

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Federal

Ms Lisiane BARAO MACLEOD

For outstanding public service through contribution as a technologist, collaborator and leader in Services Australia's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms Lisiane Barao Macleod, in her role as General Manager, Data Online Systems Division, provided remarkable coordination that supported the delivery of a high profile and time critical initiative, including the staged integration of vaccination certificates to State managed check-in applications.

She identified and harnessed the necessary technologies, ensured adherence to high standards of privacy and security and supported each jurisdiction through the process. Ms Barao Macleod's ability to provide strategic direction and the coordination of a diverse range of stakeholders within Federal, State and Territory governments was integral in unifying Services Australia and State and Territory government's responses to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Her management of this program of work, which was on a scale that has not been seen previously, significantly advanced the relationship between Services Australia and the States and Territories. Ms Barao Macleod's leadership achieved an outstanding outcome for the Australian community, enabling the download of approximately 17 million vaccination certificates which supported the easing of COVID-19 restrictions in 2021.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Chloe Morgan BURNS, ACT 2602

For outstanding public service in the development of statistical modelling and public health measures in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms Chloe Burns, in her role as Assistant Director, Health Economics and Modelling Branch, drove the initial development of statistical modelling to allow a better understanding of how COVID-19 might affect Australia, and to inform public health response measures. Ms Burns anticipated and initiated this work in her own time, in anticipation of the need for such a product.

Ms Burns' unique skill set, combining econometrics and epidemiology, allowed the model she produced to quantify costs, benefits and risks of various policy options. As the pandemic progressed, Ms Burns designed and then led a multidisciplinary team to develop modelling for the vaccine rollout, including a methodology and rationale for prioritising particular groups. Ms Burns used this modelling to provide detailed quantitative and qualitative advice to senior officials, Ministers, the Australian Technical Advisory Group on Immunisation (ATAGI) and the Commonwealth Chief Medical Officer.

Ms Burns' robust analytical modelling, in particular for the most vulnerable population groups, contributed to Australia's low rates of infection and death during the Government's initial response to the pandemic.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mrs Jodi Ann CASSAR, Medowie NSW 2318

For outstanding public service and leadership working across government to deliver advice, information and support for people with disability, workers and carers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mrs Jodi Cassar, in her role as Branch Manager, Portfolio Response COVID-19 Taskforce, demonstrated outstanding leadership under pressure in an environment of considerable public interest. Mrs Cassar's coordination and engagement across governments, disability and health sectors, and the disability community supported the acceleration of the COVID-19 vaccine rollout for people with disability.

At the time of nomination, more than 2.5 million doses of the vaccine had been administered to National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) participants and Disability Support Pension recipients, rates which are among the highest in the world for this group. Mrs Cassar actively led the establishment of awareness raising activities that had not been attempted before, including direct messaging disability support pension recipients and carers to ensure they had the information and support needed to access vaccines.

Mrs Cassar also played a critical role in the initiation and implementation of strategies and projects that supported the distribution of more than 3.3 million Rapid Antigen Test kits for NDIS participants and workers in supported independent living settings to ensure early detection of the virus.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Dr Amanda Jayne CRAIG, WA

For outstanding public service in leading significant and complex safety and performance reviews of medical devices.

Dr Amanda Craig, in her role as Director, Medical Devices Surveillance Branch, contributed significantly to delivering the Government's regulatory changes to respond to patient safety concerns, in particular, for adverse events experienced by women from medical devices.

Dr Craig has played a vital and critical role in implementing post market reviews of breast implants, transvaginal mesh devices and a range of other devices. She has worked tirelessly examining the evidence and instigating timely regulatory action to remove products.

Dr Craig has most recently also supported the national response to the COVID-19 pandemic through reviews of face masks and rapid antigen tests. Dr Craig played a significant national leadership role representing the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) on the Australian Breast Device Registry (ABDR) and the Australasian Pelvic Floor Procedure Registry (APFPR), providing guidance and active input to registry activities.

Dr Craig's work, through the TGA's management of breast device regulation, has led to a significant reduction in the use of certain devices by Australian surgeons, improving the health of thousands of patients.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Andrea Marie FAULKNER, ACT 2604

For outstanding public service in leading Australia's Embassy in Myanmar and commitment to advancing Australia's interests.

Ms Andrea Faulkner, as Ambassador to Myanmar, demonstrated leadership and compassion for others during her posting from February 2019 to April 2022.

Her duty of care for Embassy staff increased during the COVID-19 pandemic and the military coup in February 2021. She showed great resolve to ensure Embassy staff were supported and made their welfare a top priority. Her commitment to promoting Australia's interests throughout her posting included advocacy on several highly sensitive and complex diplomatic, consular and humanitarian issues.

She oversaw the delivery of humanitarian and development programs under extremely difficult circumstances following the coup. Ms Faulkner, with the Australian Embassy team, pivoted the entire Australian development program towards urgent humanitarian and development needs, working with partners on the ground to deliver life-saving assistance including food, water, shelter, and gender-based violence services.

Ms Sonje Anoushka FRANKLIN, Fadden ACT 2904

For outstanding public service supporting the safety and wellbeing of vulnerable Australians overseas.

Ms Sonje Franklin, in her role as Director, Consular and Crisis Management Division, leads a team of officers who manage more than 600 consular cases each day. Her work directly contributed to the safety and wellbeing of Australians stranded overseas during the evacuation from Afghanistan, Australians facing persecution during civil unrest in Ethiopia and Australians caught up in the Russia/Ukraine conflict.

Ms Franklin's work has impacted Australians from all walks of life, but none more so than women and children. The majority (70 per cent) of those brought to safety during the evacuation from Afghanistan were women and children. Ms Franklin's efforts to assist hundreds of Australians in Afghanistan was a model of both staying power and innovation, including sustained contact with Australians in distress and leading successive shifts of consular crisis staff to check on Australians welfare and provide advice on evacuations.

Ms Franklin also worked tirelessly to provide support and advice to Australian parents engaging in surrogacy services in Ukraine. Ms Franklin's liaison with officers in the field and government agencies has been vital in ensuring children born in Ukraine are provided with identification documents so that they are able to depart Ukraine in safety. She has gone above and beyond to find solutions to protect and support vulnerable Australians.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Fiona Louise GANTER, ACT

For outstanding public service in legislative instrument drafting and for developing the Office of Parliamentary Counsel's instrument drafting capability.

Ms Fiona Louise Ganter, Senior Assistant Parliamentary Counsel, has drafted or been involved in the drafting of over 500 legislative instruments for the Australian Government, with particular expertise in relation to significant legislative instruments in the areas of aged care, biosecurity, autonomous sanctions, civil aviation and health.

Following the transfer of functions from the Attorney-General's Department to Office of Parliamentary Counsel (OPC), Ms Ganter shared her extensive understanding and knowledge of drafting subordinate instruments with OPC drafters. Ms Ganter also played an outstanding role in building the capability of instrument drafting across all levels of OPC.

Ms Ganter provided service excellence for the Department of Health by drafting over 65 instruments in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. She drafted critically important instruments relating to vaccination requirements applicable in aged care facilities and the COVID-19 support supplement. Ms Ganter also drafted six key legislative instruments for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, providing both the enabling legislation for sanctions, and the sanctions themselves, in relation to the Ukraine crisis.

Ms Ganter's invaluable drafting services and advice has made a substantial contribution to OPC, to supporting the Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic and to the Ukraine crisis.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr Bryan Geoffrey HODGE, Armstrong Creek VIC 3217

For outstanding public service in the delivery of innovative meteorological science, technology and engineering solutions for Australia and its Pacific neighbours.

Mr Bryan Hodge, in his role as General Manager, Observing Systems and Operations, has provided outstanding leadership, integral to managing the teams that underpin the Bureau of Meteorology's (the Bureau) capacity to deliver high quality forecasts and weather observations for the Australian community.

Mr Hodge conceived, designed and implemented world leading and innovative meteorological science, technology and engineering solutions that have profoundly increased the safety, security and prosperity of Australia and its Pacific neighbours. Mr Hodge's world leading technology and engineering knowledge over the past three decades, coupled with his outstanding leadership, has been instrumental in the Bureau's vital observing systems network digital transformation program. The four year transformation program has created a dynamic and responsive workforce that has achieved unprecedented levels of performance and capability, service levels, operating efficiencies and customer satisfaction.

Mr Hodge has also been a strong and progressive force in leading the Bureau to introduce renewable energy into the supply mix for various radar sites with a standardised renewable hybrid power supply that can be effectively and reliably deployed into both new and existing meteorological monitoring sites. Mr Hodge's achievements and leadership have had a significantly positive impact on the communities and industries that the Bureau serves, as well as on the operational performance of the Bureau itself.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr Andrew Douglas JAGGERS, Hawker ACT 2614

For outstanding public service in supporting the Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring the safety and wellbeing of Australians.

Mr Andrew Jagers, in his role as Deputy Secretary, Department of Finance, played a critical role in the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, partnering and providing commercial expertise into commercial transactions, including the voluntary administration of Virgin Australia and the onshore manufacturing of pandemic influenza vaccines with Seqirus (CSL).

He also worked closely with Australia Post to ensure that the regulatory framework enabled Australia Post to continue to operate throughout the pandemic. Mr Jagers was also responsible for the delivery of purpose-built quarantine facilities in Melbourne, Brisbane and Perth (Centres for National Resilience) as part of the Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Through his leadership and problem solving of both strategic and operational issues, the design, planning and construction of the first centre in Melbourne was completed within six months of the appointment of a Managing Contractor. This was a remarkable achievement which took place in a challenging COVID-19 environment.

Mr Jagers' passionate dedication to public service and the public good has left a lasting impact on the Department, the Australian Public Service and the Australian community.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Sarah Aileen JOHNSON, Redfern NSW 2016

For outstanding public service to Australians with disability through leadership and commitment to the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

Ms Sarah Johnson, in her role as Scheme Actuary, led the development of in-house actuarial, data and business intelligence functions, and spearheaded the Government's commitment to demonstrate full data transparency. Ms Johnson was instrumental in the roll out of the Scheme to more than 470,000 Australians with disability.

Ms Johnson played a pivotal leadership role in the design and implementation of the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) policy and procedure work. She worked tirelessly to improve the integrity of the data and set new benchmarks for public reporting of the balance between outcomes for Australian citizens and financial sustainability of social investment.

Ms Johnson led the development of the world-first participant outcomes framework in collaboration with people with disability and other stakeholders. The outcomes framework measures the medium and long-term benefits of the NDIS for participants and their families to track progress over time and provide a better understanding of the supports that lead to good outcomes.

Ms Johnson was also instrumental in supporting participants through the difficulties of the COVID-19 pandemic, by leading negotiations with supermarkets to ensure participants had access to home delivery and assisting in the introduction of flexible funding so participants could purchase Telehealth technology.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Sarah Jane NORRIS, ACT

For outstanding public service in reforming the National Medical Stockpile processes in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms Sarah Norris, in her role as acting First Assistant Secretary, joined the National Medical Stockpile (NMS) Taskforce to manage the implementation of the Australian National Audit Office (ANAO) May 2021 review of the COVID-19 procurements and distribution of NMS items report recommendations.

Ms Norris reformed the processes for disbursing items with an entirely new delivery system capable of handling volumes of items never before attempted by the Commonwealth. In January 2022, more deliveries were processed in one month than in the entire previous history of the NMS, made possible using this new delivery system. As a result of Ms Norris' work, protective resources were delivered direct from the Commonwealth to thousands of health services including every public and private hospital, all residential aged care facilities and every Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Service. Prior to Ms Norris' reforms, the Commonwealth had never made direct deliveries from the NMS before.

Ms Norris also did outstanding work early in the pandemic while the Office of Health Protection (OHP) was focussed on combatting COVID-19. Ms Norris worked independently to continue other vital aspects of the OHP's work, to ensure the needs of Australians with other infectious and environmental diseases were not neglected.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr Javier RIBALTA, Theodore ACT 2905

For outstanding public service through leadership and coordination of Services Australia's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

In his role as Director, Australian Immunisation Register (AIR), Mr Javier Ribalta's project management skills were fundamental to the successful design and delivery of the COVID-19 digital certificate. This was a significant achievement that gave people choice in how they demonstrated proof of vaccination.

Mr Ribalta and his team designed the digital certificate to be easily accessible via myGov through Medicare Online Accounts, the Medicare mobile app and via My Health Record. Mr Ribalta's contribution ensured continuity and played an important role in achieving core deliverables for Services Australia, including delivery of a cohesive program to deliver core functionality of the AIR.

Mr Ribalta's exemplary leadership and project management skills led the coordination and negotiation between federal, state and territory governments to meet critical requirements for the delivery of the evolving AIR functionality. The successful development of functionality enabled the COVID-19 digital certificate to be seamlessly integrated into state and territory government check-in apps.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mrs Jane URQUHART, Conder ACT 2906

For outstanding public service through sustained contribution to industry and science policy and programs to improve the economic wellbeing, global reputation and national interests of Australia.

Over ten years, across successive roles, Mrs Jane Urquhart has been instrumental in repositioning the Department of Industry, Science, Energy and Resources as an engaging, trusted and highly-reliable Commonwealth agency.

Mrs Urquhart played a pivotal role during the design and implementation of the 2015 National Innovation Science Agenda (NISA). Mrs Urquhart's sustained leadership of the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) project and as Australia's voting representative on the International SKA Organisation Board, advanced Australia's national interests, enhanced our global reputation, and helped Australia secure this major global science asset.

Most recently, Mrs Urquhart's commitment and contribution has been vital to the decision making process to support business in navigating and reducing the impacts of COVID-19. Mrs Urquhart's work has contributed to critical initiatives relating to sustaining business-critical imports and time-sensitive exports to minimise disruptions to supply chains and business operations.

Mrs Urquhart's work supporting the establishment of an onshore mRNA manufacturing capability exemplifies her integrity, professionalism and leadership. She was instrumental in driving the complex cross-portfolio and cross-jurisdictional project.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Andrea Louise WALLACE-GREEN, Gilmore ACT 2905

For outstanding public service through sustained and significant contribution to social security policy and delivering outcomes for Australian individuals and families.

Ms Andrea Wallace-Green has worked in a range of social security roles over the past 20 years and has an unparalleled understanding of the social security and family payments systems and the interactions between them.

She has led many multi-disciplinary teams and taskforces and she has been instrumental in working collaboratively and developing innovative policy solutions. She played a key role in supporting Australia's social security representatives at the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), delivering the Secure and Sustainable Pension Reforms (2009); developing and delivering the Clean Energy Advance and Clean Energy Supplement (2012); working age payment reforms (2017); and around 2.6 billion dollars of support through the third and fourth Economic Support Payments (2020 and 2021).

Most recently, she led the development of legislative amendments to deliver one-off Cost of Living Payments, involving consultation and collaboration with Services Australia to ensure the delivery of the outcomes within tight timeframes.

Ms Wallace-Green is an exceptional leader who has made a significant contribution influencing and guiding social security policy to improve the wellbeing of vulnerable Australian individuals and families.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

New South Wales

Ms Janet Elizabeth BINGHAM, Bathurst NSW 2795

For outstanding public service in recognising and maintaining the Aboriginal cultural heritage of the Bathurst region.

Ms Janet Bingham has been employed at Bathurst Regional Council since January 1991 and became the Manager of Strategic Planning in 1997. Ms Bingham has played a critical role in helping Council develop policy and commitment in working with the Aboriginal community and particularly the custodians of the Bathurst region, the Wiradjuri people.

Throughout her extensive career, Ms Bingham coordinated numerous programs, projects and policy development across three key themes: protection, recognition and reconciliation. Her work has helped facilitate Council's objective and community priorities detailed in the Community Strategic Plan 'Respect, protect and promote the region's Aboriginal heritage assets' and 'Enhance the cultural vitality of the region'.

Recognising the lack of research into Bathurst's Indigenous heritage, Ms Bingham initiated and oversaw the development of the Bathurst Aboriginal Heritage Study in 2015 and the Aboriginal Heritage Interpretation Strategy in 2017. With the strategy now adopted, she most recently led the placement of interpretive signage educating the community about Aboriginal cultural heritage, particularly on the Mount Panorama/Wahluu boardwalk. Ms Bingham has also been instrumental in working with land councils, local government authorities and Aboriginal Elders to achieve the dual naming of the Macquarie River/ Wambuul. Ms Bingham continues to lead new initiatives to ensure Aboriginal places, language and history are shared and the community is more connected to country and place.

Ms Bingham's initiatives in the protection and recognition of Aboriginal cultural heritage values of the Bathurst region have had an impact across the Council as an organisation. Ms Bingham has developed excellent relationships with the main Aboriginal groups in Bathurst, including the Wiradjuri Traditional Owners Central West Aboriginal Corporation and the Bathurst Local Aboriginal Land Council. Ms Bingham has gone beyond the call of her normal duties to help deliver important outcomes for the Wiradjuri and First Nations community in the region.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Gail CONNOLLY, Oatley NSW 2223

For outstanding public service to local government, in particular in managing the amalgamation of Georges River Council.

Ms Gail Connolly is a highly respected senior government professional who has worked tirelessly throughout her 34-year career in local and State Government implementing reforms aimed at improving behaviours and good governance within the public service sector.

Ms Connolly's experience, inspirational leadership and integrity led to her appointment as the Chief Executive (General Manager) of the new Georges River Council in May 2016 as part of the NSW Government's council amalgamation program.

Of the 19 new Councils created, Ms Connolly was the only external candidate to be appointed as General Manager to a merged Council. She was considered to be the most experienced professional to tackle the systemic problems that existed between the two former Councils (Hurstville and Kogarah City Councils) in order to transform these local government entities.

Under Ms Connolly's leadership, Georges River Council was classified as a high performing showcase council for meeting deadlines and achieving performance indicators during the merger period. Other merger Councils were referred to Georges River Council as the lead example of how to create a merged entity.

As a result of Ms Connolly's outstanding and stoic leadership during this very challenging period, Georges River Council expanded its relationships with many local and state stakeholders and was viewed as the pinnacle of a Council's ability to successfully transition to an amalgamated entity.

Ms Connolly is a passionate advocate for growing, nurturing and developing those around her to find their own potential and encourage a culture of achievement. Her professionalism, ethics, appetite for innovation, and focus on results driven outcomes is why she is considered one of the leading public service professionals in her field.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr Dayn Michael COOPER, Sydney NSW 2000

For outstanding public service in protecting and advancing the built heritage of New South Wales.

Mr Dayn Cooper has dedicated his professional life to the management and custodianship of several of New South Wales and Australia's most important living and working heritage sites. Mr Cooper has managed various properties including Vacluse House, Hyde Park Barracks (1996-2011), The Mint (2003-2011), Elizabeth Bay House and more recently in his current role as Estate Manager of Government House, Sydney.

Mr Cooper is dedicated to the careful management of both the built environment and the landscapes of these important sites. He has project managed major capital works' including refurbishments of the State Rooms and heritage landscapes to ensure that sites can continue to be visited, used and experienced by different audiences.

