Kallangur Qld 4503

On 16 June 1994 Mr Brassey put himself in great danger to rescue the victim of a stabbing attack by an intoxicated man at Kings Cross. Mr Brassey was in a public telephone booth when he became aware of a man walking aimlessly around shouting abuse. He then saw the man sit down and remove a knife which had been strapped to his leg and run towards a couple in nearby telephone booths. Mr Brassey, realising the danger of the situation, dropped the phone with the intention of disarming the man. The armed man continued past the telephone booths with Mr Brassey in pursuit and ran towards another couple on the other side of Springfield Mall. He grabbed the man's head and hit it against a wall. Almost simultaneously he stabbed the man in the back, pulled the knife out and began to stab him again when Mr Brassey grabbed him around the neck from behind and hit him on the side of the head. A violent struggle ensued with the man trying to stab Mr Brassey who eventually overpowered and disarmed him. Mr Brassey continued to restrain the disturbed and intoxicated man until the police arrived.

By his actions Mr Brassey displayed conspicuous courage.

Mr Russell Charles PRIEST, 522 Sheffield Road North, Montrose Vic 3765

On 30 October 1992 Mr Priest placed himself in great danger to protect an employee from an armed man whom he subsequently apprehended. Mr Priest was in his office at Boronia when a man armed with a shotgun entered the premises and threatened a female employee. The woman escaped and shortly after came into Mr Priest's office where he concealed her behind a cabinet and protected her with his body. The man entered the office and while Mr Priest tried to reason with him he discharged the shotgun injuring Mr Priest in the forearm and thigh. The offender then fired again hitting another employee who died shortly after. While the man was trying to reload the gun Mr Priest tackled him and attempted to disarm him. The struggle continued for some minutes during which time they moved out to the foyer. The threatened woman then came to help but was grabbed by the man, who still had possession of the gun, and pushed through the glass door breaking it and causing multiple injuries to her head and shoulders. Mr Priest tackled him again bringing him to the ground where he was able to disarm him and throw the gun out through the broken glass door. With the assistance of two men from nearby premises the offender was restrained until the police arrived.

By his actions Mr Priest displayed conspicuous courage.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Graham Douglas ANDERSON, PO Box 376, West Wyalong NSW 2671

On 19 April 1994 Mr Anderson participated in the rescue of a woman from a burning car after a traffic accident at Albury. Mr Anderson was stationary in a line of traffic when the vehicle behind hit his car in the rear forcing it into the car in front. Mr Anderson saw that one of the cars involved in the collision was starting to burn. Although he was in a state of shock and suffering from a blow to the head caused by the accident Mr Anderson ran to the burning car to assist. He climbed into the passenger side of the vehicle and started to release the unconscious driver's seat belt. At this stage the vehicle was well alight and flames filled the cabin. He was then joined by an off duty fireman who freed the woman's foot which was entangled in the pedals. The driver was then carried to safety.

By his actions Mr Anderson displayed considerable bravery.

Constable Joshua Anthony BURTON, New South Wales Police Service

On 17 December 1992 Constable Burton participated in the apprehension of two armed offenders at Ingleburn. Constable Burton was off duty and driving his car through Ingleburn when he saw a man who was trying to conceal an object under his jacket being pursued. He followed the man and when he got into the passenger's seat of a waiting car Constable Burton placed his own vehicle in front of the car preventing escape. The offenders then charged Constable Burton's vehicle several times and then collided with a parked car. Constable Burton then approached the driver who threatened him and attempted to assault him. A struggle followed during which the driver attempted to pick up a gun from the front seat. Constable Burton pulled the man head first through the driver's side window, where he held him down until police arrived. While this was taking place the man in the passenger's seat escaped after revealing that he was carrying a sawn-off shotgun. He was apprehended shortly after in a nearby street.

