

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION (GBC)

Awardees are members of the New South Wales Police Force who detained a man attempting to set himself alight at Broken Hill, New South Wales on 19 January 2013.

Senior Constable Stephen LYONS

Senior Constable Mitchell Francis McKENNY

Senior constable Luke Victor PORRITT

Leading Senior Constable Mark Richard WILMORE

In the early morning of 19 January 2013, four members of the New South Wales Police Force detained a man threatening self-harm at Broken Hill in New South Wales.

The four officers arrived at a residence in relation to a domestic incident. The officers were aware of damage to property and a man was threatening to set himself alight.

As one of the officers entered the rear yard from the side gate, the others made their way along the right-hand side of the house. When they arrived in the rear yard they saw the offender was located amongst a small stack of furniture. He was holding onto a cigarette lighter as he doused the pile, and himself, in petrol. The offender ignored the numerous pleas from the officers and refused to put down the lighter. The officers continued to negotiate with the offender.

One officer placed himself behind the offender before tackling him and knocking him to the ground. At this point the other officers immediately went to the assistance of their colleague. Working together, and despite the offender's violent behaviour, the officers eventually subdued him and removed the cigarette lighter from his grasp. The offender was subsequently handcuffed and conveyed to Broken Hill Hospital.

For their actions, the recipients are recognised by the award of the Group Bravery Citation.

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION (GBC)

Awardees are members of the Queensland Police Service who arrested a man following an assault and use of a firearm at Noosa Heads, Queensland on 6 November 2014.

Senior Constable Michael Romas GRIGALIUS
Sergeant Gordon Dean HOLMES
Senior Constable Peter Thomas LOW
Senior Constable Adam David TICKNER

In the early morning of 6 November 2014 four members of the Queensland Police Service were involved in the apprehension of an armed offender at Noosa Heads in Queensland.

During a domestic violence incident an offender discharged a firearm causing head injuries to a female. The offender fled the scene, later flagging down a motorist and admitting to the assault. He surrendered his firearm to the motorist who then called triple 0.

Whilst waiting for police to arrive the offender retrieved the firearm, pointed it at the motorist, and then fled the scene in the motorist's vehicle. Two police officers arrived at the scene and the motorist got into the police car and provided vital information to the officers as they pursued the stolen vehicle.

After crashing the stolen vehicle into a 7,000 litre liquid gas tank at a nearby petrol station, the offender abandoned the car and entered the service station shop. The two police officers immediately stopped and, with pistols drawn, ran across the forecourt. There was a strong smell of gas in the air and the gas could also be heard venting from the ruptured tank. Two other police officers then arrived at the scene.

The offender left the shop and moved towards the leaking gas tank with his hands concealed by a jacket. One officer moved towards the offender and ordered him to stand down. The other three officers, who were approximately 20 metres from the gas tank, were concerned about the danger from the leaking gas as bystanders were nearby.

Once the offender had been convinced to surrender, he was quickly apprehended by two officers, whilst the other two officers ran immediately to the gas tank and attempted to shut it off.

For their actions, the recipients are recognised by the award of the Group Bravery Citation.

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION (GBC)

Awardees are members of the Queensland Police Service and the public who rescued a man from the ocean at Happy Valley, Queensland on 1 November 2015.

**Sergeant Andrew John BAUER
Detective Senior Constable Stewart John FAIRGRIEVE
Senior Constable Wesley Thomas HOPPER
Mr Daniel Joseph MacFARLANE**

On the evening of 1 November 2015, three members of the Queensland Police Service and a volunteer surf lifesaver went to the aid of a man intending self-harm at Happy Valley beach in Queensland.

Around 9.00pm a male was observed to be struggling in the turbulent surf at Happy Valley beach in Caloundra. A volunteer surf lifesaver, who was at his home unit, went to investigate and was alerted to the man floating out to sea. The lifesaver ran to the beach and entered the water to assist.

A police officer, also alerted to the struggling man, had already entered the water and was making his way to the swimmer in distress. Due to the difficult surf conditions he began to tire as the lifesaver passed him in the water and reached the man.

The swimmer struggled against the lifesaver telling him he wanted to drown himself. Battling fatigue the police officer managed to reach the shore and alerted two other police officers of the situation.

The two officers then entered the water and swam 150 metres to the pair. On reaching them they assisted the lifesaver to forcibly swim the struggling man back to shore.

For their actions, the recipients are recognised by the award of the Group Bravery Citation.