He played a key role in delivering the major works required to protect, maintain and make fit-for-purpose Government House's important heritage structures and collection. Such ongoing investment ensures that the House is able to continue to grow in value and usability.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, he oversaw the development of an award-winning Virtual Tour of Government House. Mr Cooper has championed the introduction of other new initiatives including the Artist-in-Residence program and Sculptures@theHouse. He has also restored the program of installing painted and carved coats of arms of former Governors.

Mr Cooper's leadership and creativity have resulted in heritage sites reaching a much broader audience locally, nationally and internationally. His dedication and commitment to quality and innovation have created an enhanced visitor experience for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future generations of New South Wales citizens.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Margaret CRAWFORD, Pyrmont NSW 2009

For outstanding public service in ensuring the integrity of the NSW Public sector through her role as Auditor General of NSW.

During her time as Auditor-General, Ms Margaret Crawford has focused on strengthening the effectiveness and integrity of the NSW Public sector. This is demonstrated through impactful reports dealing with complex issues such as the cyber security of the NSW public sector, funding arrangements for integrity agencies, grants administration, climate change and Aboriginal Land Claims.

Ms Crawford brings a strong people focus to management of the Audit Office. She is the first woman to be appointed Auditor General in its almost 200 year history and her commitment to encouraging and supporting women has seen the Audit Office achieve gender parity at all levels for the first time during her term. She has also championed the recruitment of Indigenous interns and graduates, making significant increases in diversity in this area for the first time in the organisation.

Ms Crawford also implemented the biggest change in mandate in decades - to audit NSW local councils. She personally delivered 27 presentations to council groups across the State and has worked above and beyond to raise the standard of financial management and reporting by councils and improve Parliament's oversight of the sector. In addition, Ms Crawford has tabled almost 150 reports in Parliament that make tangible recommendations to improve the performance of government agencies and provide objective scrutiny and analysis of a wide range of government programs.

As Auditor-General, Ms Crawford's leadership has seen continuous improvement in the quality, clarity and accessibility of audit reports, cutting through to the critical issues and ultimately improving transparency, performance and trust in government.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr Mark Arthur HARRIS, Baulkham Hills NSW 2153

For outstanding public service in education, in particular for driving outcomes at Auburn North Public School.

Mr Mark Arthur Harris has been Principal of Auburn North Public School for over 20 years leading a team of 60 staff and 650 students. He focuses on a whole-school approach to literacy and numeracy, deepening teachers' curriculum and assessment knowledge, enhancing evidence-based practices and maximising parent involvement and engagement in students' learning. His vision is for New South Wales to have the best education system in Australia and to be one of the finest in the world.

As Principal, he is driving strategies to build 21st century learning skills and to ensure that every child is primed for success at secondary school and in later life. In his career, he has been guided by three principles; a school is only a school when leadership is distributed and focused on whole school improvement; the key to teaching improvement is through authentic professional learning; and the driving force of a school is focussing on students and their community.

He supports and leads some of New South Wales's most disadvantaged students, including from low socio-economic, non-English-speaking and refugee backgrounds. He has developed award winning programs such as Harmony House, homework clubs for parents and various community link services to encourage authentic connection between school and home. Auburn North Public School is regularly called upon to share their educational platforms with others and has been recognised by several Minister's and Secretary's Awards.

Under his leadership, Auburn North Public School has become one New South Wales's most successful schools in terms of student educational growth. The school has been selected as one of only 10 Ambassador Schools for New South Wales. The program identifies high-performing schools to research their high impact and highly effective practices, and scale these to similar schools across New South Wales. Mr Harris' dedication to education will ensure he will continue to make a major difference not only at Auburn North Public School, but in schools throughout New South Wales.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr James Angus McTAVISH CSC ESM, Turvey Park NSW 2650

For outstanding public service to cross border communities and communities facing critical water supply issues.

Since 2014, Mr James McTavish has served vulnerable and marginalised communities in regional NSW through his dual roles as NSW Cross-Border Commissioner and NSW Town Water Supply Coordinator (2019-2021).

As NSW Cross-Border Commissioner, Mr McTavish is an advocate for the people who live and work within NSW border communities who face unique challenges and complications that result from complying with multiple jurisdictions. Mr McTavish's commitment and contribution to cross border communities was particularly evident during the Bushfires 2019-20. He also led engagement and support for those people impacted by border closures and travel restrictions put in place in response to COVID-19.

His work as NSW Town Water Supply Coordinator significantly and positively impacted communities that faced the real prospect of no water supply during an intensifying drought. In January 2019, as severe drought impacted over 99% of the state and many towns were faced with acute water shortages, Mr McTavish led the government's response to ensure clean and safe water for all NSW residents. Using his strong engagement and emergency operations skills, Mr McTavish's work supported the mitigation of the short-term town water supply issues across the state and demonstrated where collaboration and early engagement between key parties can improve outcomes.

Mr McTavish is held in the highest regard by people from all tiers of Government, community leaders and key stakeholders. He embeds a culture of authentic engagement and transparency that has long lasting benefits in the essential work he undertakes.

Mr McTavish has demonstrated leadership and persistence during critical periods for the people of NSW. He is compassionate and committed to achieving results and is recognised by stakeholders as being critical to communities recovering from the bushfires, drought and border closures. He is a trusted source of information and action by individuals, communities, businesses and local government.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Vicki Gaye MANNING, Connells Point NSW 2221

For outstanding public service through her leadership in the NSW Health COVID-19 response.

In March 2020, Ms Vicki Manning was appointed to the role of Director Operations, State Health Emergency Operations Centre (SHEOC) COVID-19. Bringing 43 years of experience working in the NSW Health System, Ms Manning excelled in the role, adapting quickly to a fast paced and ever-changing environment, and successfully managing the NSW Health response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As Director Operations, Ms Manning led SHEOC with incredible resilience, determination, and commitment, working collaboratively with NSW Health partners to respond to the pandemic in ways that had never been done before. Ms Manning effectively managed the hotel quarantine and border restrictions arrangements, medical exemption processes, and established testing clinics through public and private pathology providers across NSW.

Without Ms Manning's outstanding leadership, NSW Health would not have been able to achieve the success it did in managing the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of the achievements Ms Manning oversaw and managed include the set-up of over 450 COVID-19 testing clinics across the state; over 250,000 people in mandatory hotel quarantine in NSW facilities; over 47,000 applications assessed; over 14,000 exemptions from various components of the air, maritime and border Public Health Orders granted; and over 387,000 airport arrivals were facilitated to appropriate transport, hotel and health services.

Ms Manning continues to be highly motivated to achieve very challenging goals. Over the last two and a half years Ms Manning has dedicated herself to ensuring the NSW population remains safe and to reduce the impact of COVID-19 on the community and the health care system. Her capacity to build trust-based relationships with internal and external stakeholders and bring empathy and a solution focus to very challenging environments is why she is such a highly regarded leader within NSW Health.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Natalie MARSIC, NSW

For outstanding public service in the COVID-19 response through her role as General Counsel of the NSW Police Force.

Ms Natalie Marsic has dedicated her working life to the NSW Public Service. She rejoined the NSW Police Force in 2018 as the Director of Crime Disruption and Special Inquiries Law having previously worked for the organisation between 1998-2008. She was appointed General Counsel for the NSW Police Force in 2021 having acted in the role since June 2020.

As Director of Crime Disruption and Special Inquiries Law she led the team's liaison with the State and Commonwealth agencies, briefed the Commissioner on potential mechanisms for Public Health law enforcement and developed a template for a fact sheet for each relevant COVID-19 Public Health Order. These fact sheets became a key means of communication between the decisions made by the NSW Minister for Health and police officers on the frontline.

Since 2020, as acting General Counsel and then as General Counsel of the NSW Police Force, Ms Marsic has led the Office of General Counsel through a very challenging time. Every amendment to a Public Health Order and subsequent fact sheet was reviewed and quality assured by Ms Marsic. She displayed humility as a leader, while continuing to meet extraordinarily tight deadlines and high volumes of work, all whilst delivering business as usual.

Over the past two and a half years, Ms Marsic's technical excellence and collaborative approach has been critical in operationalising the NSW Government's law enforcement response to COVID-19. Her ability to communicate complex legal orders to the NSW Police Force in short timeframes ensured that these unprecedented laws were enforced proportionately and appropriately.

Ms Marsic went above and beyond the expectations of her role, working around the clock to ensure the public's confidence in the enforcement of the NSW Public Health Orders, and more broadly, to maintain the public's confidence and cooperation in the NSW Government's COVID-19 response.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Dr Wayne Andrew O'CONNOR, Nelson Bay NSW 2315
For outstanding public service in aquaculture research.

Dr Wayne O'Connor is a Senior Principal Research Scientist at the NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI), Fisheries. Since 2011, he has been the Research Leader for Aquaculture and since 2015, the Director of the largest and most prestigious Aquaculture Research Institute in Australia, the Port Stephens Fisheries Research Institute. Dr O'Connor is a leading international expert in invertebrate reproductive biology, physiology, ecotoxicology and ecology. He has applied his scientific results to protect and enhance the NSW aquaculture industry.

Dr O'Connor's research has been aimed at restoring NSW oyster industry production by developing technologies, infrastructure and genetically selected stock to overcome disease and competition from faster growing introduced species. Since 2008, Dr O'Connor has led the Sydney rock oyster breeding program, arguably the most successful oyster breeding program in the world. His research proved instrumental in combatting the 2021 outbreak of QX disease at Port Stephens, ensuring DPI was prepared to support oyster growers to keep their businesses going throughout 2021. Dr O'Connor has been recognised for his achievement through various awards, including the NSW Scientist of the Year, Public Sector Science and Engineering.

Recognised nationally and internationally as a leading molluscan aquaculture scientist, Dr O'Connor developed and extended the technology for oyster farming to Vietnam. He supported the creation of a huge oyster farming industry across 28 Vietnamese provinces and achieved rare recognition from the Vietnamese Government by being awarded the Medal for Agriculture and Rural Development in 2018.

Dr O'Connor works selflessly to promote excellence in science. His research has dramatically improved oyster breeding technology, selective breeding and ploidy manipulation. Dr O'Connor's work has increased the production of oyster farming in Australia and allowed oyster farmers to recover from devastating diseases by farming disease resistant, faster growing strains. His contribution to helping establish a large oyster farming industry in Vietnam has resulted in a valuable economic and employment boost to the country.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

The late Mr David Wayne PEARCE, Formerly of NSW
For outstanding public service in the mental health sector helping to improve mental health care and wellbeing across New South Wales.

The late Mr David Pearce was a passionate advocate for mental health services, gaining a reputation for integrity, commitment, and humility across his 40 year career in the health sector. He was awarded Collaborative Health Leader of the Year at the 2014 New South Wales Health Awards in recognition of his achievements and the leadership qualities he brought to every role.

His early work to re-focus the current New South Wales Mental Health Act, contributed to the ongoing delivery of a whole of government approach to mental health reform.

As Director, Mental Health, South Eastern Sydney Local Health District (SESLHD), he implemented the internationally recognised Keeping the Body in Mind program, which reduces modifiable risk factors for cardiovascular disease and diabetes in young people with first episode psychosis. He also developed the Mental Health Recovery College, a first in New South Wales, to provide people with the knowledge to manage their own mental health conditions, allowing them to take control of their own lives, and improving their experience across mental health services.

In 2019, he was appointed Executive Director, Mental Health Branch, and over the past four years responded to the New South Wales bushfire and floods crisis and COVID-19 pandemic, all of which required an intense and sustained focus on the mental health and wellbeing of individuals and communities, particularly in regional areas. His expertise and evidence-based approach was essential in shaping the New South Wales Government recovery programs to make a real difference to the people impacted.

One of his most significant legacies is his role in the Towards Zero Suicides program in New South Wales, a Premier's Priority, co-designed with people with a lived experience of suicide.

The late Mr Pearce's commitment to ensuring New South Wales mental health services reflect the best available evidence, early intervention, and patient-centred care, which continues to inspire staff to constantly improve services, ultimately enhancing the mental health care and wellbeing in this state.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Elizabeth Ann STOCKELL, Emu Plains NSW 2750

For outstanding public service in supporting the recovery of disaster affected communities in NSW.

Ms Elizabeth Stockell has led Service NSW teams delivering frontline and behind the scenes assistance to disaster-affected communities. Ms Stockell's leadership, dedication and empathy have been clearly evident in the way she has supported individuals and communities while also ensuring the safety and wellbeing of her team.

In particular, Ms Stockell has made an outstanding contribution following the unprecedented floods which caused such devastation in the Northern Rivers region of New South Wales in February and March 2022. She has been instrumental in establishing over 80 Recovery Centres, Business Hubs and Recovery Assistance points, assisting nearly 12,000 customers and businesses in person to apply for more than 24,000 grants for financial assistance.

Ms Stockell personally led her Service Delivery team of more than 400 staff from across Department of Customer Service divisions. The teams went into communities to assist flood-affected citizens as soon as the waters receded. This involved mobilising the Mobile Service Centre network to support affected customers and ensure that there was on the ground support as Disaster Recovery Centres were being established.

Within four months, Ms Stockell's team had supported customers, including extremely vulnerable citizens, to submit over 24,000 grant applications. She and her team made significant improvements to processes and access for both customers and frontline staff, resulting in Service NSW being able to substantially improve outcomes. As at July 2022, this activity had resulted in the approval of almost \$7.5m in grants payments.

Ms Stockell has a unique ability to balance a high degree of empathy for people with an exceptional ability to deliver results. She consistently goes above and beyond to secure positive outcomes for customers. She works tirelessly to support them with a determination to serve that is the hallmark of a great public servant.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mrs Meghanne WELLARD, Grafton NSW 2460

For outstanding public service in the recovery of the Department of Education's Rural North community following the Northern Rivers flood crisis.

Mrs Meghanne Wellard began teaching with the Department of Education in 1992 and has held leadership roles for over 15 years, including eight years as School Principal and currently Executive Director (Rural North), School Performance, where she is responsible for 260 schools across the rural northern New South Wales.

Throughout the Northern Rivers flood crisis, she displayed an unwavering focus on student wellbeing in the context of community needs. At the peak of the emergency, more than 130 public schools within Mrs Wellard's region were forced to close. The flooding would prove catastrophic, with at least four fatalities in Lismore and more than 3,000 homes inundated.

As of 1 March 2022, only 18,000 of the region's 50,000 school students were able to attend school. Despite her own home being under threat, she worked tirelessly to ensure staff and students were quickly located and confirmed safe, adequate spaces were sourced for students to continue schooling, and counselling and mental-health support were made available for those affected.

Her sensitive and empathetic approach was crucial in supporting her team as they navigated their own losses during the crisis. Her nuanced leadership empowered team members working on the recovery process and strengthened their ability to provide outstanding service across the Rural North.

Combining her own local knowledge with departmental learnings from the COVID-19 pandemic and the Bushfires 2019-20 (Black Summer bushfires), she led the Department's initial flood response and continues to lead recovery efforts. Her leadership has provided hope, routine and safe spaces for children and communities that were devastated by the floods. Mrs Wellard's efforts to ensure the Department's response to the crisis was swift, effective and delivered with care have endeared her to the community and further strengthened the regard in which she is held as a leader.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr Matthew Patrick WEST, Summer Hill NSW 2130

For outstanding public service as Administrative Assistant at the Public Service Commission.

Mr Matthew West has been the embodiment of an exemplary public servant throughout his time in the New South Wales public sector. He exudes energy and has an absolute commitment to customer service. He never fails to take pride in his work.

His intrinsic nature is one of being hard working and values driven. He exceeds expectations by always putting his whole heart and effort into consistently delivering all aspects of his work.

His work as an Administrative Assistant in the People and Engagement team at the Public Service Commission (PSC) involves supporting all teams across the agency with office support, administration and coordination needs. Always willing to jump in and drive those tasks that support the effective delivery of a program, event or project, the work that he diligently takes on means that the PSC's world-class programs of work stay on track.

With the impact of COVID-19, he was unable to continue his office support and turned his commitment to his community, by volunteering at Addi Street Food Pantry on an almost full time basis. His contribution helped ensure that food was being packed and making its way to people in need.

When the office reopened, he was one of the first on the scene, pivoting his role to incorporate COVID-19 safety into his daily duties to make sure his colleagues returned to a safe and healthy workspace. He carries out hygiene and safety coordination duties with pride and commitment.

He is unassuming and does not seek out recognition. Mr West goes about his work diligently, putting in the care to ensure that what he delivers meets his own exacting standards.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Victoria

Mr Tony Francis LAYH, Hawthorn VIC 3122

For outstanding public service to the community, particularly in the area of prison procurement and relations.

Mr Tony Layh has used his vision and leadership over almost ten years at Corrections Victoria leading to a significant increase in self-sufficiency, building capability and reduction in operating costs for the Victorian Government. He was also instrumental in driving an innovative application of Social procurement policies that resulted in improved post-release employment outcomes.

Mr Layh's social enterprise, innovation and integrity are core to his achievements. He has been instrumental in the setup of the iStore, an online platform for Prison Industries that allows users in prisons and the Department of Justice and Community Safety to purchase a greater selection of products. He has also shown great dedication and passion towards ensuring offenders are provided training in sought-after industries, as well as employment opportunities post- release.

His initiatives and commitment to prison and prisoner capability have helped to set the standard for better prisoner release outcomes in Victoria.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Janice Beng Li LIM, VIC 3068

For outstanding public service in policy and program delivery, particularly in the areas of family violence, housing, and youth justice.

Ms Lim has led the development of landmark legislation across the areas of family violence, housing, and youth justice for the past 18 years.

Her work has been a major catalyst for the development of a standalone Youth Justice Bill for Victoria, the first of its kind. Ms Lim also led Information Sharing Schemes to better support the safety and wellbeing of children and reduce the likelihood of family violence. Her work in housing includes the development of the first agreement with Aboriginal Housing Victoria and completing a review of Victoria's social housing system supporting the prevention of homelessness within the state.

Ms Lim's commitment to social justice, industry, intelligence and integrity has made an important difference to the lives of Victorians who experience disadvantage or marginalisation.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr Simon Grant PHEMISTER, VIC

For outstanding public service through policy and program delivery, particularly within regions and agriculture.

Mr Simon Phemister led the Victorian response to bushfires, mobilising support for affected communities and developing initiatives to support the recovery of regional communities and agricultural industries. In recent years, he has been at the forefront of implementing the Victorian Government's response to working with industries affected by COVID-19, developing initiatives that have saved businesses and found people jobs.

His dedication to service excellence and delivering high level strategy and policies has seen the development of the ground-breaking and internationally recognised Latrobe Valley Authority, which is set to increase the economic and social viability of the region.

Mr Phemister's enduring commitment and practical approach to his work has ensured that regional areas of Victoria are given the appropriate recognition and support needed for future development.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Kate Amber RATTIGAN, Carlton VIC 3053

For outstanding public service to leadership and the delivery of improved products and services in the education sector.