By his actions Constable Burton displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Randolph LeManuel CATO, 4/61 Lochner Street, Hobart Tas 7000

On 3 May 1994 Mr Cato participated in the apprehension of an offender at the Waratah Hotel in Hobart. Mr Cato was a customer in the bottle department when a man entered and demanded money from the attendant, threatening him with a syringe which he claimed was filled with AIDS infected blood. The attendant ran into the main bar for help and as the offender could not open the cash register he grabbed a bottle and left. Mr Cato picked up a wooden baton and followed him. On seeing that he was being pursued the offender threatened Mr Cato with the syringe then threw it at him. Mr Cato caught up with the man and wrestled him to the ground. A violent struggle followed with the offender making his escape after he had beaten Mr Cato around the face and head with the bottle until it smashed. The offender was apprehended shortly after.

By his actions Mr Cato displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Paul Anthony DIXON, 26 Beach Road, Bunbury WA 6230

On 11 May 1993 Mr Dixon participated in the rescue of a woman who was being attacked by her estranged husband. Mr Dixon was walking in the street at Bunbury when he saw a woman violently struck on the head and pushed to the ground by an enraged man. He went to her assistance and with the help of bystanders restrained the man. The attacker struggled to free himself and produced a knife from his clothing. He threatened Mr Dixon with the knife then fell to his knees and stabbed the woman in the back three times before Mr Dixon could restrain his right arm. Mr Dixon, with assistance, wrestled the man away from the seriously injured woman, disarmed him, and held him until the police arrived.

By his actions Mr Dixon displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Darrell William DUNCUM, 19 Gleneon Place, Forster NSW 2428

On 29 November 1994 Mr Duncum rescued three people after their boat had been swamped by hazardous seas off Forster Bar. Mr Duncum's boat was approaching the bar when he saw the other boat capsize. He manoeuvred his vessel as close as possible, handed over the controls to a passenger, donned a mask, fins and snorkel and swam 100 metres to where the three men were clinging to the overturned hull. On reaching the men he was told that one of them could not swim and that another had his leg trapped between the transom and shaft of the outboard motor. Mr Duncum towed the non-swimmer to his boat, requested a hammer and returned to free the trapped man. Mr Duncum dived under the hull and attempted unsuccessfully to free the man's leg. After about 45 minutes the hull had drifted towards rocks at the southern end of Forster Beach. All this time Mr Duncum was helping to support the trapped man's upper body and protecting him from the constant battering of the waves. When the boat ran onto the rocks Mr Duncum remained with the trapped man still supporting him as waves broke over them while observers went for help. By the time the man's leg was released 90 minutes had elapsed since the rescue began.

By his actions Mr Duncum displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Kevin James FLETCHER, SC, 522 Kotthoff Street, Lavington NSW 2641

On 19 April 1994 Mr Fletcher, an off duty fireman, participated in the rescue of a woman from a burning car at Albury. Mr Fletcher was sitting in his parked car when he heard a collision and explosion. He ran to the burning car where he found another man trying to release the unconscious driver. Mr Fletcher climbed into the vehicle, which was now well alight with flames filling the cabin, and persevered until he had released the woman's foot which was entangled in the pedals. He then dragged her to safety. Mr Fletcher suffered numerous burns to his body.

By his actions Mr Fletcher displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Brenton Charles GRIMES, 4 Williams Crescent, Linden Park SA 5065

On the night of 29 September 1991 Mr Grimes attempted to rescue the victim of a hit-run accident from the path of oncoming vehicles at Taparoo. Mr Grimes was driving his car when he saw an elderly man lying in the centre of the roadway. He stopped and ran to the man who was conscious but apparently injured and unable to get up due to a disability. While Mr Grimes was attempting to help the man to his feet an approaching car almost struck them. As Mr Grimes continued his efforts to get the man off the road another vehicle approached and hit both men. As a result of this collision Mr Grimes sustained serious injuries and the elderly man was killed.

