

STAR OF COURAGE

Dr Lee Nigel GORDON-BROWN, Montrose Vic 3765

On the morning of 21 October 2002, Dr Gordon-Brown assisted in overpowering and restraining a man who had just shot dead two students and wounded five other people during a lecture at Monash University.

Dr Gordon-Brown was conducting a regular Monday morning Commerce honours class with about 15 students when one of the students used a handgun to spray a volley of shots around the room. Dr Gordon-Brown was shot twice and fell to the ground. During a pause in the shooting, Dr Gordon-Brown saw the gunman lower his arms and rummage inside his jacket. Believing him to be preparing to reload his gun, Dr Gordon-Brown, although in pain and increasingly weak from blood loss, ran at the gunman and held him around the waist while instructing another man to seize the gunman's shoulders and arms. At some stage during this, the offender dropped the handgun. Despite his injuries, Dr Gordon-Brown continued to hold the offender's legs until another man was able to relieve him.

By his actions, Dr Gordon-Brown displayed conspicuous courage.

Phone Nos: Home: 03 9728 2278 Work: 03 9905 2973

Mr Colin Jeremy SUTTON, deceased, late of Golden Grove SA 5125

On the afternoon of 16 June 2001, Mr Sutton attempted to close off a leaking gas valve to try to prevent an explosion at the Santos gas plant in Moomba, South Australia.

Mr Sutton was working as a process operator in the pumping shed at the gas plant testing a pump that was undergoing maintenance when flammable liquid began pouring through the top of the pump and hit the ceiling. Mr Sutton immediately rushed to try to close off the leaking valve. As he did so, he was showered in the liquid material. He left the shed to alert others to the situation, then re-entered the shed alone and again attempted to close the valve. He became completely covered in the liquid material and left the shed again briefly to have his face wiped. Without hesitation, he re-entered the shed a second time and continued his efforts to close the valve. Instantaneously, there was an explosion and the shed was engulfed in flames. The fire within the shed was subsequently extinguished, and Mr Sutton was found wedged between two pipes having suffered extensive burns to his body. Tragically, Mr Sutton later died from his injuries.

By his actions, Mr Sutton displayed conspicuous courage, thereby losing his life.

Next of Kin: Mrs Christine Sutton
Phone Nos: Not available

STAR OF COURAGE

Mr Ronald James WALL, 43 Gleeson Crescent, Toowoomba Qld 4350

On the afternoon of 28 February 2004, Mr Wall rescued a woman and child trapped in a burning vehicle after a collision at Berrinba, Queensland.

Mr Wall was driving on the Logan Motorway when he stopped to assist at the scene of a three-vehicle collision. Mr Wall ran to one of the vehicles, which had rolled over and was on fire. The injured female driver was trapped unconscious in her seat and an injured unconscious child was trapped in the rear seat of the vehicle. Mr Wall climbed on top of the vehicle and forced the rear door open. While another man held the door, Mr Wall lowered himself into the burning vehicle, released the child's seatbelt and lifted the child out of the vehicle into the care of others. Despite the increasing danger from the fire and the intensity of the heat and smoke, Mr Wall returned inside the car, slid into the front seat, and, after several attempts, freed the woman's trapped foot. He then lifted her up high enough for people outside the car to carry her to safety. Mr Wall was overcome with shock and exhaustion and needed to be assisted from the vehicle.

By his actions, Mr Wall displayed conspicuous courage.

Phone No: Home: 07 4659 7107 Mobile: 0408 606 752

BRAVERY MEDAL

Sergeant Peter Leslie ANDERSON, Victoria Police

On the morning of 28 November 1998, Sergeant Anderson rescued a girl being held captive by a male offender in a mineshaft at Black Hill Reserve, Ballarat.

Sergeant Anderson, a member of the Victoria Police, was on duty as part of a team investigating the disappearance of a sixteen-year-old girl in the Ballarat area. The investigating officers believed the girl had been abducted by a notorious offender, and went to investigate if the victim was being held captive in a dangerous mineshaft at the Black Hill Reserve. Sergeant Anderson descended alone into the narrow mineshaft, and crawled over rocks and through narrow openings, mostly in total darkness, for nearly 70 metres. Along the way he observed a number of objects that led him to believe the girl was being held in the mineshaft and feared she may be already dead. Eventually he located and identified the offender and the missing girl. He subdued and handcuffed the man so that the girl could be led to safety.

By his actions, Sergeant Anderson displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Alastair John BOAST, 27/104 Miller Street, Pyrmont NSW 2009

On the morning of 21 October 2002, Mr Boast assisted in overpowering and restraining a man who had just shot dead two students and wounded five other people during a lecture at Monash University.

Mr Boast was attending the regular Monday morning Commerce Honours class with 14 other students when one of the students used a handgun to spray a volley of shots around the room. When there was a pause in the shooting, Mr Boast saw the gunman lower his arms and, although he believed the gunman to be still armed, joined another man in tackling and immobilising him until police arrived some time later. While holding the gunman, Mr Boast called for security, police and an ambulance and, at the same time, attempted to help two of the wounded remain conscious by keeping them talking.

By his actions, Mr Boast displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Home: 02 9518 7399 Work: 02 9210 3536 Mobile: 0418 511 228

Mr Troy Andrew CAMPBELL, Wodonga Vic 3690

Details not available at request of Mr Campbell.

Phone Nos: Not available

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Martyn Andrew CARNE, 11 Tipperary Avenue, Killarney Heights NSW 2087

On the evening of 13 October 2002, Mr Carne helped rescue a man from a burning aircraft at Bungendore, New South Wales.

Mr Carne was at home when he saw a light plane that appeared to be in trouble. He and his wife drove out to investigate and when they saw black smoke realised the plane had crashed. They arrived at the crash site along with several neighbours. They found the front of the plane on fire and petrol running down the underside of one wing and dripping onto the two male occupants. One of the men had been severely burned and appeared to be dead. The second man, the pilot, was bleeding profusely from a gash on his head and was engulfed in flames to his waist. Mr Carne, with the help of two neighbours, lifted the pilot and pulled him away from the plane, which was now burning intensely. Mr Carne and a neighbour comforted the pilot and administered first aid until the arrival of the ambulance. Sadly, both men died from their injuries.

By his actions, Mr Carne displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Home: 02 9453 5349 Work: 02 8258 8700 Mobile: 0421 602 713

Mr Joel William CHESTER, 2 Woongarra Court, Eltham Vic 3095

On the afternoon of 18 March 2004, Mr Chester, then 17 years old, rescued a boy trapped under a train at Riversdale Railway Station, Victoria.

Mr Chester was waiting for a train when he saw a 12-year-old boy fall between two train compartments onto the railway track. Although unaware of whether the train driver knew of the situation and conscious of the possibility of the train moving, Mr Chester jumped onto the track and crawled under the train to the boy. After reassuring him, Mr Chester cut the boy's school bag free and then, cradling the boy to his chest, pulled him from under the train to safety. The boy was subsequently treated for fractures to his femur and pelvis.

By his actions, Mr Chester displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Home: 03 9437 2877 Work: 03 9651 9417

Miss Rachel Ann CRAMP, PO Box 215, Nelson Bay NSW 2315

On the morning of 3 April 2003, Miss Cramp went to the assistance of a fellow school student at Tomaree High School, New South Wales, who had been shot in the chest with a crossbow and remained with the victim to provide aid despite continued threats of harm by the offender.

Miss Cramp was in the schoolyard when she saw a female student stagger around the corner of a building holding her chest. The student, who had been shot in the chest with a crossbow, slumped onto a bench and Miss Cramp noticed blood on her chest and under her hand. Miss Cramp went immediately to her aid. She applied pressure to the wound and talked to the student. Although most other witnesses had backed away from the situation, Miss Cramp stayed and was with the victim when the offender threw a lighted Molotov cocktail at them. The bomb smashed at their feet and Miss Cramp was splashed with kerosene, but fortunately the fuel did not ignite. Miss Cramp stayed with the victim, providing first aid and comfort with the assistance of others, while the offender was tackled and restrained, and until an ambulance arrived.

By her actions, Miss Cramp displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Not available

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Paul Gerald DARMODY, "Wynella", Bungendore NSW 2621

On the evening of 13 October 2002, Mr Darmody helped rescue a man from a burning aircraft at Bungendore, New South Wales.

Mr Darmody was working on his farm when he saw a light plane crash on a neighbouring property. He alerted a couple who lived nearby, then drove to the crash site, where several neighbours joined him. Mr Darmody and his neighbours found the front of the plane on fire with petrol running down the underside of one wing and dripping onto the two male occupants. One of the men had been severely burned and appeared to be dead. The second man, the pilot, was bleeding profusely from a gash on his head and was engulfed in flames to his waist. Mr Darmody, with the help of two neighbours, lifted the pilot and pulled him a few metres from the plane, which was now burning intensely. Mr Darmody returned to the plane to see if he could help the passenger; however the man was dead. Sadly, the pilot also later died from his injuries.

By his actions, Mr Darmody displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Milton Wayne ELLIS, 29 Fairy Street, Moorooka Qld 4105

On the afternoon of 22 December 2003, Mr Ellis assisted in the rescue of two men from floodwaters after a crocodile attack in the Finniss River, Northern Territory.

Mr Ellis was working as a helicopter engineer and crewman as part of a response team tasked with rescuing two men who had taken refuge in a large tree surrounded by rising floodwaters after their friend had been taken by a 4 metre crocodile. Despite rain squalls, poor visibility, flood conditions and the potentially still-present danger of the crocodile, Mr Ellis and another man were winched, with a life raft, down from a helicopter slightly upstream from the tree where the two men were trapped. Mr Ellis and the other man set off in the raft using swim fins, a water tray and broken branches as paddles. The helicopter pilot positioned the aircraft to enable the downdraft to push the raft against the current and assist Mr Ellis and the other man to paddle across the river, a method that also increased the risk of overturning the raft. Mr Ellis and the other man managed to reach the tree and convinced the two trapped men to jump into the raft. Eventually they made their way back safely to the riverbank. Sadly, no sign was found of the man taken by the crocodile.

By his actions, Mr Ellis displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: Mobile: 0412 048 153

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Clinton James HAWES, 73 Rawson Street, Aberdare NSW 2325

On the afternoon of 21 April 2003, Mr Hawes helped rescued an elderly woman from a house fire at Cessnock, New South Wales.

Mr Hawes was visiting his girlfriend when he noticed flames coming from a neighbour's house. He rang 000 and then ran to the neighbour's house and called out to the elderly female occupant. Mr Hawes kicked the front door open and, with another man, crawled into the house. The two men were forced to retreat because of thick black smoke and intense heat but Mr Hawes re-entered the house and heard the woman say that she could not breathe or move. He crawled along the hallway but was again driven from the house by the smoke and flames. Despite suffering from smoke inhalation he re-entered the house, which was now almost completely engulfed in flames, to assist another man to drag the woman to the front door where bystanders helped by moving her to a safe distance from the house. Sadly, the woman later died from her injuries.