Ms Rattigan has demonstrated outstanding commitment to public education in Victoria for more than 20 years. She has led significant reforms at the state and school levels to improve student outcomes, as well as support the health and wellbeing of principals across the State.

Her leadership of the Integrity Reform Program improved culture and strengthened systems within the Department of Education and Training (DET). Ms Rattigan also established the Legal Division within DET, creating a centre of excellence for legal services for Victorian government schools. In 2019 she developed and led the delivery of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy for Victorian school principals, to protect and promote the mental and physical health of these leaders.

Ms Rattigan's influence will have a lasting impact on the way legal services, operational policy and other supports for school leaders are managed in the State education sector.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Jennifer Margaret ROBERTS, Essendon VIC 3040

For outstanding public service in policy and program delivery, particularly in the areas of justice and corrections.

Ms Jennifer Roberts has provided more than 35 years of service to the corrections and justice system in Victoria and has been instrumental in some of the most fundamental reforms to the corrections and justice system.

She led the development of the Better Pathways Initiative, which focused on diverting women from prison custody and breaking the cycle of re-offending. Her tenacity saw the implementation of new service delivery and funding arrangements for corrections education and training, which addressed prisoners' poor literacy and numeracy levels. During the COVID-19 pandemic she has led a transition to a remote model of operations, ensuring offenders continued to have access to community services and programs.

Her strong principles, combined with her sense of integrity, have had an indelible influence on all those that she encounters and has helped to ensure that Victoria's communities remain safe.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Lisa Marie SCHOLES, Malvern East VIC 3145

For outstanding public service to the community, particularly in the area of Freedom of Information.

Ms Lisa Scholes has actively promoted and delivered greater public access to information for vulnerable communities in Victoria.

Her outstanding contribution to Freedom of Information administration has enabled those who have been in State care to seek their historic Ward of Records. Her leadership on initiatives to support more streamlined and human-centric record processing has given her a reputation as an information access champion. Her recent improvement of the subpoena processing for the Children's Court has been recognised as the gold standard due to the greater efficiencies now on offer.

Ms Scholes's commitment to quality administration services will continue to improve the experience for those seeking legal records long into the future.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr James Clancy WHELAN, Yanakie VIC 3960

For outstanding public service to policy and program delivery, particularly in the area of conservation.

Mr James Whelan has contributed more than 50 years to conservation with Parks Victoria. He has shown excellence through his commitment to ecological and cultural burning practices, which saw him tour domestically and internationally.

He was instrumental in assuring the proclamation of the Wilsons Promontory Marine National Park in June 2002, which was subsequently awarded a Platinum Global Ocean Refuge Award, the highest standard in marine protection management. As a result of Mr Whelan's research and tireless advocacy, the Wilsons Promontory National Park received significant funding to develop the Park into a world class sanctuary.

His advocacy for the environment has gained him a reputation as a formidable force, with his contribution set to have an enduring effect on generations to come.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Queensland

Mr Donald William BLETCHLY, The Gap QLD 4061

For outstanding public service to Queensland public transport systems and security.

Mr Donald Bletchly's commitment to public service commenced in March 1974. Throughout his career, he has represented Queensland Government locally, nationally and internationally in public and private arenas. Mr Bletchly's roles have seen him providing high level support to respective governments, Directors-General, and senior management. His knowledge of and contribution to the sector is apparent, with his advice sought from all levels of government and counsel actively sought by peers.

During his work in transport security and counter terrorism with Transport and Main Roads (TMR), Mr Bletchly was a member of the planning arrangements for the G20 held in Brisbane in 2014, and a key member of the transport security planning team for the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games in 2018.

Currently, as Chief, Transport Network Security and Resilience (TNSR), TMR, Mr Bletchly is responsible for providing professional emergency management and transport security advice, leading respective strategy and policy and enabling TMR and associated industry entities to achieve business objectives. His leadership of TNSR ensures the resilience of the transport system - planning for, and responding quickly to, disruptive events, supports and connects Queensland communities. Under his guidance, TMR continues to effectively implement and discharge its responsibilities.

Mr Bletchly's work throughout his public service career has been ultimately to serve the people of Queensland. A passionate advocate, he has led the enhancement of a range of corporate measures and information services, leading to greater public transparency of projects and deliverables, increased accountability, auditing and reporting to the public. He has worked tirelessly to improve public information and situational awareness during times of disaster.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr Duncan KERSLAKE, Rochedale South QLD 4123

For outstanding public service to the development and advancement of Queensland Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses.

Mr Duncan Kerslake is an Aboriginal man of Palawa heritage and holds a Bachelor of Education from QUT. He entered the Queensland public service in 2005. The programs he designs and implements consistently partner with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders, NGOs and community members to address the range of social and economic issues that impact First Nations people daily. He constantly analyses the changing government and philanthropic funding opportunities to assist in the development of programs and initiatives to address the disparities between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and mainstream Australia.

In his role in the Office of Commonwealth Games, he led the First Nations Business Engagement for the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games. Through his efforts, nearly \$15m in contracts were secured by First Nations businesses, creating 1000 jobs in the 14 months prior to the Games. It was Mr Kerslake's work that delivered what was described by Mr Robert McRuvie, Head of Procurement for the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games Corporation, *“as one of/if not the best outcomes for reconciliation in this state and through this has established a future legacy that will bring more success for the Indigenous community.”*

Mr Kerslake has also established several training programs designed to support the development, sustainability, and growth of First Nations owned and operated businesses - acknowledging the key role they play in employing First Nations people.

He currently leads the Deadly Innovation Strategy, a cornerstone of the Queensland Government's Advance Queensland innovation agenda that sets the framework for engaging with First Nations businesses, innovators and communities focused on self-determination and empowerment. In this role, Mr Kerslake works with and alongside Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to drive new commercial opportunities and jobs to ensure a focus on economic participation and wealth, particularly in the new and digital economies.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr Elton Noel MILLER, West End QLD 4101

For outstanding public service during COVID-19, to the development and protection of Agribusiness in Queensland.

Mr Elton Miller, Executive Director, Agribusiness and Policy, plays a key role in driving policy and programs that connect industries, the community and government to create value for Queensland agribusinesses.

He has been with the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries since 2005 and brings 30 years of public sector experience at both the State and Federal level, across a range of economic research and policy development roles.

He has been a Director on the Board of the Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority and also served as a Director, Board of Safe Food Production Queensland and the former Queensland Agricultural Training Colleges.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, his efforts were instrumental in ensuring agriculture, forestry, commercial fishing and aquaculture businesses were considered 'essential agribusinesses', enabling them to continue to enter Queensland to undertake business. His extensive work with industry and across all levels of government has delivered integral state-wide programs such as the Pacific Labour Scheme/Seasonal Worker Programme (PLS/SWP) to support the Queensland Government's COVID-19 response by addressing critical workforce shortages to ensure continuation of the important agricultural supply chain. The program worked closely with Queensland Health and other agencies at a state and Federal level, as well as industry, to assist producers with the preparation, harvest and processing of numerous agricultural products. More than 4,800 workers from five countries entered Queensland across 16 local government areas to provide labour to Queensland agribusinesses during the pandemic.

He has demonstrated an outstanding level of excellence to his work within the public service, especially in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He continues to provide strong leadership and an ability to navigate complex problems. He is a trusted advisor to industry, working across the supply chain to develop and implement solutions that positively impact the agribusiness sector in Queensland.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Clare O'CONNOR, QLD

For outstanding public service to the development and support of Queensland communities.

Ms Clare O'Connor is currently Director-General, Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy. She is also a committed and proud Government Champion for the Cherbourg Aboriginal Community.

Ms O'Connor has worked in both State and Federal government agencies during her 36-year public service career, which has been dedicated to improving outcomes across a range of portfolios. Ms O'Connor's work has seen the successful delivery of major policy and program reviews and reforms, regional service delivery and sector engagement.

Ms O'Connor has approached each role and her responsibilities with a focus on integrity, outcomes for clients and efficient use of taxpayer funds.

Ms O'Connor is a highly respected Public Service leader, who has dedicated her career to helping people in need. Her achievements are the result of decades of hard work, commitment and a genuine desire to get exceptional outcomes for Queenslanders and the government of the day. Her career has delivered significant public value for Queenslanders and high return on government investment.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Toni Maree POWER, QLD

For outstanding public service to Queensland state development and infrastructure projects.

Ms Toni Power is Queensland's first female Coordinator-General (CG), appointed in September 2019 to help drive a new phase of the state's economic development and growth. The CG is one of the most senior roles in government with responsibilities including coordinated project declarations, a complex area which assesses some of the state's largest infrastructure projects worth billions of dollars in investment funding.

Ms Power's strong focus on the effective delivery of transformational projects, including Cross River Rail, Inland Rail, CopperString and major water, resources, renewables, agricultural and tourism projects, has created a lasting legacy for Queensland. Her achievements have also helped send a powerful and motivating message to an upcoming generation of public sector leaders, including female future leaders.

The role of CG was established in 1938 and historically focussed on project regulation. There was scope for the role to evolve under new leadership and in September 2019, leading a team of around 100 in the Office of the Coordinator-General (OCG), she set about building capabilities to ensure the OCG could maximise whole-of-government assistance to transformational projects.

Ms Power inspires her team to think differently about achieving outcomes and the value of early and sincere engagement with project proponents and other stakeholders. Her approach has guided collaborative working relationships, across agencies and with external stakeholders, on some of the state's largest infrastructure projects.

She has also promoted economic development within Queensland's State Development Areas, hubs for exciting new projects including green hydrogen and renewable energy, aerospace, advanced manufacturing and new economy minerals processing. She has administered the Strong and Sustainable Resource Communities Act 2017, Australia's first legislation ensuring regional communities gain economic and employment benefits from nearby resources projects.

Ms Power's dedication to collaboration and delivering results during a public service career of more than 25 years has earned her recognition as an outstanding and effective public service leader.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr Kenneth Leigh TIMMS, Georgetown QLD 4871

For outstanding public service to Queensland remote and regional communities.

Mr Ken Timms has had a distinguished career across many decades, dedicated to public service and industry roles across a wide and varied landscape in Queensland. His work has been primarily focused on regional and remote local authorities, but is not limited to those geographic areas. The wealth of knowledge that he possesses has been fostered by his journey in life, starting at the grass roots level of Cost Clerk on road projects at a young age and steadily working his way through the ranks, providing leadership and direction along the way to local government and industry alike.

He has brought a structured style of leadership to his position of Chief Executive Officer, Etheridge Shire Council, whilst also promoting opportunities for local communities to grow and broaden their horizons with his experience and knowledge across all layers of local government.

The professionalism that emanates from his office provides confidence and assurance on a local level, resulting in positive outcomes for those who are a part of his team.

He is widely recognised by his peers as someone who has dedicated his professional life to serving regional areas, with a strong commitment to the communities where he works and lives. Mr Timms operates under a very high set of values which he upholds strongly and encourages others to do likewise.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Western Australia

Mrs Wanita BARTHOLOMEUSZ, Stratton WA 6056

For outstanding public service to improve relations between people of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and the broader Western Australia Police Force.

Mrs Wanita Bartholomeusz demonstrated outstanding service in her dedication to improve relations between Western Australia Police and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural groups, rebuilding trust after critical incidents. She served with the Western Australia Police Force for over 17 years and has been the champion of significant cultural change during this time.

Mrs Bartholomeusz has been instrumental in building strong and respectful relationships with a diverse range of communities, facilitating fair and open communication. Her respectful engagement with Aboriginal people has served to improve access to and delivery of policing services across the State and has had a positive effect on Western Australia Police.

As Manager of the Aboriginal Affairs Division, Mrs Bartholomeusz worked to advance the mission of the Western Australia Police Force and its Reconciliation Action Plan. She has been instrumental in providing cultural knowledge and expertise in support of the creation of the Reconciliation Action Plan, the creation and presentation of the Aboriginal Service Medal and the inaugural Aboriginal Employee Network Conference. She provided expertise in the provision of cultural awareness training at the Western Australia Police Academy. This training imparts specialist knowledge to police involved in major investigations and invigorated its focus on the frontline.

Mrs Bartholomeusz is highly respected by her colleagues. As an avid supporter of Western Australia Police she promoted its mission with confidence and positivity. Her advocacy led to many young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people considering policing as a career.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mrs Rebecca Ann BROWN, Rossmoyne WA 6148

For outstanding public service through leadership and management in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mrs Brown demonstrated strong leadership in her role as Acting Director General within the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and across the WA public sector. She played a significant role in implementing challenging initiatives that supported WA's COVID-19 pandemic response and ensured an inclusive recovery.

Mrs Brown worked closely with public sector leaders on multiple complex whole of government issues that required rapid resolution for the benefit of the community. Through working closely with her established networks, Mrs Brown was able to develop solutions to complex and new challenges in a rapidly evolving environment. Throughout her time in the role, Mrs Brown provided frank and fearless advice to the Premier and key stakeholders to inform critical decision-making.

During her tenure she oversaw the development of strategic advice across a wide range of matters for provision to the State Recovery Controller and the Premier in support of their attendance at National Cabinet. This period saw unprecedented challenges being faced by WA, during which time Mrs Brown engaged in the shaping and positioning of key response and recovery measures for the WA Government.

There were times under her leadership that required rapid decision-making, on matters where there was little to no precedent or evidence base. Drawing on specialist expertise, Mrs Brown provided advice to support critical decision-making.

In addition to the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, Mrs Brown continued to respond to other emergency situations including the Wooroloo bushfire and Tropical Cyclone Seroja.

Mrs Brown provided dedication and leadership to the Department of the Premier and Cabinet during a time of uncertainty and unprecedented challenges and contributed significantly to WA's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr David Kingsley EATON, Floreat WA 6014

For outstanding public service to Small Business Development, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr David Eaton has demonstrated outstanding dedication, advocacy and public sector leadership as Small Business Commissioner and Chief Executive Officer to ensure that critical Western Australian Government policy initiatives meet the needs and interests of industry, small business and the wider WA community.

Mr Eaton was the primary representative and advocate for small business and industry interests during the formulation and implementation of key government initiatives in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. His commitment to advocating for the interests of small business extends far beyond the traditional involvement and requirements of his role at the Small Business Development Corporation.

He supported the refinement of key policies, such as venue check-in requirements and the mandatory vaccination policy for small business employees, providing insights into the operations of small businesses.

Throughout the pandemic, Mr Eaton worked tirelessly with lead agencies to identify and respond to the pressures that COVID-19 public health and social measures put on Western Australian small businesses. His service and efforts to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic have been invaluable.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr Christopher James FIELD, North Coogee WA 6163

For outstanding public service as Ombudsman and President of the International Ombudsman Institute.

As Ombudsman, Mr Christopher James Field has transformed access to justice, established new functions and created a major own-initiative investigation team, including investigating improved planning for children in care, preventing youth suicide, preventing child drownings and preventing deaths from family and domestic violence.

He is committed to supporting women in leadership, with 75 per cent of Corporate Executive positions held by women, and has created a position to promote the interests of LGBTQIA+ Western Australians and introduced the inaugural position of Assistant Ombudsman, Aboriginal Engagement and Collaboration to lead a new Aboriginal Engagement and Collaboration Team.

Mr Field is well respected internationally, and is the first Australian to be elected President in the 43-year history of the International Ombudsman Institute. In his previous roles as Treasurer of the Institute he replaced a four-decade old flat fee structure, with a structure based on capacity to pay, substantially improving fairness and inclusion for Ombudsman institutions from developing democracies. As Second Vice President, Mr Field led a major organisational change that saw regions historically under-represented, including Africa and Asia, receive fairer representation on the Executive of the Institute. As President, he has led extensive engagement with supra-national bodies, particularly the United Nations.

Mr Field is respected for the highest levels of personal integrity, accountability and responsibility and has operated selflessly in his service to the Parliament and citizens of Western Australia.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Susan Terese KIELY, Wilson WA 6107

For outstanding public service through the delivery of the Western Australian COVID-19 Vaccination Program.

As Chief Operating Officer of the Western Australian COVID-19 Vaccination Program, Ms Sue Kiely has led a nationally directed, large scale, complex and challenging program that saw more than 95 per cent of the state's eligible population receive at least two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. She has been the stabilising force behind operationalising the vaccination program, delivering accessible, appropriate and sufficient vaccination opportunities to reach high levels of coverage in all population groups.

With a long public service career in social and health leadership positions, Ms Kiely demonstrates a passion for effecting positive change and improvement for the benefit of all members of the community. Her effective collaboration with other agencies has resulted in customised approaches being developed to maximise opportunities. These partnerships have been significant in ensuring the program was responsive to evolving program objectives including equity in access for Aboriginal people and remote communities, meeting demands of mandated workforces and creating programs to support at-risk and priority populations to be vaccinated.

The effectiveness of the program has resulted in WA's world-leading vaccination rate. A major achievement, the high rates of coverage enabled better management of COVID-19 outbreaks in WA and subsequent reduced levels of hospitalisation and admission to intensive care units.

Ms Kiely's unwavering professionalism and compassion is recognised by her peers and other stakeholders. Her collaborative approach to the vaccination program delivered more than 2.5 million vaccinations and achieved one of the most successful responses to COVID-19 in the world.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Sharyn Anne O'NEILL, WA 6020

For outstanding public service through leadership and management in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms Sharyn O'Neill's stewardship of the public sector and support to the Premier during the pandemic has fundamentally shaped and driven the Western Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Since early 2020, Ms O'Neill has been and continues to be a significant player in the State's response to and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. Appointed State Recovery Controller, she developed the WA Impact Statement and WA Recovery Plan, providing high-level direction for the State's priorities, efforts and investment.

She is responsible for overseeing implementation of the State recovery initiatives and monitoring and reporting on recovery activities and works closely with the Premier, Minister for Health, Chief Health Officer, and State Emergency Coordinator, along with other Ministers and agency heads.

In addition to her Recovery Controller service, her leadership as Public Sector Commissioner enabled efficient and effective agency responses to COVID-19 in their workforce, coordinating consistent advice and guidance on matters such as business continuity planning, occupational health and safety risk assessments, and prioritising areas of service delivery in an environment with high staff absences.

Ms O'Neill exemplifies the spirit of public service. With no distinction between the week and the weekend, or the night and the day, she has worked around the clock, with no additional remuneration, to coordinate response and recovery, provide strategic and operational advice to the highest levels of government and industry, and determine direction and solutions that are practical and sound.

Ms O'Neill's response to this highly challenging pandemic situation has been built on a foundation of collaboration, innovation, and a willingness for people to come together and work together. She is committed to an approach that will reboot the economy and regroup community into the future and has delivered one of the most successful responses to COVID-19 in the world.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Amanda Jayne PICKRELL, Menora WA 6050

For outstanding public service through leadership and management in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms Amanda Pickrell has demonstrated strong leadership and capabilities in her role as Deputy Director General Intergovernmental Relations and COVID-19 within the Department of the Premier and Cabinet and across the Western Australian Government. She played a significant role in implementing challenging initiatives that supported the government's COVID-19 pandemic response and ensured an inclusive state recovery.