By his actions Mr Grimes displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Said KAZZI, 12 Hawthorne Place, Macquarie Fields NSW 2564

On the night of 3 September 1993 Mr Kazzi rescued a man from a burning house at Macquarie Fields. Mr Kazzi was in bed when he was awoken by his wife and told that a neighbour's house was on fire. He ran to the house where he was told that a man and three children were still inside. Mr Kazzi went to the rear entrance but was driven back by the dense smoke and the flames. Putting his jumper around his face he gained entry by the front door and searched until the sound of moaning led him to the man. Because of the smoke Mr Kazzi could not see the man but felt his legs. He grabbed the man by the knees, dragged him to the door and then taking him by the shoulders pulled him to safety. The three children died in the fire.

By his actions Mr Kazzi displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL**Mr Luigi STILLITANO, South Australia**

On 8 April 1993 Mr Stillitano attempted to rescue a woman who was being stabbed at the Hindley Underground Diner. Mr Stillitano was working in the diner when he heard sounds of a woman screaming coming from the kitchen. He ran to the door and saw the woman standing slightly bent over facing a man who was stabbing her repeatedly. Mr Stillitano entered the kitchen and pushed the man aside. The man then turned to Mr Stillitano and inflicted life threatening stab wounds on him. Mr Stillitano staggered outside and collapsed. Shortly afterwards the man was taken into police custody. The woman later died as a result of multiple stab wounds.

By his actions Mr Stillitano displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Lindsay Malcolm STONEHOUSE, 19 Seaside Crescent, Penguin Tas 7316

On 3 May 1994 Mr Stonehouse apprehended an offender outside the Waratah Hotel in Hobart. After being told that a man armed with a syringe, which he claimed was filled with AIDS infected blood, had threatened a hotel employee Mr Stonehouse left the bar to offer assistance. As he stepped outside he saw the offender punching one of his pursuers and hitting him with a bottle. The offender then ran from the now unconscious man with Mr Stonehouse following him. Mr Stonehouse searched nearby gardens and found the offender hiding in bushes. He restrained the man, who resisted him with extreme violence, until the arrival of the police.

By his actions Mr Stonehouse displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Roy Ernest TAYLOR, Queensland

On 17 December 1992 Mr Taylor participated in the apprehension of two armed offenders at Ingleburn. Mr Taylor saw a man snatch a woman's handbag and run towards a waiting car. Several onlookers started to pursue him but soon gave up. As the man reached the car Mr Taylor saw that its escape had been prevented by a 4 wheel drive vehicle blocking the way. Mr Taylor then saw the robber get out again, still carrying the handbag, and run up a laneway. He ran to the other end of the laneway to intercept the man who confronted him holding a shotgun. As Mr Taylor approached, the man raised the shotgun in an attempt to strike him on the head with the butt. Mr Taylor held the gun forcing the barrel away from his body and grabbed the offender around the neck. During the violent struggle which followed both the shotgun and the lady's handbag fell to the ground. After Mr Taylor had overpowered the robber he was assisted by others to detain him until the police arrived.

By his actions Mr Taylor displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Doran Carl THOMSON, 90 Swanstone Street, Collie WA 6225

On 9 July 1993 Mr Thomson rescued a man from a burning car near Collie. Mr Thompson and a companion were driving towards Collie when a car approaching them went out of control as it rounded a bend and collided with Mr Thomson's car. Mr Thomson lost consciousness briefly. When he recovered he saw that his passenger was unconscious so he immediately started to go for help. Looking back and seeing that his car had started to burn Mr Thomson ran back to the passenger's door to find that it was jammed. He went to the driver's door, crawled through the cabin which was now on fire, pulled the passenger across the car and dragged him clear of the vehicle. Shortly after the car exploded and was completely destroyed by fire.