By his actions, Mr Hawes displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Dale Christopher JOHNSON, 134 Phillip Crescent, Barellan Point Qld 4306

On the morning of 17 March 2004, Mr Johnson rescued an elderly woman from a burning house at Karalee, Queensland.

Mr Johnson was in his backyard when he smelt burning plastic and saw grey smoke billowing from his neighbour's roof. Mr Johnson ran to the burning house to check on the elderly female occupant, and found another man there who was also concerned for the woman's safety. After forcing open a locked back door, Mr Johnson and the other man tried several times to enter the house but were driven back by thick black smoke. They also tried to encourage the woman to crawl to the door, but she replied that she was trapped. While the other man continued to attempt to find the woman from the rear of the house, Mr Johnson smashed a window at the front of the house, crawled into the house and located the woman sitting on her bed. He pulled her across to the window and lay down on the broken glass so that the other man could pull her out over his body without her being cut by the glass. The woman was carried a safe distance from the house until the ambulance and fire service arrived. The house was completely destroyed by the fire.

By his actions, Mr Johnson displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Not available

BRAVERY MEDAL

Acting Sergeant Paul Francis McGIRR, New South Wales Police

Early in the morning of 4 April 2002, Constable McGirr helped rescue residents trapped in a burning block of units at Wiley Park, New South Wales.

Constable McGirr, as a member of the New South Wales Police, was on duty when he was alerted to a fire at a block of home units. He and three other police officers arrived at the scene and were informed that there were people inside a unit that was well alight. The police officers entered the building and proceeded up the stairwell through thick smoke. Two of the police officers broke down the front door of the unit and, as the fire spread through the unit, dragged a female occupant from her bed and into the corridor. Constable McGirr and a colleague took hold of her and pulled her to the front of the building. With the roof of the building collapsing, the four officers then carried the woman from the building to safety. After being advised that there were still people in the building, the police officers re-entered and in spite of considerable danger from burning ceilings and smoke, broke down the doors of each unit and hurriedly evacuated all residents safely from both levels. Constable McGirr and another officer carried children from the building.

By his actions, Constable McGirr displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Not available

Constable David John McIntire, New South Wales Police

On the night of 25 July 2003, Constable McIntire helped rescue two people from a burning house at Queanbeyan, New South Wales.

Constable McIntire, a member of the New South Wales Police, was on duty when he and another police officer were called to a house fire. Two other officers were also in attendance. Constable McIntire looked through a window and saw a man and a woman asleep inside the house. He broke the window, which was covered in a metal security grille, and shouted to the occupants to get out as the house was on fire. The two people seemed unaware of the danger and proceeded to pack belongings. Constable McIntire and his colleague ran to the front door, kicked it in and entered the house accompanied by two other officers. The four officers attempted several times to reach the room where the occupants were located, but were forced back outside by the thick black smoke and toxic fumes. By this time the fire had spread and the roof had begun to collapse. Eventually the woman made her way out of the room and Constable McIntire and another officer dragged her from the house. Constable McIntire and two other officers made several more attempts to enter the house. Eventually Constable McIntire was able to get to the front room where he took hold of the man and dragged him outside. The four police officers secured the area after determining there were no other occupants in the house. After a short time the whole house was engulfed in flames.

By his actions, Constable McIntire displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Not available

BRAVERY MEDAL

Sergeant Glenn James McPHEE, Northern Territory Police

On the afternoon of 22 December 2003, Sergeant McPhee assisted in the rescue of two men from floodwaters after a crocodile attack in the Finniss River, Northern Territory.

Sergeant McPhee, a member of the Northern Territory Police, was on duty as part of a response team tasked with rescuing two men who had taken refuge in a large tree surrounded by rising floodwaters after their friend had been taken by a 4 metre crocodile. Sergeant McPhee and another man were winched, with a life raft, down from a helicopter slightly upstream from the tree where the two men were trapped. Despite rain squalls, poor visibility, flood conditions and the potentially still-present danger of the crocodile, Sergeant McPhee and the other man set off in the raft using swim fins, a water tray and broken branches as paddles. The helicopter pilot positioned the aircraft to enable the downdraft to push the raft against the current and assist Sergeant McPhee and the other man to paddle across the river, a method that also increased the risk of overturning the raft. Sergeant McPhee and the other man managed to reach the tree and convinced the two trapped men to jump into the raft. Eventually they made their way back safely to the riverbank. Sadly, no sign was found of the man taken by the crocodile.

By his actions, Sergeant McPhee displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr John Anthony MEALEY, 7 Bulba Road, Engadine NSW 2233

On the morning of 22 February 2003, Mr Mealey assisted in the rescue of a man from rough seas at Kiama, New South Wales.

Mr Mealey was near the beach coaching football when he saw one of the team members go to the assistance of a man who had been swept out to sea in a large swell and strong undertow. Mr Mealey quickly followed him into the water after stripping off his clothes, and swam out to the distressed man. Mr Mealey's team member had taken a child's body board, and the two men grabbed the exhausted swimmer and held onto him and the board as the waves broke over them and they were dragged further out to sea. After more than half an hour, lifesavers helped all three men safely to shore.

By his actions, Mr Mealey displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Home: 02 9520 7313 Work: 02 9600 1785 Mobile: 0402 413 948

BRAVERY MEDAL

Constable Thomas David O'BRIEN, New South Wales Police

Early in the morning of 4 April 2002, Constable O'Brien helped rescue residents trapped in a burning block of units at Wiley Park, New South Wales.

Constable O'Brien, a member of the New South Wales Police, was on duty when he was alerted to a fire at a block of home units. He and three other police officers arrived at the scene and were informed that there were people inside a unit that was well alight. The police officers entered the building and proceeded up the stairwell through thick smoke. Constable O'Brien and a colleague broke down the front door of the unit and were able to rouse a male occupant and direct him out of the building. As the fire spread through the unit and furniture and curtains caught fire in the bedroom, the two officers dragged a female occupant from her bed out into the corridor. With the roof of the building collapsing, the four officers then carried the woman from the building to safety. After being advised that there were still people in the building, the police officers re-entered and in spite of considerable danger from the burning ceilings and smoke, broke down the doors of each unit and hurriedly evacuated all residents safely from both levels.

By his actions, Constable O'Brien displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Joel Armando PETTIT, 772 Marsh Road, Bobs Farm NSW 2316

17 students

On the morning of 3 April 2003 Mr Pettit tackled and restrained an offender who had fired a crossbow and thrown a Molotov cocktail at fellow students at Tomaree High School, New South Wales.

Mr Pettit was playing handball in the grounds of the school when he heard a scream, went to investigate and saw a female student sitting on a bench holding a bloodstained jumper to her chest. He then saw a male student ignite and throw a Molotov cocktail at the victim and other students who had gone to help her. The bottle smashed against a wall but failed to explode. Mr Pettit saw the male student take another bottle from his backpack and attempt to ignite it with a cigarette lighter. Mr Pettit ran at the offender and grabbed him from behind. While the offender attempted to burn Mr Pettit with the cigarette lighter, Mr Pettit put him in a headlock and struggled to restrain him. Other students came to assist him and together they were able to hold the offender until a teacher took him away. Mr Pettit then went to comfort a second female student who had been injured by the crossbow.

By his actions, Mr Pettit displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Home: (02) 49822249 Mobile: 0401 827 082

BRAVERY MEDAL

Sergeant Wayne Morris PINNER, Victoria Police

On the afternoon of 10 January 2004, Sergeant Pinner rescued a woman from the Goulburn River near Seymour, Victoria.

Sergeant Pinner, a member of the Victoria Police, was on duty when he responded to a call advising that a woman had jumped into the river from a disused bridge. When he arrived at the scene, Sergeant Pinner heard the woman crying out for help and saw her struggling in the water. He immediately removed his uniform, dived into the river and swam about 50 metres to reach the woman who was now at the point of exhaustion. Sergeant Pinner grabbed the woman and struggled to get her ashore. The river was swollen and flowing fast and the water temperature very low. The woman twice slipped from his grasp. Despite the strong current sweeping them downstream, he was eventually able to pull the woman safely to the riverbank, where he administered first aid and, with the assistance of other police officers, took her to a location where an ambulance could safely reach her.

By his actions, Sergeant Pinner displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Michael Leslie POORE, 4 Bendena Gardens, Stanwell Tops NSW 2508

On the morning of 22 February 2003, Mr Poore was involved in the rescue of a man from rough seas at Kiama, New South Wales.

Mr Poore was at football training near the beach when he noticed a man being swept out to sea caught in a large swell and strong undertow. Mr Poore took off his boots, picked up a child's body board, and swam out to the distressed man. He grabbed the man and held him and the board as waves broke over them and dragged both men further out to sea. The team coach swam out to assist Mr Poore rescue the man, and they struggled to stay afloat as they were continually hit by waves. After more than half an hour, lifesavers helped all three men safely to shore.

By his actions, Mr Poore displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Home: 02 4294 4834

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr John SARRAF, 24 Jeffery Avenue North, Parramatta NSW 2150

Early in the morning on 23 June 2001, Mr Sarraf, then aged fifteen, intercepted, disarmed and restrained an offender after a shooting attack on his father at Guildford West, New South Wales.

On hearing a disturbance in his home, Mr Sarraf went to investigate. A male armed with a gun had entered the house and shot Mr Sarraf's father. Mr Sarraf confronted and briefly struggled with the offender who was still armed. The offender fled and, after checking on the condition of his father, Mr Sarraf gave chase, followed by his cousin. Mr Sarraf caught up with the offender some distance away, tackled him and, after having the gun pointed directly at him several times during the struggle, succeeded in disarming the man. While the offender continued to threaten them, Mr Sarraf and his cousin wrestled with him and were able to detain him until police arrived. Sadly, Mr Sarraf's father died from his injuries.

By his actions, Mr Sarraf displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: Mobile: 0425 756 619

Mr Anthony Maxwell SAXON, deceased, late of Quakers Hill NSW 2764

On the afternoon of 18 June 2003, Mr Saxon attempted to rescue his young stepdaughter from their burning house at Quakers Hill, New South Wales.

Mr Saxon and his wife were visiting a neighbour when their young son ran over to tell them that their house was on fire. Mr Saxon ran back to his house and, realising his infant stepdaughter was still inside in her bed, entered the house through the front door. By then the dwelling was engulfed in flames and smoke. When fire service officers arrived and searched the house, they found Mr Saxon slumped over his stepdaughter in a way that protected her from the smoke. The infant's life was saved, but tragically, all attempts to revive Mr Saxon were unsuccessful.