Ms Pickrell has a deep knowledge and first-hand experience from her involvement in the Victorian government's pandemic response. She excelled in the delivery of key policy and program responses to support the safety of the WA community from the COVID-19 pandemic as well as supporting business confidence and continuity throughout key industries. This work has been fundamental to supporting the government's ability to ensure ongoing business operations, and minimise economic and social impacts over the course of the pandemic.

Under her leadership, she has driven a number of significant achievements including progressing the WA Safe Transition Plan; developing strategies for the ongoing management of COVID-19; progressing the negotiation and procurement activities for the Centre for National Resilience Perth; and preparing state wide strategic communications materials.

She is a highly strategic and efficient leader who has demonstrated excellence in her approach to policy and program development, strategic communications, relationship building and stakeholder management.

Ms Pickrell has consistently gone above and beyond the course of her usual duties to support the government's successful COVID-19 response.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Leanne Kaye POTTER, Subiaco WA 6008

For outstanding public service through commitment to social justice and advocacy for the inclusion of AUSLAN in mainstream education.

Ms Leanne Potter is a cherished educator and social justice advocate giving a voice to those that are underrepresented, whether it be women in the workplace, children with low socio-economic backgrounds and notably those who are deaf and hard of hearing.

As an advocate for the deaf and hard of hearing community, one of her greatest achievements was integrating AUSLAN into mainstream education. She worked collaboratively with the Department of Education and key stakeholders to ensure deaf children and young people could attend mainstream education with the assistance of an AUSLAN interpreter. She also advocated for the inclusion of the AUSLAN Australian Tertiary Admission Rank course into the Western Australian Curriculum. As Principal for Shenton College Deaf Education Centre until 2021 she worked with Shenton College's Principal to be the first school in Western Australia to offer this course.

During her time in deaf education, she developed teachers' expertise to educate deaf and hard of hearing students, significantly increasing the number of AUSLAN interpreters with qualifications working in schools across the state. She managed the oversight of educational interpreters across Western Australia and established the Access and Equity division at the School of Special Educational Needs (formerly Western Australian Institute for Deaf Education).

Ms Potter is described as a beacon of advocacy for the underprivileged and marginalised. Her genuine engagement with stakeholders has earned her respect from all she has worked with.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Emily Jane ROPER, Shenton Park WA 6008

For outstanding public service through leadership and management in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms Emily Roper's stewardship of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet as Director General and formerly Deputy Director General during the pandemic has fundamentally shaped and supported the Western Australian Government's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

She provided high-level advice to the Premier and members of the Emergency Management Team throughout the pandemic, balancing the operations of the Department, and delivering high-level policy outcomes across portfolio areas, and notably relating to pandemic management and keeping the Western Australia community safe. Her leadership, oversight and key relationships established throughout the pandemic has supported engagement with a wide range of stakeholders to ensure the safety of the community throughout Western Australia and support business continuity during the pandemic.

In addition to her COVID-19 related service, she has continued to support a number of other key priority projects for the government which are fundamental to the State's recovery. She has taken a leading role in a number of whole of government strategic and operational matters that are of significance to Western Australia, including maintaining supply chains, considering the impact of skills shortages and delivery disruptions impacting key government projects and programs.

She has gone above and beyond in her service at all times throughout the pandemic. She has strategically led and informed the direction of key policy issues on a range of matters, has excelled while working under pressure in rapidly evolving environments, and has consistently demonstrated excellence in policy and program development on matters directly and indirectly related to the COVID-19 pandemic.

A well respected leader, Ms Roper's outstanding contribution to the government and Western Australia has delivered one of the most successful responses to COVID-19 in the world.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Dr David Jonathan RUSSELL-WEISZ, WA 6004

For outstanding public service through leadership and management in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

As Director General, Department of Health, Dr David Russell-Weisz has demonstrated outstanding leadership during periods of both significant health reform and emergency, and brings a steadfast commitment to the health and wellbeing of Western Australians. Under his leadership, Western Australia Health reduced the impact of COVID-19 on the health system through its successful vaccination program, and the delivery of highly effective public health advice to the Western Australian Government and the community.

Since 2020, he has guided Western Australia health system's successful response to the COVID-19 pandemic, ensuring continuous quality of care for patients, alongside the progression of significant strategic projects, to now leading the transition to a living with COVID-19' strategy. His tireless efforts working around the clock were instrumental in coordinating the system wide response to COVID-19 while managing unprecedented demand for general and emergency care. Under his leadership, the Western Australia health system was able to coordinate a complex, cross-agency response to COVID-19, while ensuring the health and wellbeing of all Western Australians remained a priority.

In addition to folding COVID-19 health measures in to business-as-usual for the Western Australia health system, he is overseeing the planning of the new Women and Newborn Health Service Hospital, redevelopment of Joondalup Health Campus, upgrade of the Bunbury Regional Hospital and redevelopment and expansion of the Peel Health Campus.

His leadership is integral to successful health outcomes during the pandemic and into the future. Under his guidance, and through robust clinical planning and strategy, the Western Australia health system has achieved one of the most successful responses to COVID-19 in the world. With the fundamental principle of maintaining a person-centred approach to delivering care, Dr Russell-Weisz is committed to providing consistent, world-class health care for Western Australians across the vast state.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

South Australia

Ms Lisa Marguerite CAVANAGH, Evanston Park SA 5116

For outstanding public service to the Local Government sector and emergency management.

Ms Lisa Cavanagh is dedicated to supporting local communities in times of need through her leadership in emergency management. She was deployed to support local communities during the Bushfires 2019-20 Kangaroo Island and Bushfires 2019-20 Adelaide Hills, COVID-19 Pandemic, 2021 Cherry Gardens Bushfire, 2022 Coles Bushfire, and 2022 State of Emergency resulting from storm impacts from ex-tropical cyclone Tiffany.

In 2019, Ms Cavanagh was part of a convoy of Council staff who supported local communities as three bushfires swept across the Adelaide Hills and Kangaroo Island (Black Summer) threatening land, homes and lives. It was during the Kangaroo Island fires where Ms Cavanagh excelled, demonstrating a high level of leadership and organisational capability. She established an Operation Centre and Operational Procedures at the Kangaroo Island Works Depot. This involved utilising minimal equipment to establish the Centre, manage staff from across the State to work in a coordinated and efficient manner, establish safety procedures for all involved, coordinate and distribute accurate and timely advice to all those working in the field, and monitor the safety of the workers in the field.

Ms Cavanagh's contribution in the Local Government Functional Support Group has provided important advice and input into preparedness activities to build a sustainable Local Government sector. Ms Cavanagh's support and leadership during these emergencies has enabled the Local Government sector to be better prepared, informed and build greater collaboration between external agencies and Councils, resulting in better outcomes for the community. Ms Cavanagh has been instrumental during numerous incidents, volunteering her time and expertise to support impacted Councils, emergency services and community members.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mrs Donna Lee DUNBAR, West Lakes SA 5021

For outstanding public service to the residents and employees of the City of Charles Sturt.

Mrs Donna Dunbar has dedicated her career to improving local government interaction and connection with residents at a grassroots level. She has held positions within the City of Charles Sturt including Finance, Records Administrator, Open Space and Engineering Operations, Media, Marketing & Public Relations and Regulatory Compliance (animal management, environmental health and traffic control). Her experience across all operational areas of Council provided a strong foundation when she undertook various managerial positions over her career at the City of Charles Sturt. Mrs Dunbar used her capabilities and passion for community to work closely with the local Rotary Club and Lions Club to raise considerable funds for much needed local community projects.

In 2018 Mrs Dunbar was promoted to General Manager Corporate Services. In this role, Mrs Dunbar leads progressive corporate service functions providing internal support to 500 employees and external support to elected members and 120,000 residents. Her 40 years of service to the western region of Adelaide, including working at the City of Charles Sturt, coupled with her dedication towards developing high performing teams and motivating individuals across the organisation, has resulted in a sustained and significant impact on residents.

Mrs Dunbar's hard work and demonstration of mutual respect to others, exhibits how working towards a common goal can bridge cultural, experiential and age gaps to unite people and create a sense of connection. Her legacy is not one that fades as she moves to new challenges, her influence is infused within those individuals she has mentored, the teams she has united and the communities she has connected with and supported across her career.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr Brenton James KEEN, SA

For outstanding public service in emergency management including the establishment of South Australia's Rapid Antigen Test Close Contact Program in response to COVID-19.

Mr Brenton Keen has a distinguished 44-year career in emergency services and emergency management. Commencing with the Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) in 1978, Mr Keen progressed to Commander/Assistant Chief Officer and, as a member of the MFS Executive Management Team, he led major training reform.

In 2004, Mr Keen joined the Country Fire Service as Deputy Chief Officer. After participating in the 2005 Wangary Bushfire operations, he significantly improved capability, planning and operational competency assessments.

Mr Keen has been the Director at SAFECOM's Emergency Management Office since 2012, providing strategic leadership in emergency management in the State and nationally. He oversaw the establishment of the Logistics Functional Support Group (LFSG), a key element of the State's emergency management arrangements. LFSG facilitates logistics support to emergency management agencies and South Australian communities during and after major emergencies and disasters including COVID-19.

From 6 January 2022, Mr Keen led a small team to establish the South Australian Rapid Antigen Test (RAT) Close Contact Program to distribute free RATs to identified close contacts across the State, thereby alleviating pressure on COVID-19 testing sites. Mr Keen coordinated the acquisition of infrastructure and human resources, established distribution sites across Adelaide and regional centres and trained staff. The first super site opened within 6 days of the request being made, which is an enormous logistical achievement. A further 14 sites opened over the next week and the program quickly expanded to 55 sites.

Over his career, Mr Keen has demonstrated exceptional leadership and contributed countless hours of sustained effort above and beyond what was expected of him to achieve what many believed could not be done.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Sandra Elizabeth MANTELL, Woodcroft SA 5162

For outstanding public service to South Australia Ambulance Service.

Ms Sandra Mantell consistently applies herself above and beyond normal expectations and continually produces outstanding outcomes in the projects and programs that she is responsible for. She commenced with SA Ambulance (SAAS) in 2008 as an Executive Assistant and in 2011, secured the role of Senior Service Delivery Coordinator. Six years later, she was promoted to Senior Coordinator Clinical Service Improvement which primary objective is to support the clinical performance and patient safety directorate by designing, developing and managing strategic plans and processes, researching and analysing clinical service improvements and providing project management.

Ms Mantell has led and delivered diverse pieces of work that have positively influenced the SA Ambulance business; the SAAS Reconciliation Action Plan and cultural change program, and the program of nine projects addressing the Peter Hibbert adverse events report. Ms Mantell implemented the first Reconciliation Action Plan, embedding the SAAS vision for reconciliation to collaborate with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities and organisations to remove barriers and improve access to health care.

Ms Mantell brought to the SAAS awareness of culture competence in terms of policies and systems to ensure SAAS could work effectively in cross-cultural situations and responding to the diverse population. Her consistent effort to incorporate, educate and support the SAAS Reconciliation Action Plan across the business has been over six years of dedicated work.

Safety incidents at SAAS in 2018 led to the Peter Hibbert adverse events review and implementing the six domains of healthcare was a vital initiative across SAAS. Ms Mantell developed a cohesive and organisation-wide strategy that had a clear improvement in patient safety and efficacy and resulted in a significant reduction in adverse events for patients. The initiatives that she has delivered over time achieved process efficiencies, cost savings and ultimately improved services for patients across SAAS.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Tasmania

Commissioner Donna Louise ADAMS APM

For outstanding public service through leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic.

During an unprecedented and challenging two years, Commissioner Donna Adams has demonstrated exemplary leadership and decisiveness; making an extraordinary contribution to keeping Tasmanians safe from the global threat of COVID-19. She provided invaluable leadership and direction in two distinct roles as Emergency Operations Commander for the Tasmanian Health Service and as the Deputy State Controller during the declared State of Emergency for Tasmania.

The COVID-19 outbreak in the North-West was dynamic, challenging and required sound and considered decision making as the critical situation unfolded. The leadership demonstrated by Commissioner Adams during this time was outstanding. Through her experience in command and control emergency response arrangements, she coordinated the complex hospital closure, deep cleaning and recommissioning, while managing the frequently competing priorities of ongoing medical services, ensuring that patient health remained the priority.

On account of her exemplary leadership, resilience, professionalism and dedication, as Emergency Operations Commander, Commissioner Adams has made a significant contribution to bringing the outbreak under control in the northwest and avoiding the risk of an uncontrolled and potentially longer disruption of health services and widespread impact of COVID-19 on the Tasmanian community.

Throughout, she has had the safety, wellbeing and support of her workforce, colleagues and fellow Tasmanians at the forefront of her decision making and actions. Commissioner Adams deservedly holds the respect and trust of those around her and the wider community.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Mandy Ellen DENBY, Acton Park TAS 7170

For outstanding public service as Director of the Public Information Unit within the Tasmanian State Control Centre during the COVID-19 pandemic.

During an unprecedented and prolonged response to COVID-19, Ms Mandy Denby led a team of communications professionals who kept Tasmanians informed and engaged, often in rapidly changing and complex circumstances. As Public Information Advisor within the State Control Centre, Ms Denby made a significant contribution to the emergency response. She was appointed to the role because of her experience in managing public communications during previous emergency events.

Ms Denby implemented strategies to improve working relationships across government and with external stakeholders. She led the Public Information Unit in delivering outstanding communications channels and materials, with continual improvements made to reach all sections of Tasmania's diverse community, from those with low literacy skills, to members of the multicultural community, and those with limited access to technology and digital channels.

Ms Denby initiated and oversaw the rapid development of a new, dedicated Coronavirus website, which became the central source of reliable and timely information from across government. The content was delivered in a way that aimed to support all Tasmanians in making decisions to help protect themselves and their community.

Ms Denby led the public information messaging campaign to focus on COVID-safe behaviours, as well as ensuring that myths were corrected. The initiatives she led were well received by the public, ensuring that the community was kept well informed.

Ms Denby has adopted a continuous learning approach to delivering effective and efficient communications approaches across government and the community. She led the development of recommendations into the future activation of public information units to support whole-of-government emergency responses. This will inform the review of the Tasmanian Emergency Management Arrangements and the State Emergency Control Centre protocols. Her insights into strategic communications also featured prominently in the review of the State Control Centre/COVID-19 Coordination Centre, which will help position Tasmania to respond effectively to future emergencies.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr Craig Anthony LIMKIN, Lenah Valley TAS 7008

For outstanding public service in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr Limkin is Deputy Secretary, Policy and Delivery in the Department of Premier and Cabinet (DPAC) and also held the statutory position of State Recovery Adviser under delegation from the Secretary of DPAC and Tasmania's Emergency Management Act. He reported to the Premier in that role and the Secretary in his role as Deputy Secretary.

Mr Limkin has demonstrated an outstanding commitment at the highest level during the unprecedented and challenging times COVID-19 has created over the last three years. His performance in key emergency management roles was above and beyond expectations and was instrumental in the development of crucial plans which, coupled with other actions, influenced how well Tasmania has emerged from the circumstances the pandemic created.

Mr Limkin provided vital considered advice on key initiatives that were necessary to provide support and guidance to the Tasmanian community. He also over this period displayed a willingness to take on additional responsibilities and make difficult decisions while remaining calm and reassuring.

Mr Limkin's outstanding contribution to the Tasmanian community during the pandemic has been his leadership in shaping Tasmania's response. He worked collaboratively with colleagues across the Tasmanian State Service (TSS) and made a valuable contribution to key decisions at both government and TSS levels. Mr Limkin provided critical strategic and practical advice to the Government, which materially assisted in protecting the community and positioning Tasmania well for recovery. At the same time he worked intensively with other states, territories and the Commonwealth to influence the national response to managing COVID-19 in Australia. He demonstrated excellence in leadership, innovative problem solving and adoption of a truly collaborative approach.

Mr Limkin's accomplishments included facilitating agricultural workers from the Pacific Islands, ensuring a fit-for-purpose plan for school reopening, to arranging for a supply of rapid antigen tests for Tasmania at a time of national shortage, and commissioning modelling to inform Tasmania's reopening plan. He was also the key driver in initiating a number of grants for individuals and businesses that were specifically designed for the Tasmanian context.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr Dale Edward WEBSTER, New Town TAS 7008
For outstanding public service during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr Dale Webster has demonstrated outstanding leadership and service to the Tasmanian community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, fulfilling several integral leadership roles in Tasmania's COVID-19 health response, all while often continuing in his substantive position as the Deputy Secretary, Community, Mental Health and Wellbeing.

As Commander of the Tasmanian Vaccination Emergency Operations Centre, formed in January 2021 to lead the COVID-19 vaccination rollout in Tasmania, he showed exceptional leadership and skill to coordinate the largest and most complex vaccination program in Tasmania's history.

Under his leadership, Tasmania has consistently achieved one of the highest vaccination rates in the country and tracked on or ahead of schedule against planned rollout timelines. At 18 August 2022, more than 99 per cent of people aged 12 or above have had two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. Importantly, he has worked with key stakeholders to ensure high vaccination uptake has also been achieved in high priority groups including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and people with a disability, along with ensuring expanded access in regional and rural Tasmania. These incredibly high vaccination rates have significantly reduced the numbers of hospitalisations and deaths experienced since borders opened in December 2021.

During the pandemic, he regularly acted as the State Health Commander and the Commander of the Department of Health's Emergency Coordination Centre. In these roles, he was instrumental in other parts of the COVID-19 response including the development of Tasmania's Winter Plan 2022, which has helped guide the state through the winter flu season alongside the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

Almost two years on, he continues to work tirelessly, applying learnings, adapting thinking, policy, programs and activities in line with the changing nature of the pandemic. This nomination is considered a significant and most appropriate recognition of Mr Webster's outstanding leadership, dedication and continued service to the Tasmanian community in response to COVID-19.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Australian Capital Territory

Dr Kerryn Peta COLEMAN, ACT

For outstanding public service in public health, particularly as ACT Chief Health Officer.

Dr Kerryn Coleman has led the public health response to several significant public health emergencies within the ACT, including poor air quality due to a difficult bushfire season in the ACT and region during December 2019 and January 2020, and throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

Over an extended period, Dr Coleman has been actively involved across all areas of the ACT response to the COVID-19 pandemic. She has developed nearly 100 public health emergency directions designed to protect the Canberra community, carefully and painstakingly weighing up the human rights, social, and economic impacts of each one.

Under her leadership the ACT implemented a highly successful quarantine program, with a strong focus on the welfare of travellers while in quarantine. It has also operated a successful home quarantine program. She established a highly effective contact tracing program, including an innovative training program with university students to enable a surge capacity as required. This program has since been adopted by a number of international public health departments including Germany and Canada.