By his actions Mr Thomson displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Martin James WELLS, PO Box 787, Lismore NSW 2480

On 15 April 1994 Mr Wells, a volunteer rescue crewman with the Northern Region Surf Life Saving Association Helicopter Rescue Service, rescued the crew of a yacht in distress 30 nautical miles to sea off Smokey Cape. The yacht had been hit by a freak wave and rolled through 360 degrees, breaking the mast, smashing port holes and the steering binnacle and seriously injuring a woman on board. When the rescue helicopter arrived the seas were described as being 5-6 metres with winds of 35 knots. Mr Wells was winched from the helicopter to a height just above the yacht. However, as the yacht was rolling with each swell it was a hazardous and lengthy process for him to get on board. On one occasion when he grabbed the rail it collapsed causing him to fall into the water. After being pulled aboard Mr Wells released the cable of the winch and dropped 2 metres into the hull to assist the injured woman. With great difficulty he brought the woman on deck. While he was securing her and himself to the winch waves were continually washing over the cockpit. After they were winched in and the woman was safely aboard the helicopter, Mr Wells was again lowered to the yacht and successfully rescued the Captain.

By his actions Mr Wells displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Baden Eric Grant WHELAN, 83 Fitzgerald Road, Cambridge Tas 7170

On 12 December 1993 Mr Whelan was involved in the rescue of a crewman from an overturned fishing vessel off Mainwaring River in the South West of Tasmania. In conditions of a 30 to 40 knot gale and five metre seas Mr Whelan saw a fishing boat hit by a wave, overturn and right itself only to sink almost immediately leaving the deck hand clinging to wreckage. When the vessel went down it left floating debris, including hundreds of metres of rope floating on the surface. Mr Whelan, the captain of "SOUTHERN CROSS", aware of the dangers of his propellers fouling on the rope and huge waves breaking over a nearby reef, went to help. With an excellent display of seamanship and complete disregard for his own safety he was able to position his boat near the deck hand so that his crewman could try to throw him a rope and pull him aboard. Mr Whelan then remained in the area for some time looking for the missing Captain of the sunken vessel. Finally concern for his own boat and crew's safety forced him to leave the area and steam out to deeper water.

By his actions Mr Whelan displayed considerable bravery.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Troy Lionel ALLEN, 7 Midden Road, Primrose Sands Tas 7172

On 12 December 1993 Mr Allen was involved in the rescue of a crewman from an overturned fishing vessel off Mainwaring River in the South West of Tasmania. In conditions of a 30 to 40 knot gale and five metre seas Mr Allen saw a fishing boat hit by a wave, overturn and right itself only to sink almost immediately leaving the deckhand clinging to debris. The captain of the "SOUTHERN CROSS" on which Mr Allen was the only deckhand approached as close to the survivor as possible aware of floating debris, particularly rope which could foul his propeller. Mr Allen threw a rope from the moving vessel to the survivor knowing that if he lost his footing they would both be in the sea and without help. The rope made contact and the survivor was taken aboard, and then ashore from where he was flown to hospital.

For his actions Mr Allen is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT**Mr Stephen Frederick BATH, South Australia**

On 16 February 1994 Mr Bath attempted to rescue his diving partner at Port Noarlunga. Late in the afternoon Mr Bath and his companion entered the water on Port Noarlunga Reef which is approximately 200 metres from the shore. After about 30 minutes they checked their air supply and decided to return to the beach. When they were still 75 metres out they surfaced, both being tired from swimming against a strong current and turbulence from the surface swell. Mr Bath led the way followed by his companion. Mr Bath reached the beach at the limit of his endurance, having had to drop his weightbelt some distance out. After a recovery period of a few minutes he realised that his diving partner was not with him. He ran to a lookout and saw his companion floating on his back about 100 metres out. Despite his exhaustion Mr Bath re-entered the water, after asking a bystander to get help, and swam to the man who showed no signs of life. Mr Bath towed him to the beach where he was assisted by others.