By his actions, Mr Saxon displayed considerable bravery, thereby losing his life.

Next of Kin: Ms Lisa Reilly (partner)
Phone Nos: Not available

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr David Francis SILLIS, "Turalla", 204 Bungendore Road, Bungendore NSW 2621

On the evening of 13 October 2002, Mr Sillis helped rescue a man from a burning aircraft at Bungendore, New South Wales.

Mr Sillis and his wife had just arrived home when a neighbour phoned to alert them to a light plane crash in the vicinity. Mr Sillis and his wife immediately drove to the crash site, where several neighbours joined them. Mr Sillis, his wife and neighbours found the front of the plane on fire with petrol running down the underside of one wing and dripping onto the two male occupants. One of the men had been severely burned and appeared to be dead. The second man, the pilot, was bleeding profusely from a gash on his head and was engulfed in flames to his waist. Mr Sillis released the pilot from his seatbelt then, with the help of others, lifted the pilot and pulled him a few metres from the plane, which was now burning intensely. Mr Sillis, with the help of his wife and a neighbour, then moved the pilot further from the plane and continued to comfort him. Mr Sillis returned to the plane to see if he could help the passenger; however, the man was dead. Sadly, the pilot also later died from his injuries.

By his actions, Mr Sillis displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mrs Janet Maree SILLIS, "Turalla", 204 Bungendore Road, Bungendore NSW 2621

On the evening of 13 October 2002, Mrs Sillis helped rescue a man from a burning aircraft at Bungendore, New South Wales.

Mrs Sillis and her husband had just arrived home when a neighbour rang to alert them to a light plane crash in the vicinity. The couple immediately drove to the crash site, where several neighbours joined them. Mrs Sillis, her husband and neighbours found the front of the plane on fire with petrol running down the underside of one wing and dripping onto the two male occupants. One of the men had been severely burnt and appeared to be dead. The second man, the pilot, was bleeding profusely from a gash on his head and was engulfed in flames to his waist. Mrs Sillis assisted others in removing the pilot from the burning wreckage of the plane and put out the flames on his legs. Mrs Sillis and a neighbour administered first aid to the pilot until the arrival of the ambulance. Sadly, both men died from their injuries.

By her actions, Mrs Sillis displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Not available

BRAVERY MEDAL

Constable Matthew STRATTON, New South Wales Police

Early in the morning of 4 April 2002, Constable Stratton helped rescue residents trapped in a burning block of units at Wiley Park, New South Wales.

Constable Stratton, a member of the New South Wales Police, was on duty when he was alerted to a fire at a block of home units. He and three other police officers arrived at the scene and were informed that there were people inside a unit that was well alight. The police officers entered the building and proceeded up the stairwell through thick smoke. Two of the police officers broke down the front door of the unit and, as the fire spread through the unit, dragged a female occupant from her bed out into the corridor. Constable Stratton and another officer took hold of her and pulled her to the front entrance of the building. With the roof of the building collapsing, the four officers then carried the woman from the building to safety. After being advised that there were still people in the building, the police officers re-entered and, in spite of considerable danger from burning ceilings and smoke, broke down the doors of each unit and hurriedly evacuated all residents safely from both levels.

By his actions, Constable Stratton displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Ross Leslie THREADGATE, 23 Comfort Avenue, Cessnock NSW 2325

On the afternoon of 21 April 2003, Mr Threadgate assisted in the rescue of an elderly woman from a house fire at Cessnock, New South Wales.

Mr Threadgate was arriving home when he noticed a fire in progress at his neighbour's house. After failed attempts by two other men to rescue the elderly female occupant, and despite thick smoke, intense heat and poor visibility, he entered the house alone to attempt a rescue but had to retreat when he realised he needed assistance to move the woman. Accompanied by another man, he again crawled into the house, which was now almost completely engulfed in flames. Together the two men dragged the woman to the front door where bystanders helped move her a safe distance from the house. Sadly, the woman later died from her injuries.

By his actions, Mr Threadgate displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Home: 02 4991 6895 Mobile: 0421 485 303

BRAVERY MEDAL

Master Simon BUI TRAN, Mount Waverley Vic 3149

On the morning of 10 April 2003, Master Tran, then aged six, acted to deflect a life-threatening attack on his mother by an offender armed with a knife at Springvale South, Victoria.

Master Tran was at home when a man armed with a knife entered and began stabbing Master Tran's mother, inflicting numerous wounds to her upper body. Master Tran witnessed the attack and ran at the offender. He raised his arms at the offender in an attempt to protect and defend his mother, and as a result, sustained extensive, serious injuries to his left wrist and arm. The offender ran from the house. Master Tran helped his mother to phone for an ambulance before they ran to a neighbour's house to seek assistance.

By his actions, Master Tran displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Mobile: 0422 870 497
 Ms Thu Thi Tran (mother)

Mr Garry Maxwell WAUGH, 47 Elizabeth Street, Cessnock NSW 2325

On the afternoon of 21 April 2003, Mr Waugh helped rescue an elderly woman from a house fire at Cessnock, New South Wales.

Mr Waugh, a former fire fighter, was driving home when he noticed billowing black smoke coming from a nearby house and went to investigate. He discovered that the house was on fire and an elderly woman was trapped inside. Accompanied by another man, he crawled into the house through intense heat and thick black smoke to search for the woman. Realising he needed assistance, he crawled out to the verandah and told a security guard and bystanders the woman's position. After two other rescuers succeeded in dragging her to the front door, Mr Waugh assisted in moving the woman a safe distance from the house. He then helped the fire brigade and ambulance officers to treat her burns. Sadly, the woman later died from her injuries.

By his actions, Mr Waugh displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Home: 02 4990 7136 Mobile: 0423 935 965

BRAVERY MEDAL

Senior Constable Adam WEBB, New South Wales Police

Early in the morning of 4 April 2002, Constable Webb helped rescue residents trapped in a burning block of units at Wiley Park, New South Wales.

Constable Webb, a member of the New South Wales Police, was on duty when he was alerted to a fire at a block of home units. He and three other police officers arrived at the scene and were informed that there were people inside a unit that was well alight. The police officers entered the building and proceeded up the stairwell through thick smoke. Constable Webb and another officer broke down the front door of the unit and were able to rouse a male occupant and direct him out of the building. As the fire spread through the unit and furniture and curtains in the bedroom caught fire, he and the other officer dragged a female occupant from her bed out into the corridor, where another two officers took hold of her and pulled her to the front entrance of the building. Constable Webb noticed the roof was collapsing and instructed all the officers to leave the building. The four officers then carried the woman from the building to safety. After being advised that there were still people in the building, the police officers re-entered and in spite of considerable danger from burning ceilings and smoke, broke down the doors of each unit and hurriedly evacuated all residents safely from both levels. Constable Webb and another officer carried children from the building.

By his actions, Constable Webb displayed considerable bravery.

Phone nos: Not available

Mr Bradley Cecil WOLENS, 8 Ashfield Street, Raymonds Hill Qld 4305

On the morning of 17 March 2004, Mr Wolens helped rescue an elderly woman from a burning house at Karalee, Queensland.

Mr Wolens, who operates a mobile dog grooming business, had just arrived at a regular customer's address when he noticed a fire in progress at a neighbouring house. Mr Wolens ran to check on the elderly female he knew lived alone in the burning house, and heard an explosion as he tried unsuccessfully to open the front door. Mr Wolens moved to the back of the house calling to the woman and heard her call back that she was trapped and couldn't get out. He broke down a locked security door and removed sliding glass doors and, with another man, attempted several times to find the woman but was driven back by thick smoke. Eventually the other man entered the house through a smashed window and located the woman. He managed to get her across to the window and Mr Wolens pulled her out. Mr Wolens then carried the woman a safe distance from the house and administered first aid until the ambulance and fire service arrived. The house was completely destroyed by the fire.

By his actions, Mr Wolens displayed considerable bravery.

Phone Nos: Home: 07 3201 6630 Mobile: 0419 797 329

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Akram ALLOUSH, Preston Vic 3072

Details not available at the request of Mr Alloush.

Phone Nos: Not available

Constable Jason Eugene ANGUS, New South Wales Police

On the night of 4 July 2004, Probationary Constable Angus helped rescue a woman from a burning house at Worrigee, New South Wales.

Probationary Constable Angus, a member of the New South Wales Police, was on duty when he was called to a house fire in Worrigee where other police and rural fire service officers were already in attendance. After being advised there was a woman trapped inside, Probationary Constable Angus went into the house accompanied by another police officer and searched for the woman, despite being warned of the danger of thick toxic smoke. The woman was eventually located and dragged out of the house by two of his colleagues. Probationary Constable Angus, with three other police officers then re-entered and searched the house to ensure there were no other people inside.

By his actions, Probationary Constable Angus is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Goldie Robert BAIRD, 58-60 Kauri Court, Woodford Qld 4514

On the morning of 14 November 2004, Mr Baird went to the aid of a pilot after his crop-duster plane crashed in Laidley, Queensland.

Mr Baird was at home when a female friend informed him that a light aircraft had crashed nearby. Mr Baird went with her and another man to the scene of the accident to lend assistance. A local farmer soon joined them. The plane was upside down with liquid spilled on the ground, and a strong smell of chemicals and fuel. While waiting for an ambulance, the injured pilot became agitated about getting out of the plane. Although it was preferable the pilot not be moved, the rescuers feared that the plane would catch fire. With the assistance of the other rescuers, Mr Baird helped the pilot from the plane and moved him to safety.

By his actions, Mr Baird is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 07 5496 3252

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Stanley Gordon BALFOUR, 15 Powlett Street, Carisbrook Vic 3464

On the afternoon of 30 March 2004, Mr Balfour rescued a man and woman trapped in a burning vehicle on the Bendigo-Maryborough Road, Victoria.

Mr Balfour was driving his car when he came across a two-car collision. One of the cars was extensively damaged and the grass underneath it was on fire. Mr Balfour parked his car and ran to provide assistance. A man, who appeared to be unconscious, was caught in his seatbelt and hanging halfway out of the passenger-side door. Mr Balfour lifted the man out and dragged him from the car. Mr Balfour also reached inside the car and released a dog that was restrained on a leash. Despite being warned by onlookers that the fire was spreading, Mr Balfour returned to the vehicle and dragged the female driver to safety. Shortly afterwards the vehicle was completely engulfed in flames. Sadly, the male passenger died.

By his actions, Mr Balfour is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 03 5464 2503

Miss Hannah Jessica BEECHEY,
155 Courtenay Avenue, North Cranbourne Vic 3977

On the morning of 7 November 2003, Miss Beechey, then aged fourteen, helped rescue a young boy on the tracks at Merinda Park Railway Station, Victoria.