As the key advisor to the ACT Government, Dr Coleman has provided strong leadership to a team of highly committed staff members within the ACT Health Directorate, and successfully represented the ACT on national forums aimed at developing a coordinated response within Australia. Her person-centred approach has helped ensure and maintain momentum and engagement throughout the pandemic. She has actively engaged with peers, fellow professionals, stakeholders and the broader community in all that she does.

Her role in the ACT response to the pandemic stands alongside a career of outstanding achievement, and in all of her dealings she has shown strength, resilience, integrity, and compassion.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Leesa Maree CROKE, Torrens ACT 2607

For outstanding public service in social policy and in leading the ACT's Whole of Government COVID-19 response.

Ms Leesa Croke has made a significant contribution to public policy over the course of her career in the Commonwealth and ACT Public Service (ACTPS). Since re-joining the ACTPS in 2017, she has been providing high quality advice to government on all aspects of public policy while also overseeing Cabinet operations, Commonwealth-State relations, whole of government record management and the delivery of the ACT's Wellbeing Framework. Significant achievements include her leadership of complex policy reforms around greyhound racing, drugs of dependence, and sexuality and gender identity conversion practices.

In addition, since mid-2021 Ms Croke has held the role of Coordinator General, Whole of Government COVID-19 response. This role involves leadership and direction for the Coordinators-General Group and coordination of all aspects of the COVID-19 response that do not have a specific health focus. In this role, Ms Croke has provided strong leadership across the public service and in providing advice to government on the ACT's COVID-19 response. She led the ACT Government's engagement with the Commonwealth and other jurisdictions to ensure the ACT Government continued to provide citizens with the highest levels of service.

Her leadership across the ACTPS in this role ensured the ACT Government was appraised of all issues related to COVID-19 not just the health response. In carving out the non-health elements of the response, her leadership freed up the Chief Health Officer and others leading the health response to focus on their role. Her collaborative and collegiate approach allowed emerging issues to be dealt with swiftly before significant community impacts were felt.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Vanessa DAL MOLIN, Greenleigh NSW 2620

For outstanding public service overseeing COVID-19 policy and intergovernmental relations during the ACT's COVID-19 response.

Ms Dal Molin has supported the ACT Government and the ACT community through her exceptional policy skills, stakeholder engagement and liaison across all sectors of business and with the State and Commonwealth governments. She has provided exceptional leadership in times of extreme pressure and in the face of a rapidly changing and unknown environment. Her ability to remain calm under pressure and her outstanding resilience inspired her colleagues to produce policy work of the highest quality.

Ms Dal Molin provided outstanding leadership in the development of the ACT's Public Health Social Measures, the step-up and step-down responses to changing COVID-19 risk levels in surrounding New South Wales, and expertly led the policy and governance implementation approach for the Check in CBR app, a world class tool that was subsequently adopted by other jurisdictions.

Ms Dal Molin has provided outstanding service in the development of policy to support the ACT's COVID-19 Response. Her work has impacted on the lives of every Canberran in a way that has restricted their lives, businesses, and families. The community has responded admirably to these restrictions which is testament to the quality, proportionality, and reasonableness of the policy settings.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Deborah Lynne EFTHYMIADES, Fadden ACT 2904

For outstanding public service to public education, in leading significant education system policy and reform for the ACT.

Ms Deborah Efthymiades is recognised for her ability to provide exceptional leadership and commitment in exercising her role, but also to supporting positive workplace culture and staff advocacy. She has led a number of education strategies for the ACT to guide all parts of the education system to support and deliver excellence and equity in educational outcomes for each and every child and young person, making sure early childhood education is high-quality, accessible and affordable.

She has provided system stewardship through strong relationships with the non-government schooling and early childhood education and care sectors, which includes a critical role in cross jurisdictional collaborations and negotiations on national reforms, such as the National School Reform Agreement and associated National Policy Initiatives. Ms Efthymiades has also led significant legislative reforms resulting in a new regulatory model for non-government schools.

Ms Efthymiades led the ACT's transition to NAPLAN online as well as nation leading improvements in measuring of student outcomes, including through a wellbeing lens. She has also played a lead role nationally in the development stages of the Online Formative Assessment Initiative, continuing to drive improvements in how student outcomes are measured and used to support learning growth.

Ms Efthymiades' achievements have been pivotal in enabling the ACT education system to be responsive to the needs of a rapidly growing ACT population, with the ACT being one of the fastest growing jurisdictions, nationally. The work that she has delivered, not only in her time in the ACT but across her whole career, including 15 years in Northern Territory Education is being experienced daily as it contributes to improved educational outcomes for children and young people.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Jessie HOLBERTON, ACT

For outstanding public service to public health as the Clinical Nurse Consultant for the ACT Government COVID-19 vaccination program.

Under Ms Jessie Holbertons' clinical leadership, the vaccination service was able to respond to the pandemic and increase from doing 1000 vaccinations a day to 3500 vaccination a day at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) mass vaccination centre. The work and dedication she put into her role directly influenced the ACT reaching key national vaccination milestones and becoming one of the most vaccinated cities in the world.

Ms Holberton set up processes for clinical safety for vaccine management and undertook to be the clinical expert on the ATAGI guidelines. Setting up a mass vaccination centre was new Australia wide, and there were few guiding documents on how one would operate. She was able to anticipate the requirements for this novel health service and ensure the processes were clinically safe and patient focused. The ACT had the lowest COVID-19 vaccine wastage rate amongst the states, and the mass vaccination centre received consistent feedback on how easy it was to access and how smooth the processes were.

Whilst excelling in her clinical role, Ms Holberton was able to contribute to milestones in service delivery, clinical safety, consumer engagement and workforce preparedness. She committed herself whole heartedly to leading COVID-19 vaccination efforts in a time of intense community pressure for all Canberrans.

Ms Holberton's contribution to the COVID-19 response was integral to the ACT's success in vaccination and in meeting key targets. She displayed extraordinary leadership skills of a large and junior workforce. In a time when most of Canberra was in lockdown, Ms Holberton went above and beyond in leadership and time commitment to ensure the success of vaccination efforts.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Dr Anne Louise JENKINS, Kaleen ACT 2617

For outstanding public service to public health through specialised data analytics.

Dr Anne Jenkins developed and modelled the requirements for COVID-19 vaccine supply and demand which determined the siting and size of the mass vaccination clinic in the ACT. Her detailed modelling informed ACT, State and Commonwealth negotiations such that the ACT obtained and maintained sufficient vaccine supply to keep the vaccination program running (including for regional NSW residents that relied on the ACT health system for their COVID-19 vaccine needs).

Dr Jenkins provided outstanding assistance in the design and scheduling requirements of the ACT's Equity to Access Vaccination Clinic service which offered in-home vaccinations, in reach vaccinations through community organisations and pop-up vaccination clinics across Canberra. This service was designed to deliver vaccines to hard-to-reach communities where vaccine uptake was known to be low or where barriers to accessing mainstream health services were experienced.

Dr Jenkins was instrumental in the provision of vaccine data to both Government and the community. She was critical to the achievement of performance monitoring and reporting obligations under the National Partnership on the COVID-19 response.

Dr Jenkins worked throughout the COVID-19 response to ensure that all stakeholders received a daily update showing the vaccination status of Canberrans; a weekly briefing of vaccine trends across population cohorts (including culturally and linguistically diverse communities, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and specific age groups) and regions; as well as modelling and forecasting that helped ACT Health and Canberra Health Services to understand where to invest resources in the vaccination effort.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Patricia Ellen JOHNSTON, Ainslie ACT

For outstanding public service as the Public Information Coordinator during the ACT's lockdown period.

The Public Information Coordination Centre (PICC) was activated to perform a critical function in supporting the Chief Health Officer, Coordinator-General and the ACT Government to deliver timely and accurate public information about COVID-19. The PICC's primary responsibility was to deliver public information to the community and the media during an unprecedented time for many Canberran's during the 2021 ACT COVID-19 outbreak.

Ms Johnston readied the communications and engagement response using her extensive experience working across government departments, including the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, and advising Ministers and Cabinet on whole of Government matters.

Once COVID-19 fragments were found in neighbouring jurisdictions in July 2021, Ms Johnston engaged extensively with stakeholders at all levels to substantiate the risk levels to the ACT and prepare the communication and engagement key messages once lockdown was called. Ms Johnston highlighted the importance of understanding the points of view of all stakeholders in order to be responsive and cohesive in the response.

Ms Johnston is an innovative and creative thinker who drives change to achieve better strategic outcomes and enables her staff to find an extra gear to realise results. Her staff have benefited from her intelligence and willpower in making the hard decisions and having the difficult conversations to transition the emergency COVID-19 PICC towards more sustainable arrangements for living alongside COVID-19.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Dr Vanessa JOHNSTON, ACT

For outstanding public service in public health, particularly as ACT Deputy Chief Health Officer.

COVID-19 has been the most significant public health emergency experienced in the ACT in nearly 100 years and has impacted every facet of life for every member of the community. As the Deputy Chief Health Officer, Dr Johnston's leadership, strategic guidance, communication skills and compassion have been outstanding. Dr Johnston worked extremely long hours providing support to the Chief Health Officer, and the ACT Government, to guide the ACT pandemic response. She did so with grace and expertise, engendering the trust of the ACT Government and the community alike.

As the ACT representative and Deputy Chair of the Communicable Diseases Network of Australia, Dr Johnston has provided national leadership on the development of the technical public health response to COVID-19. This role requires continued assessment of the changing nature of the disease, its effect on the community, both nationally and in the ACT, and required clear national policy advice that could be implemented practically whilst maintaining the minimal impact on community. Her leadership role in steering the Committee and its output has been exceptional.

Dr Johnston provided expert leadership to the operations, support and policy teams responding to COVID-19 and did so with compassion and strength, with absolute regard for the wellbeing of her team who were under extreme pressure. Her leadership style and commitment to her staff resulted in a very high performing team who went to enormous lengths to support the ACT community.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr Toby Michael KEENE, Canberra ACT 2600

For outstanding public service to public health as the Executive Branch Manager, COVID-19 Response Branch in ACT Health.

During the initial stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, Mr Toby Keene was integral in the development and implementation of a quarantine program to safely repatriate Australians, providing strategic direction and comprehensive advice to the whole-of-government response. He oversaw the successful operation, safely returning over 1000 people back to the country at the completion of the program.

Mr Keene developed a wellbeing team sitting directly within the COVID-19 response team, identifying a gap in service delivery for people undertaking a quarantine period. He guided the ACT to be the first Australian jurisdiction to embed a mental health service into the public health response. His experience and knowledge enabled a senior Clinical Psychologist to move into the team, and the placement of allied health professionals into the program to support the mental wellbeing of people in quarantine.

Mr Keene coordinated the whole-of-government response to complex public housing outbreaks, collaborating with relevant Directorates and non-government organisations to produce an innovative all-service response. Mr Keene led the planning that took into consideration the complex needs of the population in public housing, as well as the lessons learnt from other jurisdictions.

Mr Keene led the COVID-19 Response team through times of constant change. Rapid changes to Test, Trace, Isolate and Quarantine rules placed high pressure on teams to meet short deadlines. Mr Keene was able to maintain the motivation of all staff by leading with a shared sense of purpose, and supported staff by building rapport with teams, listening to their concerns, and implementing tools to improve communication and coordination.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Dr Ian Mackenzie MARR, Reid ACT 2612

For outstanding public service to public health as the Infectious Disease specialist at Canberra Health Services.

Dr Ian Marr led the establishment of the ACT COVID Care@Home program which established triage tools to ensure all ACT COVID-19 cases were appropriately cared for in the ACT. COVID-19 cases at risk of developing serious illness were supported by the newly established multidisciplinary virtual COVID Care@Home team.

Dr Marr's extraordinary commitment, dedication of time, leadership and compassion has been significant, and a great comfort for the ACT COVID Care@Home patients, with the knowledge they were in safe hands.

Dr Marr and his team prevented or pre-empted hospital admissions, which enhanced the ability of COVID-19 cases receiving the right treatment, at the right time in the right place. His team has been the initial backbone of prescribing antiviral medication in the ACT, which has not only prevented hospital admissions but saved lives.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Mr Andrew Peter MURPHY, ACT 2611

For outstanding public service to public health as the Senior Director of Procurement and Supply at Canberra Health Services.

Mr Andrew Murphy has gone above and beyond to ensure Canberra's hospital and health service has everything needed 'to do what they do'. From the high profile and nationally in-demand, to the emerging and niche product, he has been on the front foot sourcing and negotiating on behalf of the ACT for supplies of everything from Personal Protective Equipment and Rapid Antigen Tests to medical imaging dyes crucial for CT scans.

Mr Murphy brings a considered and thoughtful approach to leadership. He takes the time to listen and make sure everyone is included in the conversation, then returns with a thoughtful and inclusive decision. When it is time to take the initiative, he does so with gusto, reliability and determination. Without his vision and commitment, the ACT would not have been in such a favourable position as it has been throughout each stage of the pandemic.

In addition to his oversight of incoming and present stock levels for critical hospital supplies, Mr Murphy has responded to the COVID-related staffing crisis with flexibility, dedication and authenticity. His hands-on approach sees him briefing Ministers, marshalling his considerable logistics expertise to deliver for the Territory, and in desperate times even jumping in to drive delivery vehicles to deliver hospital supplies.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Catherine Ann O'NEILL, Pearce ACT 2607

For outstanding public service to health services as the Chief Operating Officer of Canberra Health Services.

Ms Cathie O'Neill has provided outstanding public and private hospital coordination resulting in a structured Territory-wide clinical response to COVID-19.

Throughout the pandemic Ms O'Neill has demonstrated incredible leadership through coordinating the clinical services for patients requiring testing, vaccination and hospitalisation, along with significant support for non-government providers in the aged care, disability care and health services sectors. She has led the deployment of clinical teams responding to COVID-19 outbreaks in a range of high-risk settings within the ACT, including public housing, disability service providers, aged care facilities, private hospitals and the ACT's correctional facility.

Ms O'Neill's leadership and can-do approach has saved lives through the rapid escalation of care and infectious disease supports for vulnerable patients, as well as coordination of protective measures to prevent further transmission in outbreaks occurring in government and non-government high risk settings.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Tamerra Jane ROGERS

For outstanding public service in communications and engagement as the Deputy Public Information Coordinator during the ACT's lockdown period.

Dr Sally Louise SINGLETON, ACT

For outstanding public service to public health.

Dr Sally Singleton has provided expert assistance to the COVID-19 outbreak team who manage critical high risk facility sites, such as residential aged care facilities, hospitals and correctional facilities, working to ensure the most vulnerable members of the community are supported. She has expertly led the Public Health Physician Medical officers undertaking risk assessments, case management and COVID-19 policy development. She has provided outstanding leadership to Acute Response Teams and Outbreak Management Teams established to govern and coordinate the response to specific incidents.

Drawing on her extensive professional background she ensured the public health advice provided to the community was evidence based, written in plain language and proportionate to the current epidemiological situation. Her leadership style has directly resulted in the increased capability of the medical officer team in Australian Capital Territory Health through the encouragement and mentoring of junior medical officers. She is highly supportive of her colleagues, recognising and managing their stress levels with diplomacy.

She has provided exceptional support, guidance and professional advice to the Education sector in the development of school outbreak guidelines and management plans over the course of the pandemic. This advice has ranged from mainstream schools to highly specialised schools supporting children with significant disability.

Her leadership and professional advice has facilitated the continued safe functioning of the aged care, disability, education and corrections sectors through COVID-19. Dr Singleton has strengthened relationships between Australian Capital Territory Health, the different sectors and non-government organisations, through stressful circumstances and has resulted in an enduring legacy of co-operation between all.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Katherine Ruth WAKEFIELD, Woden ACT 2606

For outstanding public service to public health as the Executive Director in the Division of Cancer and Ambulatory Support.

In her role as the clinical lead for the Australian Capital Territory's COVID-19 vaccination and testing programs during the height of the pandemic, Ms Katherine Wakefield's exceptional leadership ensured that the ACT led the nation in delivering vaccinations to 90 per cent of the population within a three-month period.

She was instrumental in operationalising mass vaccination clinics at the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), Canberra Airport and the Garran Surge Centre, each with their own unique challenges. She also led the clinical development of the Australian Capital Territory's access and sensory vaccination program, delivering a vaccination service for Canberrans with special needs.

She demonstrated outstanding service through her practical, problem solving and leadership skills to rapidly expand services, recruit staff, and support the team through unprecedented times. She coordinated the work to set up the AIS and liaised with key stakeholders and partners across various departments of health, along with private companies, so that the Australian Capital Territory could deliver over 280,000 vaccinations. Throughout this time, she maintained a calm and responsive approach to emerging challenges and worked positively with her team and the Australian Capital Territory Government, ensuring success for the community.

Her ability to inspire others to work above and beyond meant that the Australian Capital Territory was the fastest vaccinated city in the world. Mrs Wakefield worked across Directorates, agencies, and private businesses to achieve this goal in a way that consistently demonstrated the Australian Capital Territory Public Service values.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Northern Territory

Ms Gabrielle Tahirih BROWN, NT

For outstanding public service to the Northern Territory Public Sector during the COVID-19 Pandemic.

Ms Gabrielle Brown has held numerous senior executive roles within the Northern Territory (NT) Government within her 23-year public service career. In all of these roles Ms Brown has shown strong leadership and has dedicated herself to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of her colleagues, clients and all Territorians. Throughout her career Ms Brown has excelled in her roles and devoted herself to providing services to vulnerable first Australians. Ms Brown has worked tirelessly and been an exemplary public servant in all her roles.

Ms Brown held one of the most critical roles in the NT Public Sector during the COVID-19 pandemic, leading the operations and management of the NT's quarantine services jurisdictional quarantine program and assuming leadership of the Centre for National Resilience (CNR) as part of the Territory's COVID-19 response. Ms Brown led the establishment, implementation and monitoring of the systems, structures and processes required to manage quarantine and the CNR. This included ensuring all legal, legislative and regulatory requirements were adhered to for all residents, staff, visitors and operations.

Ms Brown was responsible for the provision of leadership ensuring adequate infection control and prevention systems and practices as per Australian National Standards were in place and adhered to. Ms Brown's advice has been a major contributor to the hugely successful quarantine program in the NT and the Territory's success in preventing and controlling potential COVID-19 outbreaks.

Ms Brown is an exceptional leader who leads by example and demonstrates transparency in decision making, accountability for the use of government funding and assets and is a champion for sharing knowledge, collaboration and ensuring a learning culture within the organisation.

Ms Brown's work leading the NT's CNR was one of consistent significant high performance and importance. It was her leadership and passion shown in this role that enabled the CNR to gain a 'gold standard' reputation nationally and internationally, and heralded by the Prime Minister during the peak of the global pandemic.

PUBLIC SERVICE MEDAL (PSM)

Ms Catherine Ruth WEBER, Darwin NT 0800

For outstanding public service to the Northern Territory Public Sector.