For his actions Mr Bath is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Christopher James COLLINS, 13 Thornton Street, Fairlight NSW 2094

On the afternoon of 13 August 1993 Mr Collins went to the assistance of a man being threatened by an armed offender who had already killed a woman at Harbord. Mr Collins had been pulled over on the road and asked to help at the scene of the murder. He saw a man back out of a patch of scrub followed by another covered in blood and swinging a knife in a threatening manner. The man under threat began circling the offender in an obvious attempt to delay him until help arrived. Mr Collins fearing that another attack was imminent drove his van forward and knocked the offender off his feet. When the armed man regained his feet and renewed his threats Mr Collins struck him again allowing the would-be victim to escape. The murderer made his escape in a nearby car pursued by Mr Collins who after a few kilometres lost him in traffic.

For his actions Mr Collins is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Roger Alan CURRIE, 1 Hillsdale Street, Prospect SA 5082

On 7 November 1993 Mr Currie attempted to prevent the entry of steam into the cabin of a locomotive with a leaking boiler at Strathalbyn. Mr Currie was the fireman on a steam locomotive operated by the Australian Railway Historical Society (SA Division) when a plug fell from its mounting, allowing superheated water to be forced into the firebox. The engine compartment immediately filled with steam scalding all the occupants and reducing visibility to nil. Mr Currie remained beside the driver while he stopped the train. He then started to leave the engine but in spite of having sustained severe burns returned to open the blower, hoping it would force the steam up the chimney, but this had no effect. Mr Currie then ran back through the passenger cars looking for assistance for the injured. He was restrained and given first aid. As a result of remaining in the engine compartment he suffered serious burns to his body and damage to his lungs from the inhaled steam.

For his actions Mr Currie is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Bevan Lloyd GREEN, 103 Garie Street, Wishart Qld 4122

On 1 July 1994 Mr Green rescued two children from a burning house at Wishart. Mr Green was awoken early in the morning by shouting outside his bedroom window. When he went to investigate he saw the house next door was on fire. Seeing a child standing on the internal stairs he ran in, picked him up and carried him outside. Mr Green returned to the house and saw another child with burnt feet sitting on the second top step of the internal staircase. To reach the child Mr Green had to pass the spot where the fire had originated and was the fiercest. He ran up the stairs through the thick black smoke, picked the child up and carried him down to the entrance where other neighbours attended to his burns. Mr Green then assisted others to fight the fire until the fire brigade arrived.

For his actions Mr Green is commended for brave conduct.

Mr David Paul GRESHAM, 15 Yasawa Close, Ashtonfield NSW 2323

On 30 September 1994 Mr Gresham rescued a boy from a strong surf rip at Dunbogan Beach. Mr Gresham was leaving the beach when his attention was drawn to a family group including four children who appeared to be in difficulty in the surf. Mr Gresham who was familiar with the beach and knew of the dangers from rips and undertows ran to help. As he reached the water he saw that three of the children had been brought to shore but one boy was about 50 metres from the beach, past the line of breakers and was being swept out to sea. Mr Gresham swam to the boy and supported him while being hit by three sets of waves, the last of which carried them out of the rip and towards the shore. Mr Gresham, not a strong swimmer himself, brought the boy safely to the beach.

For his actions Mr Gresham is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Colin Russell HENDY, 9 Balga Way, Mullaloo WA 6027

On 12 August 1993 Mr Hendy attempted to evacuate a seriously injured man from a fishing vessel 50 nautical miles off Wickham. Mr Hendy, a helicopter winchman, was working at Karratha when he was told that an emergency situation had arisen requiring the immediate evacuation of a man with head and neck injuries from a fishing vessel to Karratha Hospital. When the helicopter reached the vessel 20 to 30 knot winds were blowing, the seas were extremely rough and the boat was pitching and rolling. In spite of these conditions it was decided to attempt a winch operation in which Mr Hendy would be lowered a distance of 30 feet to a small clear area of the bow of the vessel. Over a 30 minute period six attempts were made to place Mr Hendy on the deck but none was successful due to the movement of the vessel. All this time he was in danger from masts, aerials, fishing nets and booms in which he could have become entangled. The pilot decided to abort the rescue, however, at the request of the captain one more attempt was made. While it too was unsuccessful, Mr Hendy showed a total disregard for his own safety in volunteering to attempt the evacuation.