Miss Beechey was on the platform at a railway station when a teenage boy alerted her to a young boy lying unconscious on the railway track. With the assistance of the teenager, Miss Beechey managed to get the young boy onto the platform while the teenager's friend ran to the end of the platform to alert the driver of an oncoming train.

By her actions, Miss Beechey is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Kenneth Arthur BEMROSE,
Lot 12, Section 142, Spring Gully Road, Clare SA 5453

On the afternoon of 16 June 2001, Mr Bemrose helped locate and move to safety an injured man following an industrial fire in Moomba, South Australia.

Mr Bemrose was working as a senior safety and emergency services officer at the Santos gas plant in Moomba when he responded to an alarm following an explosion. Arriving at the site, he assisted in extinguishing the fire. He and another man then equipped themselves with breathing apparatus and entered the building to search for a missing process operator. Despite poor visibility, they were able to locate the man who was wedged between two pipes and had suffered extensive burns to his body. On two occasions Mr Bemrose left the shed to seek additional help and then re-entered to assist the injured man, despite a further explosion. With the help of three other men, Mr Bemrose freed the process operator and carried him from the building to a waiting ambulance where he was transported to the medical centre. Tragically, the man later died from his injuries.

By his actions, Mr Bemrose is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 08 8842 2196 Work: 08 8862 1400 Mobile: 0438 422 190

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Sharad BHARGAVA,

SB-57 Bapu Nagar, Tonk Road, Jaipur-302015, Rajasthan, India

On the afternoon of 7 October 2001, Mr Bhargava intervened to save the life of a colleague during a stabbing in Sydney, New South Wales.

Mr Bhargava was working behind the reception desk at a hotel when a man wielding a knife entered. He threatened Mr Bhargava's female colleague then slashed her face and stabbed her in the chest, causing a potentially fatal injury. Mr Bhargava advised his colleague to flee, then grappled with the offender, sustaining a slash to the hand during the struggle. Subdued, the offender then dropped the knife and asked Mr Bhargava to call the police. Mr Bhargava kept the offender under observation until police officers arrived.

By his actions, Mr Bhargava is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Adrian Nigel BLACK, 5 Lillypilly Place, Noosaville Qld 4566

On the morning of 15 June 2003, Mr Black rescued two people and attempted to rescue a third person trapped in a submerged vehicle at Palmview, Queensland.

Mr Black was travelling in a vehicle over a bridge with a friend when they noted a splash in the dam water below. Mr Black and his friend stopped their vehicle and ran back to the bridge to investigate. They saw the rear end of a car floating above the water. A woman surfaced and began screaming that her husband was trapped in the car. Mr Black immediately jumped from the bridge into the water, swam to the vehicle and ascertained from the woman that three people were still in the car. Despite poor visibility and icy conditions, Mr Black climbed into the car and managed to locate a female passenger. He pulled her to the surface. He then dived under the water and searched until he located the male driver. He resurfaced for breath then dived under the water again and pulled the man from the car to the surface. Mr Black continued searching for the other male passenger, but was unable to free him. Sadly, the male passenger did not survive the incident.

By his actions, Mr Black is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 07 5474 1750 Mobile: 0438 588 289

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Constable Michael Graham BURGESS, New South Wales Police

On the night of 4 July 2004, Probationary Constable Burgess helped rescue a woman from a burning house at Worrigea, New South Wales.

Probationary Constable Burgess, a member of the New South Wales Police, was on duty when he was called to a house fire in Worrigea. After being advised there was a woman trapped inside, Probationary Constable Burgess entered the house with another police officer and a fire service officer. They forced open the door to the main bedroom and attempted to locate the woman, but were overcome by smoke and forced to retreat from the house. Probationary Constable Burgess and the other police officer re-entered the room through the window and removed some smouldering bedding. Despite being warned of the danger of thick toxic smoke, Probationary Constable Burgess, accompanied by three other police officers, then went back into the house through the front door to search for the woman. The woman was eventually located and dragged out of the house by two of his colleagues. All four police officers then re-entered and searched the house to ensure there were no other people inside.

By his actions, Probationary Constable Burgess is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

Ms Julie May CASEY, PO Box 1097, Mount Gravatt Qld 4122

On the afternoon of 28 February 2004, Ms Casey helped rescue a man from a burning vehicle at Berrinba, Queensland.

Ms Casey was driving to Jindalee when she stopped on the Logan Motorway to offer assistance after a three-vehicle collision. Ms Casey noticed a male driver slumped over the steering wheel of a vehicle that had black smoke billowing from its engine. She opened the driver's door and started to pull the driver out of the car. With the assistance of another man, Ms Casey moved the driver a safe distance away, then administered first aid to an injured woman who had been rescued from another vehicle, and comforted her until ambulance officers were able to attend to her.

By her actions, Ms Casey is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 07 3209 8867 Work: 07 3219 1933 Mobile 0412 387 997

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Sergeant Paul Rodney CONDON, New South Wales Police

On the night of 4 July 2004, Sergeant Condon helped rescue a woman from a burning house at Worrigee, New South Wales.

Sergeant Condon, a member of the New South Wales Police, was on duty when he was called to a house fire. After being advised there was a woman trapped inside, Sergeant Condon entered the house with another police officer and a fire service officer. They forced open the door to the main bedroom and attempted to locate the woman, but were overcome by smoke and forced to retreat from the house. Sergeant Condon then smashed a bedroom window, and with the other police officer, re-entered the room and removed some smouldering bedding. Sergeant Condon, accompanied by three other police officers, went back into the house. Despite being warned of the danger of thick toxic smoke, Sergeant Condon and another police officer crawled through the house and eventually located the semi-conscious victim. They then dragged her from the house to safety. With three other police officers, Sergeant Condon then re-entered and searched the house to ensure there were no other people inside.

By his actions, Sergeant Condon is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

Constable Bradley John COOPER, New South Wales Police

On the afternoon of 5 August 2002, Constable Cooper disarmed a man following a domestic dispute at Broken Hill, New South Wales.

Constable Cooper was on duty when he and another police officer were called to a domestic disturbance. A male offender armed with a knife was stabbing a woman in the head, neck and back. Unable to use capsicum spray or his firearm because of the proximity of the victim and her child to the offender, Constable Cooper wrestled the man to the floor. During the struggle Constable Cooper was stabbed in the thigh. Eventually he and his colleague were able to subdue and restrain the offender.

By his actions, Constable Cooper is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

Detective Inspector Peter CRAWFORD, Queensland Police

On the afternoon of 28 February 2004, Detective Crawford helped rescue a woman and child trapped in a burning vehicle at Berrinba, Queensland.

Detective Crawford who was off duty was driving on the Logan Motorway at the time of a three vehicle collision and went to assist. Despite the intensity of the heat and flames, he held open the door of a burning vehicle while another man pulled a woman and child from the wreckage. Detective Crawford then administered first aid to an injured man until he could be treated by paramedics. Tragically, the woman's other child died after being thrown from the car.

By his actions, Detective Crawford is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Detective Senior Constable Brett George DARNELL, New South Wales Police

On the night of 25 July 2003, Senior Constable Darnell helped rescue two people from a burning house at Queanbeyan, New South Wales.

Senior Constable Darnell, a member of the New South Wales Police, was on duty when he and another police officer were called to a house fire in Queanbeyan. Two other officers were also in attendance. Senior Constable Darnell and a colleague ran to the front door, forced it open and entered the house accompanied by the two other officers. The four officers attempted several times to reach the room where a man and woman were located but were forced back outside by thick black smoke and toxic fumes. By this time the fire had spread and the roof had begun to collapse. Eventually the woman made her way out of the room and Senior Constable Darnell and another officer helped her from the house. Senior Constable Darnell and two colleagues made several more attempts to enter the house. Eventually one of the officers succeeded in reaching the remaining occupant and Senior Constable Darnell assisted in dragging the man outside. The four police officers secured the area after determining there were no other occupants in the house. After a short time the whole house was engulfed in flames.

By his actions, Senior Constable Darnell is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Gary Murray DAVENPORT, 14 Brigadoon Street, Happy Valley SA 5159

On the afternoon of 11 March 2004, Mr Davenport foiled an attempted armed robbery at a post office in Daw Park, South Australia.

Mr Davenport was working as the manager of the post office when he noticed a man behaving suspiciously outside the shop. The man entered the post office armed with a hammer and indicated to a female shop assistant that he intended robbery. Mr Davenport assisted a colleague in tackling the offender and wrestling him to the ground. In the violent struggle that ensued Mr Davenport was struck in the head with the hammer. With the assistance of another member of the public, the offender was finally overpowered and restrained until the police arrived. Mr Davenport was taken by ambulance to hospital to be treated for significant head injuries.

By his actions, Mr Davenport is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 08 8322 9920 Work: 08 8374 0743

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Ian John DAVENPORT, 40 Clarke Crescent, Rapid Creek NT 0810

On the afternoon of 11 March 2004, Mr Davenport foiled an attempted armed robbery at a post office in Daw Park, South Australia.

Mr Davenport was working as a retail officer at the post office when he observed a man behaving suspiciously outside the shop. The man entered the post office armed with a hammer and indicated that he intended robbery. Mr Davenport immediately grabbed the offender and struggled with him. The Postal Manager came to assist and was struck in the head with the hammer while wrestling the offender to the ground. With the assistance of another member of the public, the offender was finally overpowered and restrained until police arrived. Mr Davenport subsequently required treatment for head injuries.

By his actions, Mr Davenport is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Mobile: 0401 223 874

Constable Josef Anthony DOIDGE, New South Wales Police

On the afternoon of 5 August 2002, Constable Doidge assisted in disarming a man following a domestic dispute at Broken Hill, New South Wales.

Constable Doidge was on duty when he and another police officer were called to a domestic disturbance. A male offender armed with a knife was stabbing a woman in the head, neck and back. Unable to use capsicum spray or a firearm because of the proximity of the victim and her child to the offender, Constable Doidge assisted his colleague to subdue and restrain the man.

By his actions, Constable Doidge is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Brendan Adam DRIES, Portland NSW 2756

Details not available at the request of Mr Dries.

Phone Nos: Not available

Senior Constable Joshua James ELLIOTT, Queensland Police Service

On the evening of 14 October 2001, Constable Elliott disarmed a man who was threatening police and others with a loaded spear gun at Cairns, Queensland.

Constable Elliott a member of the Queensland Police, was on duty when he and another officer were called to a domestic disturbance. After knocking on the door and identifying themselves as police officers, they entered the house and were confronted and threatened by a man armed with a loaded spear gun aimed at Senior Constable Elliott's chest. The police officers noticed a woman and child standing behind the offender and therefore decided not to draw their firearms. As the offender again pointed the loaded spear gun at him, Senior Constable Elliott grabbed the weapon and, with his colleague's assistance, wrestled it away from the offender.