Ms Catherine Weber has made a significant contribution to the growth and development of the Northern Territory. She has demonstrated unwavering commitment to public service in the Northern Territory for over 40 years, in a range of challenging roles and environments in the Department of Education, Department of Tourism, Sport and Culture and as Deputy Under Treasurer, Finance and Corporate. Throughout her career she has regularly been called upon to lead structural review processes and has been integral in a number of key policy initiatives, with the primary objectives of improving social and economic outcomes for Territorians.

Many of the initiatives she has led have been ground-breaking for the Territory, delivering financial sustainability and capacity, improved governance of key activities of government; as well as significantly improving people capability.

She led work to design and implement a system of global school budgeting and a new Education Act for the Northern Territory as well as the expansion of early childhood standards and programs in remote areas. These reforms contributed to lifting student achievement and teaching standards and capability in schools. She established a best-practice graduate development program for the Department of Treasury and Finance which has remained in place for 25 years and now forms the basis for the Northern Territory Public Service (NTPS) graduate program.

As Deputy Under Treasurer Finance and Corporate, and following a series of significant shocks to the Territory's share of GST revenue during a period of economic downturn, she was instrumental in instigating the Fiscal Strategy Panel review of the Territory's fiscal position for government. She was responsible for ensuring strong governance over the program for budget repair through the Budget Review Subcommittee of Cabinet, the Fiscal Repair Standing Committee and public reporting on progress.

She has contributed to executive development in the NTPS for many years. Through a series of senior executive and deputy chief executive roles, Ms Weber has excelled in formulating strategic policy and building public sector capability across the NTPS.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Federal

Assistant Commissioner Justine Louise GOUGH

Assistant Commissioner Justine Gough joined the Australian Federal Police (AFP) in 1990 and, after completing recruit training, was posted to Sydney Office. There she worked in the fraud, general crime, drug operations and intelligence sections, and was seconded to the (former) National Crime Authority.

In 2000, she was promoted to Sergeant. In 2004, she transferred to Perth Office, investigating counter terrorism, serious organised and economic crimes. In 2007, she was promoted to Superintendent and was responsible for investigation teams in Perth as well as routinely performing the role of Manager Perth Office.

In 2013, she transferred to Australian Capital Territory Policing as a District Superintendent and performed the role of Deputy Chief Police Officer Crime until 2015 when she deployed as the AFP's Senior Liaison Officer in Hong Kong.

In 2017, upon her return to Australia, she was promoted to Commander and assigned to Crime Operations. In 2020, she was promoted to Assistant Commissioner returning to Sydney to oversee Eastern Command.

She has demonstrated her commitment and dedication to advancing the AFP's Cyber capabilities by leading the implementation of Australia's Cyber Security Strategy 2020. In recognition of her commitment, she was selected to establish and lead the AFP Cyber Command in late 2021.

She has been a mentor and coach to many members of the AFP and has led a renewed focus on inclusion, diversity and a commitment to the development of women in leadership roles across the AFP. This commitment is demonstrated through her role as diversity champion for women and, within this context, Assistant Commissioner Gough is an excellent role model and mentor to the workforce.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Superintendent Corey Ellen HELDON

Superintendent Corey Heldon commenced with the Australian Federal Police (AFP) in January 1990 and has worked in many areas of Australian Capital Territory Policing including General Duties, Intelligence, Crime Prevention, Road Policing, and Emergency Management and Planning. In addition, she has provided outstanding service in areas including Learning and Development, National Intelligence, Office of the Chief of Staff, Strategic Policy, Protection, the National Bali Response and International Operations.

She has been the Superintendent of the Australian Capital Territory Road Policing and Emergency Management and Planning Team since April 2017. Throughout this time, she has continually demonstrated outstanding leadership and excellence which came to the fore in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

With the pandemic having a substantial effect on members working on the front line, she promptly and proficiently stood up the Australian Capital Territory COVID-19 Response Taskforce within Australian Capital Territory Policing to lead the response to this event. This task required a steadfast determination, foresight of leadership, exceptional patience and resilience, with long days and a relentless stream of information and reporting.

Her 30 years' experience in policing ensured she led the team with a clear vision and goal. The primary focus was the wellbeing of Australian Capital Territory Policing members, as well as the public, whose care she was entrusted with. She committed to a safe and ongoing police presence in the community in the unprecedented crisis. She continued to build solid and lasting relationships with Australian Capital Territory Health, and other key stakeholders, ensuring Australian Capital Territory Policing and the wider AFP were again reflected in a positive and professional manner.

Through Superintendent Heldon's strong leadership, the Australian Capital Territory COVID-19 Response Task Force was established with enduring foundations which placed Australian Capital Territory Policing in a more confident position during the pandemic.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Detective Sergeant Craig Jon MARRIOTT

Detective Sergeant Craig Marriott joined the Australian Federal Police (AFP) in 1999 and, on completion of recruit training, was assigned to Australian Capital Territory Policing Woden Patrol. In 2002 he commenced in Australian Capital Territory Policing's Territory Investigations Group with a Response Crime team. He achieved his detective designation in 2005 and moved into the Adult Sexual Assault Team. In 2008 he was promoted to sergeant, and returned to Australian Capital Territory Policing Criminal Investigations in 2009, managing the Property Crime Team and then a Response Crime team. In 2013, he was seconded to Norfolk Island Police Force as part of the AFP's commitment to providing community policing services to the external territories. On his return to Australia, he resumed in Australian Capital Territory Policing Criminal Investigations managing several concurrent investigations into drive-by shootings, arsons, serious assaults, high level drug trafficking and attempted murders as team leader of the Gangs Taskforce.

He represented the AFP at various national forums and was the lead AFP contact in national discussions regarding reform to Organised Motorcycle Gang (OMCG) specific counter measures. He was involved in the initiation of new legislation to combat the emerging threat posed by the rapid expansion of OMCG activity in the Australian Capital Territory, such as the implementation of specific drive-by-shooting and anti-fortification offences.

In addition to his role in investigations, he has been a member of AFP Negotiation Operations for 18 years. He holds an Australia-New Zealand Counter-Terrorism Committee Team Leader qualification and is regarded as a senior and experienced Tier 4 negotiator. He has taken part in the successful resolution of local, national and international kidnap for ransom incidents, high risk mental health consumers threatening harm to themselves and/or others and crisis situations. Detective Sergeant Marriott has contributed significantly to offshore training deployments.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Commander Andrea Maree QUINN

Commander Andrea Quinn commenced with the Australian Federal Police (AFP) in June 1983 and has worked in a range of operational areas including Airport Security, Intelligence, Serious Fraud, Narcotics and general crime investigations.

Operation PROTECT was critical not only to support Government policies to manage the impact on the Australian community, but also to coordinate actions within the AFP for the safety and wellbeing of AFP appointees.

In this role she was a pivotal member of the Commonwealth Whole of Government Task Force in response to the pandemic. Commander Quinn's duties included liaison with Commonwealth and State government departments in relation to supporting international travel restrictions, security arrangements in all States and Territories to facilitate quarantine requirements, Operation PROTECT Northern Territory Assist - the placement of AFP officers in remote communities and border crossings, and the establishment of a security workforce at the Centre for National Resilience in Darwin.

Through committed leadership, detailed planning, flexible resource management and skilful negotiation with Commonwealth and Northern Territory stakeholders, she ensured a constant rotation of skilled AFP officers into all of these locations, meeting the obligations of the AFP and limiting the drawdown on operational areas.

She oversaw the management of government and organisational health requirements via her coordination of the Operation PROTECT Working Group. This working group was responsible for identifying the operational impacts of COVID-19 and managing the mitigation strategies, activities and communications within the AFP. Commander Quinn's committed leadership contributed to timely responses from the organisation in meeting the challenges to keep employees safe throughout the pandemic.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Commander Peter SYKORA

Commander Peter Sykora joined the Australian Federal Police (AFP) in August 1985 and, upon completion of police training, was assigned to AFP Eastern Region in Sydney working across numerous crime types including intelligence, organised crime and narcotics investigations. In 1996, he deployed with the 50th Contingent of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) and upon return to Australia was promoted to Sergeant in the organised crime area. Leaving the AFP in September 1999, he joined the New South Wales Department of Primary Industries until April 2006. On his return to the AFP, he was assigned the role of National Coordinator Airport Uniform Policing.

In 2007, he transferred to the High Tech Crime Centre and was promoted to the rank of Superintendent later that year. After his promotion to Commander in 2010, he managed the People Smuggling portfolio before transferring to the Crime Operations portfolio in 2011. He then moved to the Information Technology portfolio in 2012 where he managed the business engagement, before moving to the Business Alignment and Innovation branch. In 2015, he was transferred to Adelaide as the Commander for South Australia.

Since January 2020, he has been deployed to Beijing, China as Commander Asia, where he has continued throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. During this time, Commander Sykora has maintained open communication channels with Chinese and Asian law enforcement authorities on behalf of the Australian Government and the AFP.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

New South Wales

Superintendent Danielle EMERTON

Superintendent Danielle Emerton joined the New South Wales Police Force in 1994 at Newtown in General Duties. She was first recognised in 1995 as a Probationary Constable, when she received a Region Commander's Unit Citation for her involvement in a siege situation when she was confronted and threatened by an offender who was armed with a firearm.

In 2004 she was Assistant to Commissioner Maroney's Chief of Staff. She was involved in the Redfern Riots as part of the Sydney District Operational Support Group and was part of the Incident Response Group for the Maroubra Riots.

In 2014, she attained the rank of Inspector performing tactical and portfolio duties at Burwood and Northern Beaches Police Area Command (PAC). She received a Region Commander's Commendation in recognition for her professionalism, courage and bravery exhibited in the peaceful resolution of a siege in Enfield in 2015.

During 2017 and 2018, she was Staff Officer for South West Metropolitan Region Commanders, Assistant Commissioner Mennilli and Assistant Commissioner Thurtell. From 2016 to 2021, she relieved extensively as PAC Commander in all three Metropolitan Regions. In 2021, she was instrumental in the development of the Human Rights Discovery Tool which is used state-wide as an educational New South Wales Police Force reference tool.

In 2022, she created the iLead Women's Development Program, a 3-day course, run over a 12-month period, which aims to embrace and strengthen women's leadership. The iLead concept is endorsed by Commissioner of Police Karen Webb and is being introduced to the North West and Central Metropolitan Regions. Superintendent Emerton liaised with Victorian Police to produce the iLead package, and the iLead cohorts from New South Wales Police Force and Victoria Police will meet during the upcoming iLead program in October 2022.

Currently the Auburn Police Area Commander, Superintendent Emerton has gained a variety of experience in specialist, corporate, emergency management, tactical, and managerial positions.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Detective Superintendent Martin James FILEMAN

Detective Superintendent Martin Fileman commenced in 1987 at Petersham Police Station and shortly afterwards to Drummoyne Police Station. In 1991 he was recognised for his tireless hard work and diligence into the investigation of the Strathfield Massacre' at a shopping mall in Strathfield. He was designated detective in 1994 and promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2001 to Ashfield Police Station.

In April 2009 he helped establish and coordinate the activities of Strike Force RAPTOR. His ability to lead helped establish the grassroots of RAPTOR which has undoubtedly been the most successful and effective crime fighting tool against Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs, not only in NSW but Australia.

In 1998 he led a team of young plain clothes officers, tackling midlevel drug syndicates, home invasions, ram raiders and violent armed offenders, in the inner Western suburbs of Sydney. In 2001 Commissioner Peter Ryan awarded him the New South Wales Premier and Emergency Services Award for Leadership.' Promoted to the rank of Inspector in 2004 to Gladesville Police Station and to Superintendent in 2010 to Mudgee Local Area Command (LAC).

As the Commander of Mudgee LAC in 2010, he oversaw the Coonabarabran Emergency Operations Centre during the major bushfire that struck the town of Coonabarabran in 2012. His leadership during these catastrophic fires was recognised by Western Region Commander and awarded Region Commander's Commendation.

He worked closely with Domestic Violence programs and Mid-Western Regional Council to establish premises for the safe havens for victims of domestic violence. In 2013 he transferred to Commander State Technical Investigation Branch responsible for deployment of covert electronic surveillance for serious and major crime state-wide. In 2019 he undertook the duties as Commander of the Drug Squad and Organised Crime and in 2021 Superintendent Fileman returned as a Police Area Commander in the Eastern Suburbs Police Area Command and currently Commander Sydney City Police Area Command.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Superintendent Paul James FULLER

Superintendent Paul Fuller was initially stationed at Parramatta in 1984 performing general duties and later at Granville. In 1995 he transferred to Wallendbeen as the lock-up keeper and to Cootamundra in 1998. Promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2002 at Taree as a General Duty Supervisor.

In 2008 he was promoted to Inspector and Duty Officer at Kempsey, later transferring to Port Macquarie in 2011 and Manning-Great Lakes in 2017. In August 2020, he was promoted to Superintendent, taking command of the Camden Police Area Command.

As a commissioned officer on the Mid North Coast and Manning Great Lakes Districts, he is recognised as a strong advocate for local aboriginal communities. He formed and chaired the inaugural Police Aboriginal Consultative Committee at Port Macquarie developing lasting relationships with the local community. He advocated on behalf of the local Aboriginal community around several important issues, including the closure of the Aboriginal Legal Service (ALS) office at Taree where he met with the local Member of Parliament (MP) and ALS Executive to voice the concerns of the community.

He takes an active keen interest in emergency management practice and operations. He is the Deputy Region Emergency Operations Controller (REOCON) for South West Metropolitan Region and Local Emergency Operations Controller (LEOCON) for the Camden and Wollondilly Local Government Areas. He has performed those roles in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and recent severe weather and flooding events. He also performed the role of Deputy LEOCON in a number of regional areas during emergency events, including the numerous and significant floods impacting the mid north coast region, the devastating Bushfires 2019-20 and management of the COVID-19 pandemic within the local communities.

He embraces community policing through involvement with local sport and organising local community events, both on and off duty. As a Police Officer with extensive regional and metropolitan experience, he understands the importance of community engagement and promoting the unique role the New South Wales Police Force plays in community harmony and safety. Superintendent Fuller is a respected role model in policing, acknowledged for his leadership, diligence to duty and commitment to community service.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Chief Inspector Christine Anne GEORGE

Chief Inspector Christine George commenced General Duties in 1990 at The Rocks Police Station, later performing many duties synonymous with city policing, including Transit Policing, Prisoner Escorts and Police Cell duties. She was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2002 at Eastern Suburbs Local Area Command, where she was later promoted to Inspector in 2007. In 2011, she moved to the City Central Local Area Command and soon after transferred to her current command at Manning Great Lakes later in that year.

She is a widely respected advocate for the advancement of women in policing and recognised for her supportive leadership principles in the development of staff under her control. She has been a significant contributor to many contemporary organisational developments, including her involvement in the Police Promotions Project Team (2006), the Customer Service Project Team (2008) and has relieved extensively as a Superintendent since 2009.

Over the course of her service, she has developed a reputation as a dedicated officer with a strong commitment to the community and her fellow officers. Her extensive linkage with the local community has enabled her to successfully network and build stronger working relationship with both government and non-government agencies and community leaders. In particular, she has worked closely with the Purfleet Lands Council to break down barriers in policing the local Aboriginal community and mending what had been an adverse connection with police.

Her vision for her community is well aligned with the values and strategic direction of the New South Wales Police Force. Whether it is taking lead roles in supporting the Rise Up program, presenting at community forums or raising awareness of domestic violence by attempting a world record for the longest Awareness Ribbon, Chief Inspector George has always been at the forefront in representing her community and the New South Wales Police Force.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Detective Chief Inspector William Peter McKENNA

Detective Chief Inspector William Peter McKenna commenced general duties at Deniliquin in 1986 and later undertook anti-theft duties at Albury. He transferred to Penrith in 1991 joining the anti-theft and special operations group and Mount Druitt Local Area Command. Designation to Detective in 1997.

He was promoted to the rank of Detective Sergeant in 2000 and transferred to the Greater Hume Anti-Theft Squad, later Wetherill Park Target Action Group. He was promoted to the rank of Inspector in 2003 at Richmond Local Area Command as a Duty Officer and is currently the Officer In Charge at Ballina Police Station.

In 1997, he was diagnosed with cancer. During this period, he continued to work in a restricted capacity, often working on days following his chemotherapy treatment and only taking sick leave as a last resort. He recovered completely and continued full operational duties at Mount Druitt Detectives, but not without leaving an indelible impression on all who witnessed his incredible resilience and motivation.

During his period at the Greater Hume Anti-Theft Squad he performed the dual role of Region Undercover Coordinator and managed all Controlled Operations for the Region. He was instrumental in the introduction of legislation and processes in relation to fortified drug houses which were prevalent in the Cabramatta and Fairfield areas at the time.

He has performed many varied roles including Local Emergency Operations Controller, Professional Standards and Operations Duty Officer, and in his current position as Officer in Charge, Ballina Police Station. He led the Police and emergency response to the Lennox Head tornado in 2010 and numerous fire and flood responses across the Richmond Police District. His career profile shows many and numerous complimentary remarks including those relating to bravery, professionalism, integrity, initiative, leadership, commitment to duty and empathy.

Detective Chief Inspector McKenna is recognised as a highly committed and experienced police officer; a front-line operational leader who continues to perform his duties to the highest standards in the service of the community

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Detective Superintendent Jodi Patricia RADMORE

Detective Superintendent Jodi Radmore joined the New South Wales Police Force (NSWPF) on 29 September 1986 and was stationed at Blacktown in General Duties. She has provided over 36 years exemplary service to the NSWPF and the community of New South Wales.

A considerable amount of her early service was spent in the now North/Southwest Metropolitan Areas in Blacktown and Merrylands, where she began a long and distinguished career in criminal investigation, before moving into the Child Protection Enforcement Agency in 1996. She developed a career long passion for the protection of children and victims (more generally) subject to domestic and family violence and sexual abuse. She extended her compassion for people by becoming a Police Negotiator, managing, and resolving many high-risk mental health, siege, hostage incidents, saving countless lives and becoming a nationally accredited Negotiator, and member of the 2000 Sydney Olympic Negotiation team.

In 2001 she developed her capability in specialist investigative areas moving to Organised Crime - Firearms, Gaming and Liquor investigation, before returning to Field Operations. In 2004 when she was appointed as the Crime Manager, Marrickville LAC where she led many complex investigations and continued to lead her vision for victim centric investigations.

In April 2019 she was appointed as the Operations Manager, Detective Superintendent Northwest Metropolitan Region and commenced delivering real organisational change to child and adult sexual abuse. She was instrumental in developing and leading a large number of complex and dynamic operations aimed directly at community safety. She developed Strike Force Sweetenham to prevent and disrupt break and enter offences and the stealing of high-performance motor vehicles, which was eventually rolled out as a multi-region response model of best practice to disrupt and prevent these offences.