For his actions Mr Hendy is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Mark Henry Francis HURSEY, C/- 62 Alexander Terrace, Stanley Tas 7331

On the night of 15 December 1993 Mr Hursey participated in the rescue of an elderly woman from a burning house at Smithton. Mr Hursey was driving past when his attention was drawn to the fire. He stopped and, after being unable to raise the residents, ran to a nearby hotel to call for assistance. When he returned to the house he was met by another man and told that an elderly semi-invalid woman was inside. The two men tried the front door which was locked then broke a window and eventually gained entry by breaking a glass pane in the door. This action caused the fire to accelerate but they entered the now fiercely burning building, searched for and located the woman and removed her to safety.

For his actions Mr Hursey is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Brian Roy JANES, 10 Daniel Street, Cessnock NSW 2325

On 7 January 1994 Mr Janes risked his own safety in fighting flames which were advancing on an immobilised fire truck in the Elrington Pit area near Cessnock. Mr Janes and two other volunteer members of the Bellbird Station of the New South Wales Fire Brigades were directed to an area where the head of the fire was advancing and out of control. Mr Janes and another volunteer left their truck to extinguish spot fires, leaving the third volunteer to tend the truck engine operated pump. When Mr Janes and his companion reached a clearing and a place of relative safety they looked back to see the truck immobilised and the third member of their party using a hand operated extinguisher against the fire which had now completely surrounded him. Mr Janes with his companion ran back to the pump truck where flames were starting underneath it. Using hand operated equipment Mr Janes and the other volunteers continued their efforts until the fire had passed.

For his actions Mr Janes is commended for brave conduct.

Mr David Anthony Neil JOHNS, 7 Mill Road, Smithton Tas 7330

On the night of 15 December 1993 Mr Johns participated in the rescue of an elderly woman from a burning house at Smithton. When Mr Johns saw the flames inside his neighbour's house he ran to the scene and disconnected the electricity. On learning that an elderly and semi-invalid woman was inside he tried, with the assistance of another man to gain entry. The two men broke a window of the woman's room but could not see her. This action caused the fire to accelerate but they broke a glass pane in the door and entered the now fiercely burning building. Mr Johns and the other man searched for the woman and after locating her removed her to safety.

For his actions Mr Johns is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Roy JOHNSON, "Bentfield", Lower Kangaroo Creek via Grafton NSW 2460

On 7 April 1994 Mr Johnson rescued the passenger from a submerged car in the Clarence River. Mr Johnson was travelling in his car when he saw a man attempting to get out of a vehicle as it sank about 10 metres from the shore. He stopped, dived into the river and swam to the spot where the car had now disappeared. Mr Johnson dived under the water to locate the passenger who was now unconscious and brought him to the surface. The man kept going under the water and Mr Johnson had great difficulty in supporting both himself and the man until two other motorists stopped and swam to his aid. The driver of the car was trapped by her seat belt and help arrived too late.

For his actions Mr Johnson is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Tevita Saumaki KAFA, 81 Hampden Road, Artarmon NSW 2064

In the early hours of 15 August 1993 Mr Kafa rescued an elderly man from a burning house at Adamstown. Mr Kafa was awoken by the glow and the sound of a fire which had broken out in the house next door. He immediately telephoned the fire brigade, climbed out through his window and went in search of the elderly man who occupied the burning house. Unable to gain entry through the front door Mr Kafa went to the rear section where the fire was burning fiercely, emitting thick black smoke, with flames leaping out of the windows and door. Mr Kafa wet a blanket, put it over his head and in spite of the intense heat and smoke entered the house and located the elderly man lying on the floor inside. Grasping the man's feet he was able to drag him to the door where he was assisted by others.