By his actions, Senior Constable Elliott is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Ms Tanya Lorraine FALAGAN, Mount Gravatt Qld 4122

Details not available at the request of Ms Falagan.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Luke John FRIZON, 73 Ferguson Street, Upwey Vic 3158

On the afternoon of 9 October 2003, Mr Frizon, then fourteen years old, intervened to prevent the attempted theft of items from a woman's carry bag on a train heading towards Belgrave, Victoria.

Mr Frizon was travelling home from school on a train when he saw a man attempting to secrete items from a woman's carry bag under the seat. Mr Frizon asked the offender what he was doing and told him to stop. The offender threatened to stab and kill Mr Frizon and as he said this, put his hand in his pocket as if concealing a weapon. The offender then pushed Mr Frizon and slapped him about the head and shoulders. The threats and assaults continued for a short time until an off-duty police officer intervened. Mr Frizon promptly reported the incident to police who were able to identify the offender from video footage and make an arrest.

By his actions, Mr Frizon is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 03 9754 2365 Mobile: 0400 506 025

Senior Constable Leslie Charles GILROY, New South Wales Police

On the night of 25 July 2003, Senior Constable Gilroy helped rescue two people from a burning house at Queanbeyan, New South Wales.

Senior Constable Gilroy, a member of the New South Wales Police, was on duty when he and another police officer were called to a house fire. Two other officers were also in attendance. The four officers entered the house and attempted several times to reach the room where a man and woman were located but were forced back outside by thick black smoke and toxic fumes. By this time the fire had spread and the roof had begun to collapse. Senior Constable Gilroy and two colleagues made several more attempts to enter the house. Eventually the woman made her way out of the room and was assisted from the house. Constable Gilroy then assisted in removing the male occupant from the house. The four police officers secured the area after determining there were no other occupants in the house. After a short time the whole house was engulfed in flames.

By his actions, Senior Constable Gilroy is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Miss Samantha Allyce GURDON, 22 Harvey Street, Kensington Heights Qld 4350

On the afternoon of 10 July 2004, Miss Gurdon, then aged fifteen, went to the assistance of an injured girl at Crows Nest Falls, Queensland.

Miss Gurdon was a member of a group of sightseers in a national park when she heard that there was an injured girl trapped in a ravine near a deep waterhole. Although the girl was unknown to her, Miss Gurdon immediately shed her shoes and coat, dived into the icy water and swam approximately 70 metres across the waterhole to help the injured girl and a female friend who had remained with her. Miss Gurdon was able to comfort the injured girl and provide body heat as the three girls huddled together on a rock ledge to keep each other warm in the cold and wet conditions. Police, ambulance and emergency service personnel arrived at the waterhole, but it was considered unsafe for any rescuer to swim to the three girls due to the temperature of the water. Several hours later, rescue personnel used canoes to reach the girls and transport them to safety. Miss Gurdon was treated on site for mild hypothermia.

By her actions, Miss Gurdon is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 07 4659 7626 Mobile: 0418 153 809

Mr Keith Alistair HAIRE, Wodonga Vic 3690

Details not available at the request of Mr Haire.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mrs Deborah HARBIN, 4 Bassett Street, Mount Ousley NSW 2519

On the afternoon of 25 February 1999, Ms Harbin intervened to stop two armed offenders from injuring students at Keira High School in Wollongong, New South Wales.

Ms Harbin was a duty teacher working with a colleague in the grounds of the school when they noticed two teenage males approaching the entrance. One was wearing a balaclava and appeared to be concealing something under his jumper. The other carried a piece of wood and wore a hood pulled down over his face. Ms Harbin's colleague asked the two males what they were doing in the school grounds and was abused and threatened. Ms Harbin also confronted the males and one of them produced a machete, which he swung twice at her. The two males then started running through the school grounds. Ms Harbin and her colleague gave chase while calling out warnings to students who were in the area. They continued the pursuit until the offenders had left the school grounds.

By her actions, Ms Harbin is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 02 4284 9639 Work: 02 4228 6011 Mobile: 0421 363 738

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Craig Tilney HARRIS, Lot 4 Jervois Road, Yankalilla SA 5203

On the afternoon of 16 June 2001, Mr Harris helped locate and move to safety an injured man following an industrial fire in Moomba, South Australia.

Mr Harris was working as a senior emergency co-ordinator at the Santos gas plant in Moomba when he responded to an alarm following an explosion. Arriving at the site, he helped extinguish the fire. Assisted by another man, he equipped himself with breathing apparatus and entered the building to search for a missing process operator. Despite poor visibility, they were able to locate the man who was wedged between two pipes and had suffered extensive burns to his body. Mr Harris left the shed on two occasions to seek additional help and, despite a further explosion, re-entered to assist the injured man. With the help of three other men, Mr Harris freed the process operator and carried him from the building to a waiting ambulance. Mr Harris later drove the ambulance from the medical centre to Moomba Aerodrome and assisted in lifting the man onto an aircraft. Tragically, the man died from his injuries.

By his actions, Mr Harris is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 08 8558 2875 Work: 08 8224 7279 Mobile: 0429 126 286

Associate Professor Brett Andrew INDER, 30 Wellington Road, Clayton Vic 3168

On the morning of 21 October 2002, Professor Inder helped to restrain a man who had just shot dead two students and wounded five other people during a lecture at Monash University.

Professor Inder was in his office when he heard gunfire and went to investigate. When he arrived at the scene of the shooting he saw the offender struggling with two men who were trying to restrain him. One of the men was becoming weakened by his injuries and asked Professor Inder to take over the task of holding the offender's legs. Professor Inder comforted the wounded man and then held the offender while another man searched him for weapons.

By his actions, Professor Inder is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 03 9544 8935 Work: 03 9905 2303

Ms Bridgette Michelle JACKSON, PO Box 581, Sunnybank Qld 4109

Early in the morning of 1 August 2004, Miss Jackson went to the assistance of a man who was being assaulted in the city centre of Brisbane, Queensland.

Miss Jackson was walking with her sister and two brothers when she saw a man being assaulted by a group of males. The offenders were kicking the man in the head and body while he lay on the ground. Miss Jackson's brothers went to the man's aid, and attempted to calm the situation. However, one of Miss Jackson's brothers was knocked unconscious and the other was punched several times. Miss Jackson went to the assistance of the latter and pulled one of the offenders away from him. Eventually the group of offenders backed away.

By her actions, Miss Jackson is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Mobile: 447845822550

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Ms Elizabeth Nicole JACKSON, PO Box 581, Sunnybank Qld 4109

Early in the morning of 1 August 2004, Miss Jackson went to the assistance of a man who was being assaulted in the city centre of Brisbane, Queensland.

Miss Jackson was walking with her sister and two brothers when she saw a man being assaulted by a group of males. The offenders were kicking the man in the head and body while he lay on the ground. Miss Jackson's brothers went to the man's aid, and attempted to calm the situation by talking to the group. However, one of her brothers was knocked unconscious and the other was punched several times. Miss Jackson went to the former brother's assistance and pulled one of the offenders away from him. Eventually the group of offenders backed away.

By her actions, Miss Jackson is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 03 9827 2729 Work: 0419 461 125

Mr John Patrick JACKSON, Sunnybank Qld 4109

Early in the morning of 1 August 2004, Mr Jackson went to the assistance of a man who was being assaulted in the city centre of Brisbane, Queensland.

Mr Jackson was walking with his brother and two sisters when he saw a man being assaulted by a group of males. The offenders were kicking the man in the head and body while he lay on the ground. Mr Jackson, with his brother's assistance, tried to persuade the offenders to leave the man alone. They thought they had succeeded in calming the situation; however, Mr Jackson's brother was then knocked unconscious and fell to the ground. As he went to his brother's aid, Mr Jackson was punched several times. Mr Jackson's sisters joined the fray and eventually they were successful in getting the offenders to back away.

By his actions, Mr Jackson is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 07 3344 4977 Work: 07 3344 5588

Dr Peter Edward JACKSON, 134 Turton Street, Sunnybank Qld 4109

Early in the morning of 1 August 2004, Dr Jackson went to the assistance of a man who was being assaulted in the city centre of Brisbane, Queensland.

Dr Jackson was walking with his brother and two sisters when he saw a man being assaulted by a group of males. The offenders were kicking the man in the head and body while he lay on the ground. Dr Jackson stood between the victim and the group and, with his brother's assistance, tried to persuade the offenders to leave the man alone. They thought they had succeeded in calming the situation; however, Dr Jackson was then knocked unconscious and fell to the ground. His brother and sisters went to his aid and eventually they succeeded in getting the group of offenders to back away. Dr Jackson was taken to hospital and treated for his injuries.

By his actions, Dr Jackson is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mrs Susan Gay JAMES, Falls Creek NSW 2540

Details not available at the request of Ms James.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Ian Roland JOHNSTON,

Shop 3 and 4, 42 The Esplanade, Paradise Point Qld 4216

On the afternoon of 15 September 2004, Mr Johnston foiled an attempted armed robbery at a bank in Paradise Point, Queensland.

Mr Johnston was working as manager of the bank when he heard the sound of breaking glass and went to investigate. Mr Johnston saw a man enter feet first through a broken window and another man standing outside. Both men were carrying crowbars. The man inside the room raised his crowbar to threaten Mr Johnston, and a struggle ensued as he tried to remove it from the offender's grasp. A customer came to assist and forced the offender back with a chair. While still threatening Mr Johnston, the offender climbed back out through the window. Mr Johnston closed the bank and shortly afterwards police officers arrived.

By his actions, Mr Johnston is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

Constable Kelli Dianne KLEIN, New South Wales Police

On the night of 4 July 2004, Senior Constable Klein helped rescue a woman from a burning house at Worrigeer, New South Wales.

Senior Constable Klein, a member of the New South Wales Police, was on duty when she was called to a house fire in Worrigeer where other police officers and rural fire service officers were already in attendance. After being advised there was a woman trapped inside, Senior Constable Klein went into the house accompanied by another police officer. Despite being warned of the danger of thick toxic smoke, Senior Constable Klein and a colleague crawled through the house and eventually located the semi-conscious victim. They then dragged her from the house to safety. With three other police officers Senior Constable Klein then re-entered and searched the house to ensure there were no other people inside.

By her actions, Senior Constable Klein is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Paul Jason LEGGETT, 13 Darter Place, Springfield Lakes Qld 4300

On the evening of 10 June 2004, Mr Leggett attempted to rescue a baby from a burning vehicle at Springfield, Queensland.

Mr Leggett was travelling in a car when he was stopped by a line of traffic and noticed a car on fire on the road ahead. After being informed that there was a baby trapped in the rear of the burning vehicle, Mr Leggett ran toward the car and threw a brick through the front passenger window. He opened the door and leaned inside but was driven back by the intense heat. Sadly, the baby died in the incident.