She was instrumental in developing several Youth Violence strategies to combat gang violence and knife crime in the Region. These strategies led to the formation of SF Imbara and Operation FOIL targeting knife crime and youth gang violence throughout Metropolitan Sydney,

In 2022 Detective Superintendent Radmore was appointed as the Commander, Eastern Suburbs Police Area Command where she continues her focus on victim protection through building relationships with community.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Sergeant Steve Robert SCHAUSINGER

Sergeant Steve Schausinger commenced general duties at No 24 Division (Sutherland) in 1979 and at No 8 Division (Balmain), before transferring to Wollongong in 1981 and soon after that year commencing a long and distinguished career as a Highway Patrol Officer.

In 1984 he transferred to the Albury Highway Patrol and has established himself as a professional police officer committed to road safety. He has worked at various locations along the southern border, including Deniliquin, Holbrook and Albury. In March 2019 he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and continues to supervise traffic operations in the border towns and Murray River Police District.

He is widely recognised as an outstanding role model, not only in the manner in which he exercises his policing duties, but also in his interactions and support of his local community. Central to his reputation is his inspirational work ethic, professionalism and commitment to policing. He is highly regarded and recognised for his large personality, eagerness and motivation to perform his duties to the highest standards and his genuine empathy, consideration and interest towards others.

His policing focus extends beyond road safety and he is recognised for his skills in detecting illegal drugs and the movement of stolen goods along the highways and regional roads. He has been instrumental in training, mentoring and the provision of advice in a wide range of police operations. He is particularly active in community education, interacting and building relationships with industry groups, local government and championing young driver education.

He has attended numerous serious and fatal motor vehicle collisions during his career and has received complementary remarks on his service record for his diligence and compassion. Sergeant Schausinger is highly respected as one of the most experienced highway patrol operatives and committed front line police officer.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Superintendent Alfio SERGI

Superintendent Alfio Sergi joined the New South Wales Police Force in 1989 and was stationed at The Rocks Police Station, where he performed general duties. In 1993, he transferred to the Prospect District Special Operations Group where he conducted proactive policing duties, which included covert duties targeting drug activities in the District. In this role he had a significant impact on drug related crimes by targeting individuals and syndicates supplying drugs in around the Cabramatta Area.

In 1995, he completed the Special Forces, Undercover Training Course to become an accredited undercover operative. In 1996, after only six years of service, he was promoted to the rank of Sergeant as a supervisor at the South West Metropolitan Region, Transit Unit. In 1998 he transferred to the Special Crime and Internal Affairs Command, where he was part of a team that investigated corruption matters involving New South Wales Police Officers.

In 2000, he was promoted to Chief Inspector and worked as Duty Officer at Green Valley, Cabramatta and Marrickville Commands. In 2016 he was promoted to Superintendent as the Operations Manager for the South West Metropolitan Region.

In 2018, he transferred to the Leichhardt Command where he continued his focus on community engagement, domestic violence and vulnerable communities. He also worked closely with the Inner West Council to provide apprenticeship opportunities for indigenous youth and supporting Babana Aboriginal Men's Group to promote Indigenous employment. In 2020 and later 2021 he was seconded to the Police Operations Centre where he performed duties as a Police Forward Commander in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Over the past 32 years, he has dedicated himself to serving the communities of New South Wales with pride and distinction. Superintendent Sergi's long and distinguished service has been recognised on numerous occasions, and he continues to apply himself daily as a member of the Central Metropolitan Region senior management team.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Superintendent Gregory John TAYLOR

Superintendent Gregory Taylor joined the New South Wales Police Force on 6 April 1984 and was posted to general duties at Maroubra. In May 1985 he undertook a 12 week plainclothes rotation at Kings Cross before returning to general duties at Randwick, and commenced criminal investigation training in 1987 in Randwick and Bondi stations before moving onto his career passion of Technical Surveillance. He has been attached to a Technical Surveillance Unit for over 34 years.

He was promoted to Constable 1st Class in 1989, Senior Constable 1993, and Sergeant on 27 June 1994. His ongoing drive within technical disciplines saw him promoted to Senior Sergeant on 12 July 1996 and then Inspector on 13 January 2004. Within this area he continued to add value and expansion of the unit to cater for provision of electronic surveillance support and platforms for product delivery. His continued leadership and knowledge then led him to promotion as Commander State Technical Investigation Unit on 29 July 2019, where he remains.

He was part of a multi-faceted planning team for major events including the 2000 Sydney Olympics, Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) 2007 and World Youth Day 2008 which utilised his management skill base to deal with complex Human Resources issues and financial planning to provide an efficient response at an event whilst retaining a business as usual capacity.

His skills, experience and qualifications were recognised nationally when he was appointed as the Police Technical Unit Capability Advisor under the Australian New Zealand Counter Terrorism Committee for six years up to 2017. This national responsibility provided assessment, recommendation and provision of technical surveillance capabilities to all states and territories. These capabilities also extended into technical advancements and acquisition of equipment for negotiators, tactical operatives, surveillance etc.

Throughout his career Superintendent Taylor not only participated within the Technical Surveillance field, he has contributed, developed and grown many of the services available to all New South Wales Police which remain in place to this day.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Ms Fiona Jane WEST

Ms Fiona West joined the New South Wales Police Force (NSWPF) in 1985 and was stationed at The Rocks Police Station in General Duties. She was promoted to Constable First Class in 1990. Shortly after in 1991 she moved into the field of forensics and from there pursued a career in fingerprints. She was promoted to Senior Constable in 1994 and remained in the area of fingerprints attaining her Fingerprint Expertise in 1997. In 1999 she was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and held that rank until her recent retirement.

Following her promotion to Sergeant she performed an integral role in the implementation of Livescan electronic fingerprint technology across New South Wales. For the last 14 years she held the critical and high-pressure role of Team Leader, Major Crime Analysis Unit, within NSWPF Fingerprint Operations. This unit has been responsible for the forensic identification of thousands of perpetrators who have been responsible for the commission of innumerable heinous and serious criminal offences within New South Wales, including many historical cold case matters.

As a direct result of her sustained efforts within the Major Crime Analysis Unit since 2008, the unit has forensically linked by fingerprint evidence over 20,000 persons of interest to major crime and other incident crime categories across the state of New South Wales, and the unit continues to set records for the number of persons identified year after year.

In 2005, again as a result of her high-end forensic identification skills, work ethic and supervisory ability, she was selected by her Command as part of the Australian Federal Police led Operation Cawdor deployment to Thailand to perform Disaster Victim Identification duties in response to the 2004 South-East Asian Boxing Day Tsunami Disaster.

Ms West demonstrated passion, enthusiasm and dedication to the science of fingerprints and proved to be an inspiration to many young fingerprint practitioners and through her mentorship and guidance, she has significantly contributed to the development of the high-quality fingerprint experts being produced by NSWPF Fingerprint Operations.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Victoria

Detective Senior Sergeant Mark Laurence COLBERT

Detective Senior Sergeant Mark Colbert is a frontline veteran with more than 34 years of experience with Victoria Police. His entire career has been at the frontline of policing, serving with some of the organisations most challenging work units. On multiple occasions working at various ranks for extended periods of time at the Homicide Squad and Missing Persons/Cold Case Squad.

He has served with Victoria Police and partner agencies, in both intelligence and investigative capacities, ensuring the terrorism threat to Australia is mitigated. Serving overseas with the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste, the Regional Assistance Mission to the Solomon Islands and the United Nations Special War Crimes' Court in Sierra Leone, he is one of the most respected and experienced homicide, coronial, terrorism and serious and organised crime investigators in the country.

Highly regarded by subordinates, peers and supervisors alike, Detective Senior Sergeant Colbert commands a quiet respect that comes from a lifetime of dedication to his craft and to those that follow.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Sergeant Simon Michael FOGARTY

Sergeant Simon Fogarty has been a police officer for 26 years. He is a person of integrity and courage with a deep commitment to his role as a police officer.

Early in his career he began to develop his analytical skills. Between 2003 and 2005 he provided support to one of Victoria Police's most important corruption investigations, providing assistance to investigation teams where he employed innovative approaches to the presentation of evidence at the Supreme Court. He took a lead role in the preparation for a Supreme Court trial and showed empathy in the management of reluctant witnesses ensuring their appearance before the court.

In 2005 he became involved in the policing of crimes involving the sexual exploitation of children. He channelled his professional energy into the acquisition of skills and expertise in this area. His expertise grew to encompass many aspects of this offending including the use of technology.

He was instrumental in the evolution of Victoria Police's response to online child sexual abuse as it moved from being part of a broad response to sexual crimes to a unit now dedicated to these crimes against children. An important part of his work has involved exposure to child abuse material, while also engaging with and supporting families of victims and offenders.

He is now recognised as an international expert in the investigation of online child sexual abuse. In 2022 he received a Commendation from Homeland Security, United States of America for his collaborative and innovative lead in investigations of online sexual abuse against children across multiple countries.

He continues to pursue knowledge about this crime theme to improve community outcomes. Through Sergeant Fogarty's contribution to the police response to online child sexual exploitation, many hundreds of children in Australia and elsewhere have been protected and rescued from harm.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Inspector Marnie Kate JOHNSTONE

Inspector Marnie Johnstone is a high performing leader who is passionate about victims being afforded dignity, respect and support in response to gendered harm and trauma. She has held the position of Inspector and Acting Superintendent in Investigations and Response and Operations Support for many years and has been an influential leader across the portfolio in Southern Metropolitan Region. Her experience in family violence and sexual offence investigation has contributed to a significant uplift in the provision of victim-centric service delivery to the community.

She creates environments where her colleagues are inspired to come to work and produce fair and just outcomes for the community. She partners with agencies to produce innovative solutions to policing problems that deliver outstanding results.

She is deeply invested in the success of her teams and makes sure she is an accessible leader who works on the strengths of individuals to lift performance, attitude and culture. Her results in serious high risk sex offender management, high risk family violence investigations and disaster victim identification illustrate her ability to affect cultural change.

She lifts the standards of Victoria Police. Her communication skills influence government policy makers, service providers, operational members and most importantly her peers. She translates strategic intent into operational models that help members understand why things are done in a particular way, and how actions can make a difference to the perceptions of justice victims are seeking.

In summary, Inspector Johnstone brings a people culture focus to every role she undertakes, building wholesale confidence in her teams to be more active in policing at all levels, while building capability in the specialist workforce, and most importantly doing everything she can to maintain momentum in the gendered harm reform program.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Leading Senior Constable Linda McLENNAN

Leading Senior Constable Linda McLennan has demonstrated outstanding service to Victoria Police and the Horsham and district community through her passion and commitment to excellence in the field of community policing across her 41 year career.

Her collaborative partnerships with community groups, schools, government agencies and local councils have been essential in tackling crime and community issues through her proactive and educative approach over a significant period.

She actively promotes the value and benefit of diversity in the community through her relationships with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and culturally and linguistically diverse communities across the Wimmera. These relationships have been built on mutual trust and respect over time, resulting in direct benefits to community and local police.

She has excelled in her role as Youth Resource Officer with her calm, diligent and methodical approach to youth crime prevention and victim centric policing. She has built relationships and networks with a wide variety of external stakeholders and service providers that have stood the test of time. These relationships and networks are regularly called upon to achieve time efficient, socially conscious and culturally sensitive outcomes for youth victims and youth offenders alike.

She possesses all of the community policing qualities that Victoria Police value. Leading Senior Constable McLennan's ability to genuinely engage with young people coupled with her mentoring and coaching abilities are what sets her apart and make her a worthy recipient of this award.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Commander Martin Dominic O'BRIEN

Commander Martin O'Brien has been a member of Victoria Police for more than 42 years, establishing himself as a tireless investigator and strategic leader. He has worked in general duties, road policing, investigative and leadership roles during this time.

Throughout his career he excelled in the investigative stream, and has been forefront of delivered key policing activities, including the establishment of key crime taskforces to combat and target organised and gang related crime in Victoria, the operationalisation of new legislation such as Firearms Prohibition Orders and the establishment of the Farms Crime Unit.

He established the Lycan Taskforce which was established in response to increased serious crime including shootings, extortion, blackmail and kidnapping perpetrated by an outlaw motorcycle gang. The Taskforce culminated in the arrests of more than twenty-five gang members and associates and resulted in significant jail sentences. He developed and implemented the establishment of the Gang Crime Squad which continues to deliver significant disruption to organised crime in Victoria.

As Chief of Staff, he has provided sound leadership and strategic input in support of the Chief Commissioner and Executive Command and was instrumental in establishing the policing response to the global pandemic. He coordinated the establishment of key policing operations in response to the pandemic including operations developed to provide public reassurance through visible police presence.

Commander O'Brien continues to work closely with key stakeholders in support of the Chief Commissioner including the Office of the Minister for Police and wider government, Department of Justice and Community Safety, emergency service agencies and numerous oversight and regulatory bodies.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Detective Leading Senior Constable Paul Steven ROBERTS

Detective Leading Senior Constable Paul Roberts has provided 37 years of exceptional and exemplary police service across frontline and Investigation Units. He has dedicated his career to crime investigation spending 31 years as a Detective. During that time, he has gone above and beyond to achieve the ultimate outcome for his victims. He made a conscious decision to remain as a Detective where he believes that he was in the best position to serve the community of Victoria.

He has led and mentored hundreds of junior police members, and with his guidance and leadership they achieved permanent positions as detectives. During his time at Frankston Criminal Investigation Unit (CIU) he has maintained a high yearly arrest rate well beyond most of his colleagues at Detective rank. Arresting criminals and holding them to account before the courts is part of the mission of Victoria Police and he is an exemplar. He has a strong focus on victim and witness support. It is one thing to charge the offender, but he is also empathetic and caring in his response to victims and witnesses and this has been the focus of judicial comment over the years.

He has conducted numerous investigations that are complex in serious and organised crime. As a Detective at a Regional CIU, he is known for the utilisation of specialist resources in his investigations such as telephone intercepts, surveillances devices, physical surveillance and under cover operatives.

Detective Leading Senior Constable Roberts displays professionalism, determination and commitment to hard work and focus on community safety.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Sergeant Sydney William RUDD-SCHMIDT

Sergeant Sydney Rudd-Schmidt has enjoyed 50 years of distinguished service to Victoria Police. The first 21 years serving operationally in Melbourne, Euroa, then Seymour as a Sergeant, before commencing as Officer In Charge of Seymour Prosecutions Unit in 1994. This involves him leading a small team, a police lawyer and six police prosecutors as the conduit to prosecute all the Magistrates' and Children's Court matters for about 300 police informants at 25 separate police units.

This is a high-pressure environment that requires professionalism, personal integrity, personal development, communication and interpersonal skills of a very high standard. He has driven those standards by setting the example for everyone else to aspire. His knowledge of legislation despite the continual amendments, and case law is extensive and current.

A Magistrate of many years stated, Sergeant Rudd-Schmidt was on an equal footing of any lawyer who presented before me. He is an innovative thinker and was conducting Summary Case Conferences, years before they were legislated. He was educating and driving organisational standards of excellence with briefs years before the state-wide Prosecutions Frontline Support Unit was formed for that purpose.

He enjoys an unblemished and glowing professional and personal reputation, complimented by a wide range of people over a long period of time. Sergeant Rudd-Schmidt demonstrates unimpeachable personal integrity, exemplary levels of dedication, communication and professionalism, as his outstanding service record of excellence to the Victorian community, covering nearly half a century shows.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Superintendent Janet Leanne STEVENSON

Superintendent Janet Stevenson has been a Police Officer for over 30 years, working predominantly frontline duties in the northern suburbs of Melbourne before pursuing a career in criminal investigation at the Tactical Response Squad, Homicide Squad, Armed Crime Squad, Professional Standards Command and Divisional Crime Investigation Units.

As a Senior Sergeant, she established the Supervision Order Specialist Response Unit to enhance community safety by providing a joint-agency approach to the monitoring, supervision, and management of offenders subject to post sentence supervision orders. She was promoted to Inspector at the Operations Response Unit with a focus on reforming performance and culture.

As a Superintendent she has held roles at Information Systems and Security Command in Business Engagement before moving to Taskforce Salus, Professional Standards Command. Her ethical leadership saw the establishment of the Sexual Offences and Family Violence Unit at the Professional Standards Command making Victoria Police the first law enforcement agency to proactively address family violence perpetrators within its organisation. She is the chair of the Women in Policing Advisory Group having firsthand knowledge of the challenges that women have faced and the harm that some women have suffered over their policing journey.

She is known for her compassion, empathy and support which she demonstrates towards her colleagues in ensuring that welfare and wellbeing have been at the forefront of initiatives designed to reconnect employees with the workplace, following attendance at high impact critical incidents. Testament to her unwavering approach when confronted with difficult circumstances, is the reassurance, care, and benevolence that she provided to several employees following critical incidents in the Bourke Street Mall and a similar incident in Flinders Street.

Superintendent Stevenson is committed to modernising services to reflect current community expectations, ensuring employees are supported and afforded equal opportunities through flexibility to achieve their full potential.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Queensland

Detective Sergeant Katrina Louise CARR

Detective Sergeant Katrina Carr commenced with the Queensland Police Service (QPS) on 8 February 1993 and was sworn in as a police officer on 4 February 1994. She commenced her career as a General Duties Officer at the Upper Mount Gravatt Police Station before commencing as an investigator and becoming a qualified Detective at the South Brisbane District Juvenile Aid Bureau and served at the Upper Mount Gravatt Criminal Investigation Branch.

She is currently an Education and Training Officer at the Detective and Specialist Investigative Training Unit at the Queensland Police Academy, where she imparts her expertise to other police officers who are undertaking training to become Detectives. She has committed herself to improving the wellbeing of the community of Queensland through developing, implementing and delivering training for frontline investigators and first responders focusing on victim centric, trauma informed responses to sexual offences, and Domestic Violence.

She was responsible for developing the Investigating Sexual Assault and Corroborating and Understanding Relationship Evidence (ISACURE) course for investigators. This course focuses on improving the understanding, and processes for victims of sexual assault in Queensland. She has been involved in bringing a victim centric component to the existing 'Train the Trainer' course for operational police responding to victims of Domestic Violence in the community. She commits herself to improving better health outcomes for first responders and returned veterans through her capacity as a volunteer in TREK2HEALTH, a not-for-profit organisation committed to providing support for veterans or first responders who have served the community to maintain their physical and mental wellbeing as well as those who suffer ongoing mental health injuries.