For his actions Mr Kafa is commended for brave conduct.

Miss Joanne Therese MILTON, 9/83 Phoenix Road, Spearwood WA 6163

Early in the morning of 19 December 1993, Miss Milton participated in the rescue of an injured man from a burning car at Hamilton Hill. Miss Milton, a passenger in a taxi, arrived at the scene of the accident shortly after the car had hit a power pole and with the driver went to offer assistance. Miss Milton opened the front passenger's side door, and reaching in attempted to unlock the rear door. Meanwhile a man had broken the rear window and after being driven back several times by the flames and managed, with assistance, to drag the injured man free and carry him to safety. The entire operation was carried out with live power lines hanging down and small explosions coming from inside the vehicle.

For her actions Miss Milton is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Mark Leslie MILTON, 15/15 Friar John Way, Coolbellup WA 6163

Early in the morning of 19 December 1993, Mr Milton participated in the rescue of an injured man from a burning car at Hamilton Hill. Mr Milton, a passenger in a taxi, arrived at the scene of the accident shortly after the car had hit a power pole and with the driver went to offer assistance. Mr Milton tried unsuccessfully to gain entry first through a rear door and then by the front windscreen. Meanwhile another man had broken the rear window and after being driven back by the flames several times Mr Milton, with assistance, managed to drag the man free and carry him to safety. The entire operation was carried out with live power lines hanging down and small explosions coming from inside the vehicle.

For his actions Mr Milton is commended for brave conduct.

Miss Frances Marie NORD, 13 Gilles Crescent, Beacon Hill NSW 2100

Early in the morning of 26 June 1993 Miss Nord (formerly Constable First Class) assisted in locating an unconscious woman in a burning house at Coffs Harbour. With other Police Officers Miss Nord was attending a house fire when she was informed of the presence of a woman inside. With another Police Officer Miss Nord entered the building and in spite of being forced down to floor level by the intense heat and dense smoke she maintained the search until the unconscious woman was located. Miss Nord then assisted in directing a Fire Brigade rescue team to the woman, who was carried to safety.

By her actions Miss Nord is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Shane Keith PARKER, 13 Malu Court, Westfield WA 6112

On 25 March 1994 Mr Parker rescued an unconscious woman from a burning house at Bayswater. Mr Parker was driving past when he saw a house on fire with smoke billowing out through the back door and flames inside the house. He ran to the house, looked inside and saw a woman lying on the kitchen floor, apparently unconscious. He entered the house crawling on his stomach, located the woman and dragged her out by the arm. At the time Mr Parker entered the building it was starting to disintegrate with parts of the roof and ceiling collapsing. The smoke was heavy and the heat intense. Once outside the woman revived and, after being given oxygen by ambulance officers, refused further treatment.

For his actions Mr Parker is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Brett Allan PARKES, 23 Cruickshank Street, Bellbird NSW 2325

On 7 January 1994 Mr Parkes risked his own safety in fighting flames which were advancing on an immobilised fire truck in the Elrington Pit area near Cessnock. Mr Parkes and two other volunteer members of the Bellbird Station of the NSW Fire Brigades were directed to an area where the head of the fire was advancing and out of control. Mr Parkes and another volunteer left their truck to extinguish spot fires, leaving the third volunteer to tend the truck engine operated pump. When Mr Parkes and his companion reached a clearing and a place of relative safety they looked back to see the truck immobilised and the third member of their party using a hand operated extinguisher against the fire which had now completely surrounded him. Mr Parkes with his companion ran back to the pump truck where flames were starting underneath it. Using hand operated equipment Mr Parkes and the other volunteers continued their efforts until the fire had passed.