By his actions, Mr Leggett is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Michael John MARSDEN, Emerald Vic 3782

On the afternoon of 28 April 2004, Mr Marsden pursued an offender who had assaulted and robbed an elderly woman at Croydon, Victoria.

Mr Marsden was travelling in a vehicle when he saw a man snatch an elderly woman's handbag and knock her to the ground. Mr Marsden got out of the vehicle and chased the offender for approximately 500 metres. Mr Marsden then confronted the offender who threatened him, then boarded a bus. Mr Marsden reported the offender to a police officer and the offender quickly alighted from the bus and started running again. He was finally stopped and arrested by a police officer on patrol duties. Sadly, the elderly woman later died from her injuries.

By his actions, Mr Marsden is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: (03) 5968 4494 Mobile: 0416 564 181

Mr Mik James MATTHEWS, Mount Gravatt Qld 4122

Details not available at the request of Mr Matthews.

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Phillip NG, 16 Lovell Drive, St Albans Vic 3021

Early on the morning of 12 January 2004, Mr Ng helped to disarm an offender during a robbery at the Zagames Hotel in Reservoir, Victoria.

Mr Ng was working as the duty manager at the hotel when a man armed with a gun entered and threatened the security guard. The offender forced the security guard to lead him to the cashier's office and Mr Ng followed to unlock the doors and try to ensure that no one was harmed. The offender demanded that Mr Ng open the safe. As Mr Ng was complying, the security guard disarmed the offender, and then Mr Ng and his colleague wrestled with the offender and restrained him until police arrived.

By his actions, Mr Ng is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Miss Norita Gladys NOMOA,

Primary Health Centre, Tamwoy Street, Badu Island Qld 4875

Miss Nomoa, then aged ten, swam to seek help and became stranded for six days after her family's boat capsized in Torres Strait, Queensland on the afternoon of 6 July 2004.

Miss Nomoa was in a dinghy with her parents, two brothers and elder sister when the boat capsized between Badu Island and Thursday Island and the family was washed into the sea. Miss Nomoa, her sister and one of her brothers swam to get help and managed to reach a small rocky outcrop approximately 400 metres away. The children survived there for three days by eating oysters. At this stage they made a decision to again swim for help in the hope that they and their family would be rescued. They swam some six kilometres to Matu Island, where they survived by eating native fruits and drinking coconut milk. After three more days the children were rescued by their uncle. Tragically, the other occupants of the dinghy were never found.

By her actions, Miss Nomoa is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 07 4069 4460

Miss Ellis NONA

Primary Health Centre, Tamwoy Street, Badu Island Qld 4875

Miss Nona, then aged fifteen, swam to seek help and became stranded for six days after her family's boat capsized in Torres Strait, Queensland on the afternoon of 6 July 2004.

Miss Nona was in a dinghy with her parents, two brothers and younger sister when the boat capsized between Badu Island and Thursday Island and the family was washed into the sea. Miss Nona, her sister and one of her brothers swam to get help and managed to reach a small rocky outcrop approximately 400 metres away. The children survived there for three days by eating oysters. At this stage they made a decision to again swim for help in the hope that they and their family would be rescued. They swam some six kilometres to Matu Island, where they survived by eating native fruits and drinking coconut milk. After three more days the children were rescued by their uncle. Tragically, the other occupants of the dinghy were never found.

By her actions, Miss Nona is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 07 4069 4460

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Master Phil Stephen NONA

Primary Health Centre, Tamwoy Street, Badu Island Qld 4875

Master Nona, then aged eleven, assisted two members of his family to swim to seek help and to survive being stranded for six days after his family's boat capsized in Torres Strait, Queensland on the afternoon of 6 July 2004.

Master Nona was in a dinghy with his parents, two sisters and younger brother when the boat capsized between Badu Island and Thursday Island and the family was washed into the sea. Master Nona encouraged his sisters to swim with him to seek help and managed to reach a small rocky outcrop approximately 400 metres away. The children survived there for three days by eating oysters. At this stage they made a decision to again swim for help in the hope that they and their family would be rescued. They then swam some six kilometres to Matu Island. When the girls were tired, Master Nona told them to hang onto him so that he could tow them on his back, or he pushed them along. The children survived on Matu Island by eating native fruits and drinking coconut milk, and Master Nona continued to reassure his sisters that they would be saved. After three more days the children were rescued by their uncle. Tragically the other occupants of the dinghy were never found.

By his actions, Master Nona is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 07 4069 4460

Senior Constable Craig Ronald O'HEHIR, Western Australia Police

On the afternoon of 6 May 2003, Senior Constable O'Hehir saved a man attempting to commit suicide in Perth, Western Australia.

Senior Constable O'Hehir, a member of the Western Australia Police, was on duty when he was advised by a member of the public that a very agitated man was sitting on an external wall in an upper storey car park. Senior Constable O'Hehir went to investigate and, having ascertained that the man was intending to commit suicide, began to negotiate with him. The man threatened to jump several times while Senior Constable O'Hehir continued to remain with him for over an hour. As the man stood up on the ledge and prepared to jump, Senior Constable O'Hehir lunged at him and grasped his legs. He was able to restrain the man until other officers came to assist.

For his actions, Senior Constable O'Hehir is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Sergeant Anthony Kent OESTREICH, 16 Ian Potter Crescent, Gungahlin ACT 2912

On the night of 25 July 2003, Sergeant Oestreich helped rescue two people from a burning house at Queanbeyan, New South Wales.

Sergeant Oestreich, a member of the RAAF Police, was on duty when he and another police officer were called to a house fire in Queanbeyan. Two local police officers were also in attendance. The four officers entered the house after forcing the front door and attempted several times to reach the room where a man and woman were located, but were forced back outside by the thick black smoke and toxic fumes. By this time the fire had spread and the roof had begun to collapse. The woman eventually made her way out of the room and was assisted from the house. When one of the police officers managed to reach the male occupant of the room, Sergeant Oestreich helped drag him outside, then pulled the other officers out through a hole in the front door. The four police officers secured the area after determining there were no other occupants in the house. After a short time the whole house was engulfed in flames.

By his actions, Sergeant Oestreich is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Work: 02 6266 1718

Mr Mark Joseph PEERS, 19 Links Road, Mansfield Vic 3724

On the afternoon of 26 February 2003, Mr Peers helped in the rescue of a man and the attempted rescue of a woman from a flooded creek at Buckland Valley, Victoria.

Mr Peers was contracted as part of a team of six people selected to recover a burned out fire tanker near Mt Selwyn. On the way out of the area, the team encountered torrential rainfall and conditions became hazardous. A male and female fire fighter in the lead vehicle tried to cross a swollen creek but became stuck in the gully. River debris quickly built up against the vehicle, threatening to force it off the track. During the rescue operation of the two fire fighters by the rest of the team, Mr Peers endeavoured to haul himself and the female fire fighter back across the river, but the force of the water loosened his grip. The woman slipped and they were both swept away. Despite severe bruising, Mr Peers managed to reach the bank and assisted another team member from the floodwaters to safety before joining the search for the woman. Tragically, the woman drowned.

By his actions, Mr Peers is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Ms Joyce Karen PHILIPS, 22 Globe Street, Ashgrove Qld 4060

On the afternoon of 21 September 2004, Ms Phillips attempted to intercept a robber at a bakery in Ashgrove, Queensland.

Ms Philips was at a bakery when a male offender entered and removed the cash register from the counter. Without hesitation, Ms Philips attempted to wrestle the cash register from the offender and was dragged along as she attempted to retrieve it. The offender then forcefully shook the register to loosen Ms Philips' grip and pushed her away with his arms. Ms Philips continued to attempt recovery of the register as the struggle continued out on the street. After finally shaking the register free from Ms Philip's grip, the offender threw it into a nearby vehicle and drove away. Ms Philips was able to note the vehicle registration and provide a detailed description of the offender to the police who later arrested the man. Ms Philips sustained cuts and grazing to her left hand during her struggle with the offender.

By her actions, Ms Philips is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 07 3366 7685

Mr Paul James REID, 218 Shell Road, Ocean Grove Vic 3226

On the evening of 17 August 2004, Mr Reid helped rescue a man from the surf at Ocean Grove, Victoria.

Mr Reid was at home when his housemate alerted him to a man in difficulties at a nearby beach. Two fishermen had been thrown from their boat after it was swamped by waves; one of the men managed to hold onto the boat while the other disappeared beneath the surface. Despite rough seas, freezing conditions and poor visibility, Mr Reid and his housemate paddled their surfboards out to help the man clinging to the boat. They encouraged the man to let go of the boat and climb onto Mr Reid's board. They then paddled back towards the shore. Once they were close to the shoreline another male entered the water and helped carry the victim to safety. Sadly, the other fisherman drowned in the incident.

By his actions, Mr Reid is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Stephen Frederick RODGERS, 114 Guger Street, Claremont WA 6010

On the afternoon of 16 June 2001, Mr Rodgers helped locate and move to safety an injured man following an industrial fire in Moomba, South Australia.

Mr Rodgers was working as a safety adviser at the Santos gas plant in Moomba when he responded to an alarm following an explosion. After being told a process operator in a pump shed was badly burnt, he requested the attendance of an ambulance. Assisted by another man, he equipped himself with breathing apparatus and entered the building to help the process operator, who was wedged between two pipes and had suffered extensive burns to his body. Mr Rodgers remained with the injured man, trying to protect him in case there were further explosions and reassuring him that help was on the way. With the help of three other men, Mr Rodgers freed the process operator and carried him from the building to a waiting ambulance. Tragically, the man later died from his injuries.

By his actions, Mr Rodgers is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 08 9384 1158 Mobile: 0418 859 003

Mr Haseeb SALEEM, 139 Power Avenue, Chadstone Vic 3148

On the evening of 19 November 2002, Mr Saleem took action to prevent an explosion at a petrol station in Noble Park, Victoria.

Mr Saleem was the duty attendant at a service station when he saw a woman smoking a cigarette and behaving suspiciously near the gas bottles. Mr Saleem, fearing an explosion, dialled 000. After a customer removed the gas bottle from the woman, she used a nearby petrol hose to spray fuel on the apron of the service station. She then attempted to ignite the fuel with a cigarette lighter. While the customer tried to negotiate with the woman, Mr Saleem pressed the emergency stop, fuel isolator and alarm buttons and then raced outside and grabbed the lighter and petrol hose from the woman. The customer restrained the woman until police and fire officers arrived.

By his actions, Mr Saleem is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Work: 03 9359 4588 Mobile: 0411 529 530

Mr Christopher James SMITH, PO Box 2198, Berri SA 5343

On the afternoon of 16 June 2001, Mr Smith helped locate and move to safety an injured man following an industrial fire in Moomba, South Australia.

Mr Smith, a paramedic, was called to attend a process operator who had been injured in a fire and explosion at the Santos gas plant in Moomba, South Australia. The man was wedged between two pipes and had suffered extensive burns to his body. Despite the risk of further explosions, Mr Smith entered the shed and, with the help of three other men, managed to free the process operator from the pipes, and carry him to a waiting ambulance. Mr Smith remained in the ambulance attending to the injured man while he was conveyed to a medical centre. Tragically, the man later died from his injuries.

By his actions, Mr Smith is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Detective Sergeant Rodney James SMITH, New South Wales Police

On the evening of 1 September 2000, Detective Sergeant Smith disarmed an offender following a stabbing attack at Wagga Wagga, New South Wales.

Detective Sergeant Smith (then Detective Senior Constable), a member of the New South Wales Police, was on duty when, together with other police officers, he was called to a domestic dispute. Detective Smith entered the house and was threatened by a woman holding a knife. Detective Smith sprayed the woman with capsicum spray and pursued her through the house. In the laundry, the woman stabbed a man several times in the upper body. Detective Smith again sprayed the woman with capsicum spray, which had no immediate effect, then grabbed her, dislodged the knife from her grip, and pulled her away from the victim. Detective Smith subdued and handcuffed the offender with the assistance of a colleague.

By his actions, Detective Sergeant Smith is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Not available

Miss Tennille SPIERENBURG, 31 Gordon Road, Ferny Hills Qld 4055

On the afternoon of 10 July 2004, Miss Spierenburg, then aged fifteen, went to the assistance of an injured girl after a rock climbing accident at Crows Nest Falls, Queensland.

Miss Spierenburg was climbing on a steep rock face around a waterhole with two female friends when one of the girls slipped falling approximately 65 metres into a ravine, sustaining multiple injuries. Ms Spierenburg climbed around the rock face until she reached her injured friend, comforted her and tried to keep her warm. While the other friend ran to raise the alarm, another girl joined Miss Spierenburg and her injured friend, and the three girls huddled together on a rock ledge to keep each other warm in the cold and wet conditions. Police, ambulance and emergency service personnel arrived at the waterhole, but it was considered too unsafe for any rescuer to swim to the three girls due to the icy temperature of the water. Several hours later, rescue personnel used canoes to reach the girls and transport them to safety. Miss Spierenburg was treated on site for mild hypothermia.

By her actions, Miss Spierenburg is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 07 3351 4329 Mobile: 0408 882 234

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mrs Ellen Patricia THOMAS, 75 Fidge Street, Calwell ACT 2905

On 18 January 2003, Mrs Thomas put aside personal risk of injury to provide assistance to a mother and daughter who had been trapped and badly burned when caught in bushfires at the Canberra Equestrian Centre, Australian Capital Territory.

Mrs Thomas and her injured husband were in a car in a horse paddock sheltering from the fires when they saw walking towards them a young woman and her mother, both severely burned and in shock. They took them into their car and Mrs Thomas on at least four occasions left the safety of the car to go out into the heat, flames and smoke of the fires to obtain water from horse troughs in order to provide first aid and treat the victims. While the burned women lapsed in and out of consciousness, Mrs Thomas used her mobile phone to call for help and continued to treat them before help arrived. When the flames subsided, Mrs Thomas walked out to the Equestrian Centre office and obtained help from another woman who drove her back to her car and then drove all four to the hospital.

By her actions, Mrs Thomas is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 02 6292 1078 Work: 02 6230 1164 Mobile: 0412 620 303

Mr Bradley Edward THOMPSON, 15 Morris Court, Meadow Heights Vic 3048

On the morning of 21 October 2002, Mr Thompson assisted in disarming a man who had just shot and killed two students and wounded five other people during a lecture at Monash University.

Mr Thompson entered the room as the gunman was being immobilised by two other men. Mr Thompson moved the handgun that had been fired to a safe location. He subsequently searched the offender and found and removed several other guns and ammunition. He then administered first aid to one of the wounded.

By his actions, Mr Thompson is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Mobile: 65 9381 6731

Mr Russell Neil WELK, 37 Patrick Street, Laidley Qld 4341

On the morning of 14 November 2004, Mr Welk went to the aid of a pilot after his crop-duster plane crashed in Laidley, Queensland.

Mr Welk was at home when he heard a light aircraft circling and then realised that the engine had stopped. He drove as far as he could into the paddock where the plane had crashed and then ran towards the wreckage to find three other people already there providing assistance. The plane was upside down with liquid spilled on the ground, and a strong smell of chemicals and fuel. While waiting for an ambulance the pilot became agitated about getting out of the plane. Although it was preferable the pilot not be moved, the rescuers feared that the plane would catch fire. With the assistance of the other rescuers, Mr Welk helped the pilot from the plane and moved him to safety.

By his actions, Mr Welk is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 07 5465 1741 Work: 07 3235 9825

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Carl Brendon WILSON, 179 Carrington Road, Coogee NSW 2034

On the afternoon of 5 January 2001, Mr Wilson rescued two young boys from a rip at Coogee Beach, New South Wales.

Mr Wilson was at Coogee Beach when he heard a woman screaming that her two sons were being swept out to sea by a strong rip. Despite being fully dressed, Mr Wilson immediately swam about 50 metres through strong surf to help the boys. He had to dive under the water to bring one of the boys to the surface. Mr Wilson carried a boy under each of his arms as he swam back through the rip to the shore.

By his actions, Mr Wilson is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Home: 02 9399 5962 Work: 02 9664 1231 Mobile: 0410 668 333

Mr Glenn Cameron ZANONI, 22 Greenbank Court, Leopold Vic 3224

On the evening of 17 August 2004, Mr Zanoni rescued a man from the surf at Ocean Grove, Victoria.

Mr Zanoni was going for a run on the beach when he heard a man calling for help. Two fishermen had been thrown from their boat after it was swamped by waves; one of the men managed to hold onto the boat while the other disappeared beneath the surface. Mr Zanoni immediately returned to his house and asked his housemate to accompany him and help the stranded fisherman. Despite rough seas, freezing conditions and poor visibility, Mr Zanoni and his friend paddled their surfboards out to help the man clinging to the boat. They encouraged the man to let go of the boat and climb onto a surfboard. They then paddled back towards the shore. Once they were close to the shoreline, another male entered the water and helped carry the victim to safety. Sadly, the other fisherman drowned in the incident.

By his actions, Mr Zanoni is commended for brave conduct.

Phone Nos: Mobile: 0422 914 308

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise students from Tomaree High School, Salamander, New South Wales.

Miss Melissa Skye BUCKLEY
Miss Rachel Ann CRAMP
Mr Ryan John Mitchell DAVIS
Mr James Talbot DICKINSON
Mr Kym Owen DRAEGER
Mr Jarrod Nicholas GRAYSTONE

Mr Dylan Anthony HUNT
Mr Angus NICHOL
Mr Joel Amarndo PETTIT
Miss Tamara Elizabeth TARRANT
Mr Jack THOMPSON

On the morning of 3 April 2003, a group of students tackled and restrained an armed offender after a crossbow attack on a fellow student at Tomaree High School, Salamander, New South Wales.

A male student from Tomaree High School entered the school grounds armed with a range of weapons. As the offender approached a group of students, he produced an armed crossbow, took aim at a female student, and fired a single shot, which passed through her back and out through her upper chest. The arrow continued in motion through the legs of another female student. Four students immediately went to assist and comfort the two victims. The offender was then seen to put the crossbow down and light a Molotov cocktail which he threw at the group. The device failed to explode; however it smashed against a wall, covering in fuel one of the victims and two other female students. The offender then tried to ignite a second device, but two students rushed him and, assisted by others who joined the fray, helped wrestle the offender to the ground and restrained him until a teacher could take hold of him and lead him away. Several of the students continued to comfort the two victims until ambulance officers arrived.

Individual contact details:

Miss Melissa Skye BUCKLEY
23 Hanson Avenue, Anna Bay NSW 2316
Phone Nos: Not available

Miss Rachel Ann CRAMP
PO Box 215, Nelson Bay NSW 2315
Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Ryan John Mitchell DAVIS
37 Serenity Boulevard, Oyster Cove NSW 4212
Phone Nos: Not available

Mr James Talbot DICKINSON
25 Irambang Street, Nelson Bay NSW 2315
Phone Nos: Home: 02 4984 1520 Mobile: 0432 346 070

Mr Kym Owen DRAEGER
23/11 Donald Street, Nelson Bay NSW 2315
Phone Nos: Home: 02 4984 1520 Work: 02 4982 0633 Mobile: 0403 505 622

Mr Jarrod Nicholas GRAYSTONE
4 Melaleuca Drive, One Mile Beach NSW 2316
Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Angus Blaikie NICHOL
63 Boulder Bay Road, Fingal Bay NSW 2315
Phone Nos: Mobile: 0401 731 136

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Mr Joel Amarndo PETTIT

772 Marsh Road, Bobs Farm NSW 2316

Phone Nos: Home: 02 4982 2249 Mobile: 0401 827 082

Miss Tamara Elizabeth TARRANT

74 Boulder Bay Road, Fingal Bay NSW 2315

Phone Nos: Home: 02 4981 1112 Mobile: 0402 110 541

Mr Jack THOMPSON

20/548 Albany Highway, Albany, Auckland

New Zealand

Phone Nos: Not available

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise members of the New South Wales Police, and a member of the public.

Constable Martin James BROOKS
Senior Constable Lucas John CAMERON
Senior Constable Kylie Joanne FINLAYSON

Constable Charmaine Julie KELLY
Mr Joe NOOREDEEN
Constable Joseph ZAMMIT

Early on the morning of 25 August 2002, members of the New South Wales Police and a member of the public took action to ensure the safety of residents of nearby buildings after a petrol tanker explosion at Rockdale, NSW.

A petrol tanker carrying a large quantity of fuel rolled over and collided with two unoccupied parked vehicles. The tanker ruptured, leaking fuel, and soon erupted into flames causing a block of residential units and commercial offices adjacent to the accident to also catch fire. A number of police officers were quickly at the scene. Three of them assisted a resident who had escaped from his burning upstairs apartment, to evacuate, through a window and by ladder, the eleven members of his family remaining in the building. Two of the officers also approached the petrol tanker, now an inferno, to establish whether the driver had escaped to safety.

Individual contact details:

Constable Martin James BROOKS
New South Wales Police
Phone Nos: Not available

Senior Constable Lucas John CAMERON
New South Wales Police
Phone Nos: Not available

Senior Constable Kylie Joanne FINLAYSON
New South Wales Police
Phone Nos: Not available

Constable Charmaine Julie KELLY
New South Wales Police
Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Joe NOOREDEEN
Sydney NSW 2000
Phone Nos: Not available

Constable Joseph ZAMMIT
New South Wales Police
Phone Nos: Not available

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise staff of the Roundhouse Child Care Centre at Fairlight, NSW.