For his actions Mr Parkes is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Peter John ROSEVEAR, "Badger Billabong", Badger Head Tas 7270

On the night of 12 August 1993 Mr Rosevear rescued a man from a submerged vehicle at Badger Head. Mr Rosevear saw a utility take a wrong turn on his property and drive into an extremely cold dam approximately 4 metres deep. He ran to the dam, removed his shoes and swam to the fast sinking vehicle. As the utility was sinking to the bottom Mr Rosevear managed to free the driver and push him to the surface. Mr Rosevear then supported the man by kneeling on the slippery roof of the utility. During the 25 minutes before help arrived Mr Rosevear resuscitated the man whose breathing had stopped.

For his actions Mr Rosevear is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Neville TOMLINSON, 33 Ruby Street, Bellbird NSW 2325

On 7 January 1994 Mr Tomlinson risked his own safety in fighting flames which were advancing on an immobilised fire truck in the Elrington Pit area near Cessnock. Mr Tomlinson, Captain of the Bellbird Station of the NSW Fire Brigades and two other volunteer members were directed to an area where the head of the fire was advancing and out of control. While the two others left the truck to extinguish spot fires Mr Tomlinson remained and tended the truck engine operated pump. As the fire advanced he decided to make a three point turn to enable a retreat if necessary. In the midst of this turn the engine cut out shutting down the main water pump. At this point although he could have run to safety Mr Tomlinson stayed with the truck and with the two other volunteers continued his efforts until the fire had passed.

For his actions Mr Tomlinson is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Miss Karen Marietta VAN DEN BOSCH, 17 Balaclava Street, Inveresk Tas 7250

On 1 March 1993 Miss Van Den Bosch, then aged 16, rescued a girl from the sea at Bridport. Miss Van Den Bosch was with a group of young people who had walked across a channel to Monkey Island. When Miss Van Den Bosch and another girl decided to return, the width of the channel had increased from 10 metres to 100 metres and because of its depth they had to swim. When Miss Van Den Bosch was about 20 metres across the channel she looked back but could not see her companion. She returned and found the girl sinking in the now rough water. She made the girl cough to clear the water she had swallowed and using rescue techniques started to tow her to the beach. About half way across Miss Van Den Bosch noticed that the girl was not breathing. She again cleared water from her lungs. In spite of the onset of an asthma attack Miss Van Der Bosch continued towing the girl until she reached the beach where she was assisted by others.

For her actions Miss Van Den Bosch is commended for brave conduct.

Mrs Patricia Margaret WATT, 15 Honeysuckle Street, Bayview Heights Qld 4868

Early on the morning of 24 August 1994 Mrs Watt rescued her elderly husband who was being attacked by a wild pig. When Mr Watt had tried to chase the pig out of his garden it turned on him and charged him twice. Mrs Watt, alerted by her dog barking, found the pig standing over her husband biting him on the right hand. Mrs Watt armed herself with a metal frame chair and forced the pig away from her husband. Although she was charged and knocked over she managed to keep the chair between herself and the pig and got to her feet. All this time she was calling to her husband to get inside but as he had hurt his back he could only crawl. Mrs Watt was able to keep the pig away with the chair until her husband reached safety when she threw the chair at the pig and ran inside.

For her actions Mrs Watt is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Phillip Clifton WOODHAM, 145 Main Road, Austin's Ferry Tas 7011

On 26 February 1993 Mr Woodham rescued two women who were being assaulted in their own home at Rosetta. Mr Woodham was at home when he heard the sound of breaking glass and women screaming. He ran towards the noise which was coming from a nearby unit. After forcing the door open he entered the room and saw a woman crouched on the floor in a very distressed condition and covered with blood. He then saw an older woman being assaulted by a man who had her pinned to the wall by holding her neck with one hand, while repeatedly punching the top of her head with the other. Mr Woodham approached the violent man and after a brief struggle pinned his arms behind him and forced him outside. He held the struggling man until the police arrived.

For his actions Mr Woodham is commended for brave conduct.