Miss Lizzie CARLIN
Miss Caroline DE LA MARE
Miss Laura Maree HAYMAN
Mrs Geata Suzanne JARRETT
Ms Suzanne Ruth JOHNSON

Mrs Margaret Elizabeth LAWRENCE
Mrs Sandra Lee MAIN
Ms Elizabeth STRANGE
Mrs Janet WINDSHAM
Ms Amanda Fleur ZIMMERMAN

On the afternoon of 15 December 2003, a car crashed into the Roundhouse Child Care Centre at Fairlight in New South Wales, trapping and injuring children inside. The car subsequently caught fire and two young girls trapped beneath it were severely burned before they were rescued.

The centre filled with hot, black smoke and exhaust fumes making breathing difficult and visibility poor but, in spite of this and the possibility of the car exploding, members of the group immediately took action to remove children to a safe place and to provide comfort and protection to them until they were treated for their injuries and collected by their parents.

Individual contact details:

Miss Lizzie CARLIN
24 Howse Crescent, Cromer Heights NSW 2099
Phone Nos: Not available

Miss Caroline DE LA MARE
La Houquette, Rohais, St Peter Port,
Guernsey, CL, United Kingdom
Phone Nos: Home: 0044 01481 722470 Mobile: 07781 192 533

Miss Laura Maree HAYMAN
704/112 Goderich Street, East Perth WA 6004
Phone Nos: Mobile: 0417 899 440

Mrs Geata Suzanne JARRETT
The Roundhouse Childcare Centre, 26 Balgowlah Road, Fairlight NSW 2094
Phone Nos: Not available

Ms Elizabeth STRANGE
4/19 Upper Gilbert Street, Manly NSW 2095
Phone Nos: Not available

Ms Amanda Fleur ZIMMERMAN
1 Adam Place, Lalor Park NSW 2147
Phone Nos: Not available

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise members of the community.

Mr Andrew James ANAST
Mr Scott Brian BLACK
Mr Ian Marshall COOPER
Mr Ramon Charles GARNER

Mr Cameron John RITCHIE
Mr Adam Ivan SEMCIW
Mr Geoffrey William WHITE

On the afternoon of 15 December 2003, a car crashed into the Roundhouse Child Care Centre at Fairlight in New South Wales, trapping and injuring children inside. The car subsequently caught fire and two young girls trapped beneath it were severely burned before they could be rescued.

Members of the group comprise community members who were in the vicinity and came immediately to assist with the evacuation of children from the Centre. In spite of hot, black smoke and toxic fumes that made breathing difficult and visibility poor, and the possibility of the car exploding, members of the group entered the building to assist with removing children, extinguishing the flames when the car caught fire, removing the injured and unresponsive driver of the car, and lifting the vehicle so that the children trapped underneath could be removed.

Individual contact details:

Mr Andrew James ANAST

18 Wellington Street, Mascot NSW 2020

Phone Nos: Home: 02 9667 4747 Work: 02 9949 1888 Mobile: 0413 967 453

Mr Scott Brian BLACK

49 Francis Street, Manly NSW 2095

Phone Nos: Not available

Mr Ian Marshall COOPER

57 Balgowlah Road, Fairlight NSW 2094

Phone Nos: Home: 02 9948 3258 Work: 02 9971 5524

Mr Ramon Charles GARNER

8 Macneil Place, Kambah ACT 2902

Phone Nos: Home: 02 6231 5183 Work: 6124 6104

Mr Cameron RITCHIE

North Manly NSW 2100

Phone Nos: Work: 02 9907 2840 Mobile: 0403 899 958

Mr Adam Ivan SEMCIW

55 Ellerslie Drive, West Pennant Hills NSW 2125

Phone Nos: Home: 02 9873 6474 Mobile: 0422 846 401

Mr Geoffrey William WHITE

228/168 Queenscliff Road, Queenscliff NSW 2096

Phone Nos:

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise members of the Queensland Fire Service, Taringa Fire Station, in Brisbane.

Station Officer Leigh Stewart CAMPBELL
Mr William George GORDON-BROWN
Mr Ian David OGBORNE

Mr William John OVEY
Senior Firefighter Colin James SIMS

On the evening of 19 September 1996, members of the Queensland Fire Service attempted to rescue a small child who had fallen from a ferry terminal into the Brisbane River at St Lucia, Queensland.

When the group responded to the call, visibility above water was already very limited due to darkness, and visibility below water was almost non-existent. The strength of the current and depth of the water also made searching very difficult. Mr Ovey and Mr Campbell entered the water without breathing apparatus but were unsuccessful in their search and left the water. The members of the group subsequently donned compressed air breathing apparatus and searched the water for some forty-five minutes, despite having no protective clothing and having had no training or experience in using breathing apparatus underwater. When the search was finally abandoned, the men required medical assistance for exposure. Sadly, the child drowned in the incident.

Individual contact details:

Station Officer Leigh Stewart CAMPBELL

9 Copeland Street, Milton Qld 4064

Phone Nos: Home: 07 3367 3656 Work: 07 3909 4329 Mobile: 0412 394 079

Mr William George GORDON-BROWN

37 Drapers Road, Eatons Hill Qld 4037

Phone Nos: Home: 07 3264 7818

Mr Ian David OGBORNE

11 Charles Place, Manly West Qld 4179

Phone Nos: Not available

Senior Firefighter Colin James SIMS

6 Persse Road, Runcorne Qld 4113

Phone Nos: Home: 07 3841 0546 Work: 07 3247 5210 Mobile: 0422 278 414

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise members of the ACT Volunteer Bushfire Brigades.

Mr Patrick James BARLING
Mr Steve RUTTER

On the afternoon of 18 January 2003 severe bushfires accelerated by extreme weather conditions encroached on urban areas of Canberra causing the deaths of four people; the loss of almost 500 homes and 93 community, commercial and farm buildings; damage to many other homes and businesses; major disruption to the city's infrastructure; and widespread destruction of forests and the environment.

A State of Emergency was declared in the early afternoon. At the height of the firestorm members of the group worked in the Weston Creek area where the fires had the greatest impact, particularly in the suburbs of Chapman, Duffy, Rivett and Holder. They worked with other fire, police and ambulance service personnel under extremely dangerous conditions and at great personal risk to protect lives and property by evacuating residents, directing anxious and distressed people to safety, providing medical aid and, in some cases, entering burning buildings to ensure residents had evacuated safely. The members of the group were exposed to huge walls of flames being fuelled by nearby pine forests and strong winds, exploding gas lines and cylinders, falling power poles, and burning trees. Intense smoke limited their vision and made breathing difficult. Their efforts continued well into the night.

Individual contact details:

Mr Patrick James BARLING

80 Spowers Circuit, Holder ACT 2611

Phone Nos: Home: 02 6288 0116 Mobile: 0415 765 149

Mr Steve RUTTER

42 Croton Street, Rivett ACT 2611

Phone Nos: Home: 02 6287 5840 Work: 02 6275 0011 Mobile: 0411 408 995

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise personnel of the Australian Embassy in Jakarta.

Mr Markus BABA RALLE
Brigadier Kenneth Allan BROWNRIGG
CSC and Bar
Mr Andrew William CHANDLER
Federal Agent Lester Charles CROSS
Mr Alan Mark DINNISON
Mr Grant Martin DOOLEY
Captain Jonathan Burs DUDLEY, CSC
Brigadier Ian Ross ERRINGTON CSC
Ms Carolyn Doris GRANSBURY
Mr Yunarto GUNAWAN
Federal Agent Phillip John HUTSON
Federal Agent Michael Stuart
KELSEY OAM

Mr Ram Mahdi Maulana LATIEF
Sergeant Kevin Peter LOW
Flight Sergeant Michelle Kaye
MACLACHLAN
Mr Ken McLENNAN
Mr Jason Nicholas POURPOURAS
His Excellency Mr David James
RITCHIE, AO
Mrs Angky Donna SEPTIANA, OAM
Chief Petty Officer Craig Stephen
STANLEY
Ms Abdullah SUWARNO
Mr John Owen WILLIAMS

On the morning of 9 September 2004 a bomb exploded some four metres from the front gates of the Australian Embassy in Jakarta, killing eleven people and causing considerable damage to the Embassy and its grounds.

In the immediate aftermath of the explosion, when it was widely believed that there was still the possibility of further explosions and when the extent of damage to the building was unknown, a number of Embassy personnel, both Australian citizens on posting and locally engaged staff, put aside concerns for their own safety and acted to ensure the safety of others and to secure the site against further attack. Some who were on-site went immediately to the front of the Embassy compound and stayed there to help the injured; others who were off-site made a deliberate decision to go from a place of safety to the Embassy compound to provide assistance, and others stayed inside the potentially unstable building to evacuate others before themselves.

Mr Suwarno ABDULLAH
Australian Embassy, Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia

Mr Markus BABA RALLE
Australian Embassy, Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia

Brigadier Kenneth Allan BROWNRIGG CSC and Bar
C/- 96 Herron Crescent, Latham ACT 2615

Mr Andrew William CHANDLER
PO Box 4399, Kingston ACT 2604

Federal Agent Lester Charles CROSS
Australian Federal Police

Mr Alan Mark DINNISON
7 Molvig Street, Weston ACT 2611

Mr Grant Martin DOOLEY
Australian Embassy, Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia

Captain Jonathan Burs DUDLEY CSC
Kemang, Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia

Brigadier Ian Ross ERRINGTON CSC
24/272 Ashmore Road, Benowa Qld 4217

Ms Carolyn Doris GRANSBURY
3 Riley Place, Chifley ACT 2606

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Mr Yunarto GUNAWAN

Australian Embassy, Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia

Federal Agent Phillip John HUTSON

Australian Federal Police

Federal Agent Michael Stuart KELSEY OAM

Australian Federal Police

Mr Ram Mahdi Maulana LATIEF

Australian Embassy, Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia

Mr Kevin Peter LOW

Australian Embassy, Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia

Flight Sergeant Michelle Kaye MACLACHLAN

Australian Embassy, Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia

Squadron Leader Kenneth Andrew McLENNAN

86 Wing, Air Lift Group, RAAF Base,
Richmond NSW 2755

Mr Jason Nicholas POURPOURAS

Australian Federal Police

His Excellency Mr David James RITCHIE AO

Australian Embassy, Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia

Mrs Angky Donna SEPTIANA OAM

Australian Embassy, Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia

Mr John Owen WILLIAMS

Australian Embassy, Jakarta, Republic of Indonesia