Detective Sergeant Carr is a role model for professionalism and commitment within the QPS, enhancing training outcomes for operational police in complex areas of policing, and through her efforts to enhance the community's confidence in policing responses.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Inspector Ryan Dustin CLARK

Inspector Ryan Clark commenced with the Queensland Police Service (QPS) on 4 June 2000 and was sworn in as a Police Officer on 23 March 2001. He commenced his career as a General Duties Officer at Surfers Paradise Police Station and went on to serve in the Gold Coast District as a Major Events Planning Officer and Intelligence and Strategy Coordinator. He is currently serving as Support Services Inspector.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, he was appointed Commander, Support Services, Gold Coast District and was instrumental in developing and implementing the response to managing the risk posed by COVID-19 at the borders and ingress points into Queensland across the Gold Coast District. He led and facilitated the planning and management of 17 border crossing points and restrictions at the Gold Coast Domestic and International Airport, in line with Public Health Directions. This required the coordination of hard border closures and police resourcing to support efforts to monitor borders yet ensure accessibility for the local community and vital Queensland businesses and essential services.

Inspector Clark's management ensured emergency services were able to move seamlessly across the borders between New South Wales and Queensland, allowing essential services on both sides of the border 24-hour access, while ensuring QPS officers were adequately supported and resourced throughout this challenging period.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Chief Superintendent Stephen John DABINETT

Chief Superintendent Stephen Dabinett commenced with the Queensland Police Service (QPS) on 22 January 1981 and was sworn in as a Police Officer on 3 September 1982.

He commenced his career as a General Duties Officer at Toowoomba Police Station then served at Brisbane Mobile Patrols before commencing a career as an Investigator. He obtained his Detective appointment and served in the Brisbane and South Brisbane District Criminal Investigation Branch before moving to the Crime Operations Branch where he served in various specialist Units. He served as a District Inspector in Mount Isa and South Brisbane Districts and as a Detective Inspector at the Internal Investigation Branch.

He served as a Commander of the Specialist Response Group prior to his current role as the District Officer of the North Brisbane District. He has established himself as an energetic and positive leader who has a record of actively identifying and implementing improvement in all the work units he has led. He has earned respect from those he leads, members of other government agencies, community members and the senior leadership of the QPS.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, he served as the Deputy District Disaster Coordinator, Brisbane Region and applied his considerable experience and expertise into building a multi-agency team to effectively manage the complex environment of the international and domestic border operations. He also served as the Acting Assistant Commissioner and Overall Operations Commander for the Queensland Police COVID-19 Operations.

Chief Superintendent Dabinett has positively influenced outcomes around the Queensland response to COVID-19, as the QPS representative at a national and state level, to deliver strategic policy and operational direction for the State's COVID-19 response.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Inspector Leonie FORDYCE

Inspector Leonie Fordyce commenced with the Queensland Police Service (QPS) on 23 January 1995 and was sworn in as a Police Officer on 11 August 1995. She commenced her career as a General Duties Officer at Ipswich Police Station then later at the Emerald Police Station in Central Queensland.

She has served as a Crime Prevention Officer and Coordinator in the North Brisbane and Oxley Police Districts, a Project Officer at the Domestic and Family Violence Unit, a Senior Facilitator supporting the training of recruits at the Queensland Police Service Academy, a Principal Strategy Officer with Policy and Performance Division and as the Parliamentary Liaison Officer and Manager, Ministerial Services.

Due to her expertise, she was seconded as the Strategy and Performance Officer and Manager within the Domestic, Family Violence and Vulnerable Persons Command, and has recently been permanently appointed to the Command. Inspector Fordyce has excelled in providing a high standard of professionalism, leadership and guidance in the development, enhancement and support of the QPS capability to prevent, disrupt, investigate and respond to domestic and family violence and harm to vulnerable persons.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Chief Superintendent William Bernhardt GRAHAM

Chief Superintendent William Graham commenced with the Queensland Police Service on 6 June 1983 and was sworn in as a Police Officer on 16 December 1983.

He commenced his career as a General Duties Officer, serving at Mackay, Dalby and Toowoomba Police Stations and as Officer in Charge of the remote Cunnamulla Police Station. He was promoted to Commissioned rank in 2004 and has served as the Operations Manager State Intelligence Group, Patrol Inspector and Regional Duty Officer Metropolitan North Region, Manager Safe Night Out Precinct in the Fortitude Valley and the State Drug and Alcohol Unit.

He was the Operations Commander of the Security and Counter Terrorism Group during the world's heightened security environment before being appointed as District Officer, Moreton District and currently at the South Brisbane District. He demonstrates exceptional leadership across operational environments and has an outstanding commitment to the community of Queensland during his diverse career. He is recognised for his integrity and resourcefulness in operational planning, organisational improvement, policy development and his commitment to enhancing capability.

His many achievements have been consolidated through sustained partnerships and teamwork. He is supported by numerous community members and Government partners, who have acknowledged his commitment to ensuring high standards of policing professionalism. Chief Superintendent Graham continues to ensure the development and implementation of innovative strategic operational direction to deliver safe and secure communities.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Superintendent Craig Robert HUXLEY

Superintendent Craig Huxley commenced with the Queensland Police Service (QPS) on 3 October 1983 and was sworn in as a Police Officer on 6 April 1984.

He commenced his career as a General Duties Officer at Brisbane City Police Station and further served at the Fortitude Valley and Woolloongabba Police Stations and Brisbane Mobile Patrols. He went on to serve as an Investigator and obtained his Detective appointment whilst serving at the Brisbane Criminal Investigations Branch, various specialty units within State Crime Operations and with the Internal Investigation Branch. He also volunteered to deploy on two occasions to East Timor/Timor-Leste, where he provided operational policing advice and service.

He has served as a District Duty Officer in Wynnum; as Regional Duty Officer, South Eastern Region; District Inspector, Logan District; Specialist Services Coordinator, Disaster Management Unit; Patrol Group Inspector, South Brisbane District; Commander, Mobile Capability Group and is currently Commander, Aviation Capability Group.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, he was Commander, Task Force Sierra Linnet at the State Police Operations Centre and as the Overall Deputy Commander, QPS Operations for COVID-19. He provided essential leadership and guidance for the QPS COVID-19 disaster response, working tirelessly to support the whole-of-government effort to contain and prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Queensland. Superintendent Huxley was instrumental in coordinating the QPS state-wide COVID-19 operations, with priorities including hotel quarantine, state and national border security and compliance functions, to ensure community safety in accordance with the Chief Health Officer's Public Health Directions.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Senior Sergeant John William McARTHUR

Senior Sergeant John McArthur commenced with the Queensland Police Service on 25 March 1985 and was sworn in as a Police Officer on 27 September 1985. He has served as a General Duties Officer in Cairns and Innisfail, then in the remote areas of Kowanyama and Coen. He served as an Officer in Charge at the remote areas of Aurukun and Normanton prior to his current role as the Officer in Charge of the Cooktown Police Station.

He is an outstanding and inspirational leader, dedicating his career to policing in regional and remote areas across Far North Queensland. His achievements in establishing positive relationships with leaders of First Nation communities has been outstanding. He is currently an active member of the Cook Shire Local Disaster Management Group and in this role has delivered unwavering leadership during disaster events, operational challenges and critical incidents, including Cyclones Nathan and Ita, and the 2020 Cooktown bushfires.

He has gained a well-earned reputation as a strong community minded member and has led a focused response to domestic violence, rural, property and violence offences across the Cooktown Division. Senior Sergeant McArthur demonstrates a selfless and dedicated commitment to duty in reducing community harm, and this is balanced with his significant proactive contribution to the community he serves.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Detective Senior Sergeant David John MILES

Detective Senior Sergeant David Miles commenced with the Queensland Police Service (QPS) on 28 January 1986 and was sworn in as a Police Officer on 3 July 1987. He has served as a General Duties Officer at the Mount Isa and Burketown Police Station before embarking on a career as an Investigator. He served at the Mount Isa, Thursday Island, Cooktown, Cairns and Townsville Criminal Investigations Branches and served as the Townsville Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect representative.

He is currently the Officer in Charge of the Townsville Child Protection Investigation Unit. His expertise in the child protection arena and the associated relationship building skills he possesses are well regarded by the senior executive of the QPS, who regularly seek his advice on operational policy matters. His frank and fearless advice through an operational lens comes from the considerable experience he holds in the field of child protection.

He is the QPS representative on the Townsville District Multi Agency Collaborative Panel and provides advice directly to the Youth Justice Taskforce on opportunities, shortcomings, and expectation management for the taskforce. Detective Senior Sergeant Miles has been instrumental in developing the Townsville Child Protection and Investigation Unit into a motivated, functional, innovative, and effective operational unit that provides an invaluable service to the Townsville community.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Superintendent Rhys NEWTON

Superintendent Rhys Newton commenced with the Queensland Police Service on 18 October 1982 and was sworn in as a Police Officer on 8 April 1983. He commenced his career as a General Duties Officer at Mareeba then Smithfield, before becoming the Officer in Charge of the Innisfail Police Station. He has also served as a Patrol Inspector in the Far North District then as a District Officer, initially in the Mount Isa District and currently in the Far North District.

He has exemplified the highest commitment to service and professionalism during a policing career. Throughout his service he has been an exemplary leader, illustrating his commitment to excellence through application of his genuine desire to develop those he leads, and faithfully supporting the communities he serves. He continues to actively champion the highest levels of service delivery to First Nations and remote communities in Northern and Far North Queensland.

His inclusive leadership style manifests as two-way respect, empowering those around him to proceed with confidence and purpose, even when facing the most uncertain of circumstances. Superintendent Newton's genuine respect for people of all backgrounds has been the cornerstone of many successful projects, negotiations and positive outcomes for his local community.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Senior Sergeant George SHAND

Senior Sergeant George Shand commenced with the Queensland Police Service (QPS) on 11 March 1996 and was sworn in as a Police Officer on 28 June 1996. He commenced his career as a General Duties Officer at Mareeba then at the Clayfield and Hendra Police Stations. He has served as Case Officer, Crime and Misconduct Commission; Staff Officer, Ethical Standards; and Project Officer, Counter Terrorism Unit.

He is currently serving as Senior State Disaster Management Operations Officer, Disaster Management Unit. Since 2011 he has been integral to disaster related response activities, including his role as Command Coordinator, managing the State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC) on behalf of the Commander across 30 major disaster events.

During the COVID-19 pandemic he provided essential leadership and guidance for the whole-of-government effort to contain and prevent the spread of COVID-19 in Queensland. Senior Sergeant Shand was pivotal in ensuring SDCC were able to effectively plan and ensure the role of QPS, with support from the Australian Defence Force.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Detective Senior Sergeant Vanessa Jane WISEMAN

Detective Senior Sergeant Vanessa Wiseman commenced with the Queensland Police Service on 10 February 1992 and was sworn in as a Police Officer on 25 January 1993. She commenced her career as a General Duties Officer at the Brisbane City, Toowong, and the Burleigh Heads Police Stations.

In 1999, she commenced her career as an Investigator in the Gold Coast District, having served in the Criminal Investigation Branch, Child Protection and Investigation Unit, as the Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect Representative. She is currently the Officer in Charge of the Domestic, Family Violence and Vulnerable Persons Unit.

In all of her roles, she has mentored, educated, supported and motivated officers, in work environments that can pose physical and psychological challenges including child death, trauma and offences against vulnerable persons. In her varied roles, she has been actively engaged with government and non-government agencies with the focus on improving the safety, outcomes and opportunities for children and vulnerable members in the community.

She is very well respected in the Domestic, Family Violence and Vulnerable Persons' sector and her opinions and views are sought from a range of key executives across government and support organisations. Detective Senior Sergeant Wiseman has a genuine passion for the protection of vulnerable persons and is a leader in this field for Queensland.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Superintendent Bradley John WRIGHT

Superintendent Bradley Wright commenced with the Queensland Police Service (QPS) on 21 October 1985 and was sworn in as a Police Officer on 9 May 1986. He commenced his career as a General Duties Officer at the Brisbane City, Runaway Bay, Broadbeach and Palm Beach Police Stations.

He served as the Operations Manager for the Special Emergency Response Team and Explosive Ordnance Response Team and is currently the Operations Support Commander at the Specialist Response Group. He has made a significant contribution to QPS, and across government, in the areas of security, counter terrorism and emergency response. He has had longstanding involvement with the national security framework, including membership of Australia and New Zealand Counter Terrorism Committee forums, reviews and working groups. He has directed large counter terrorism exercises and has undertaken duties as a course director on various national courses.

In the 2011 flood event in the Lockyer Valley (Grantham), Queensland, he took command of a small group of police and volunteers and other onsite resources during the immediate aftermath of the first flood event in Grantham. He coordinated the rescue of over 100 people in distress, as well as the recovery of a number of deceased persons. His positive leadership and actions resulted in a range of positive mentions in the final report of the 2015 Grantham Floods Commission of Inquiry.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, he was Operations Commander, Strategic Command Group and Rapid Response Coordination, COVID-19 Command and Taskforce Sierra Linnet. He provided critical planning and coordination services for the QPS COVID-19 response. Superintendent Wright also led the Strategy and Coordination Team for the Queensland Vaccine Operations Coordinator, playing a pivotal role in ensuring success of the rollout of the Queensland Vaccination Program.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Western Australia

Detective Sergeant Jessica Amy CURLEY

Detective Sergeant Jessica Curley joined Western Australia Police Force in 2011 as a general duties officer working at various metropolitan stations, before becoming a detective in 2014. She is consistently recognised as an exceptional police officer and investigator, who clearly demonstrates persistence, integrity and outstanding investigative skills, investigating a number of complex fraud and sexual offences, going above and beyond targeting offenders and supporting vulnerable victims of crime.

Detective Sergeant Curley has been an integral part of many complex investigations for fraud and extortion offences and was selected to lead an investigation into a known public figure who was thereafter convicted of various fraud related offences which attracted considerable media attention.

Detective Sergeant Curley was an inaugural member of a new specialist unit created to investigate serious organised crime. She helped develop a number of new enforcement strategies and worked alongside state, national and international agencies to identify individuals or groups who were conducting criminal activities in Western Australia. She was instrumental in developing new methods of identifying the use of Dedicated Encrypted Communication Devices by serious criminal groups to facilitate their illegal activities. These investigations have resulted in numerous significant seizures of cash and drugs at the Western Australia border.

Detective Sergeant Curley's innovative investigation techniques and use of new technology has enabled her to successfully charge an offender with over 80 sexual related offences. She maintained an objective approach to investigate the allegations whilst continuing to support the physical and emotional wellbeing of all the traumatised victims.

Detective Sergeant Curley has made significant contributions to the Western Australia Police Force with her specialised investigative knowledge and dedication and is a worthy recipient of the Australian Police Medal.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Detective Superintendent Gordon James FAIRMAN

Detective Superintendent Gordon Fairman joined the Western Australia Police Force in 1988 and throughout his career he has served in various frontline areas and specialist units across the State of Western Australia. In 2021, he was promoted to the rank of Superintendent and is currently at Sex Crime Division. He is responsible for the management and coordination of the Division's investigative and operational response to serious sexual offences.

As the Head of Faculty of Operational Skills at the Western Australian Police Academy in 2015, he developed a training program to improve the skills of frontline officers to respond to active shooter incidents. From 2018 to 2019, he was the Assistant District Officer for the Wheatbelt District and responsible for the management of 11 regional police stations. He drove operational and community engagement efforts and contributed to significant reductions in reported crime and family violence and enhanced relationships with Aboriginal communities.

In 2019 he took up the position as the Assistant Divisional Officer at Serious and Organised Crime Division. He played an integral role in the disruption of organised crime networks responsible for the trafficking of illicit drugs and cash in Western Australia.

In December 2020, he was appointed as the initial Police Commander for Taskforce Ravello, in response to the high-profile public execution style murder of an Outlaw Motorcycle Gang (OMCG) member. He secured investigative, analytical and operational resources and implemented priority actions to disrupt and suppress further OMCG violence. Under his leadership, a high intensity operation targeting OMCG members commenced, resulting in the significant disruption of OMCG activities state-wide, providing reassurance to the community of Western Australia.

Over his 34-year career, he has made significant contributions to the Western Australia Police Force. Detective Superintendent Fairman's specialised knowledge and dedication to improving the investigative response of the Western Australia Police has had far reaching effects.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Assistant Commissioner Tony LONGHORN

Assistant Commissioner Tony Longhorn joined Western Australia Police Force in 1992 as a Cadet before working general duties in the metropolitan area and in various roles across the State, before becoming a detective in 2000, serving in detective offices and specialist units. He was promoted to Sergeant in 2007 and Senior Sergeant in 2011, serving in regional Western Australia as Officer in Charge of Police Stations and Geraldton Detectives, before promotion to Inspector in 2014.

In 2017, he led the Operational Restructure Program for the Metropolitan Region, successfully delivering the priority project objectives, including the initial development of eight new police districts. The project was delivered within challenging timeframes, requiring significant coordination with multiple internal and external stakeholders. He was promoted to the rank of Superintendent of Counter Terrorism and Emergency Management in 2018 and thereafter became the Detective Superintendent of Serious and Organised Crime Division until 2021, leading significant culture and structural change, increasing the capabilities and operational efficiencies of the division.

He implemented numerous successful investigative strategies which resulted in the seizure of 54 million dollars, 9 trucks, and 339kg of methamphetamine, which has been the largest seizure of illicit cash within Australia. Several high-profile offenders based throughout Australia were arrested due to his innovative methodologies and realigned focus, playing an integral role in disrupting organised crime and reducing the supply of illicit drugs into Western Australia.

In November 2020, he was appointed the Chair of National Taskforce Morpheus, coordinating state and commonwealth agencies to disrupt and combat the threat of outlaw motorcycle gangs, establishing effective partnerships with international and national law enforcement ensuring the safety of the Western Australia community.

Assistant Commissioner Longhorn is widely recognised for his significant contributions to the Western Australia Police Force and many achievements, and is considered a worthy recipient of the Australian Police Medal.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Inspector Jonathan Richard MUNDAY

Inspector Jonathan Munday began his policing career with Western Australia Police Force in 1989 and served throughout Western Australia in a range of general duties roles, before becoming a detective in 2001 serving in various detective offices and specialist units.

After promotion to Detective Sergeant in 2006 and Senior Sergeant in 2010, he again served in various regional areas now as Officer in Charge of police stations and detectives offices. He was promoted in 2021 and is now the Crime and Investigations Support Inspector at Mid-West-Gascoyne District. As Officer in Charge of Newman Police Station, he was regularly nominated as an outstanding officer and highly regarded by his peers and the local community, maintaining an excellent relationship and the respect of the traditional owners.

In October 2021, during the initial stages of Operation Rodia, he led and enabled a thorough investigation, quickly collating and leading his team, ensuring all investigations were conducted accurately and in a timely manner, also securing urgent assistance from local military and mining resources to assist the investigation and handover to specialist units.

In February 2022, he was deployed to Kimberley District as the Commander for Operation Regional Shield, created to respond to the escalation of juvenile offending and dangerous driving of stolen vehicles to deliberately target and collide with police vehicles, putting the lives of officers and the community at severe risk. He took control of significant internal and external pressures, developing and implementing new operational policies and procedures helped to arrest a large number of high-harm offenders. The processes and procedures he enabled are still in place today.

Inspector Munday's distinguished career with Western Australia Police Force, resulted in a number of successful outcomes to high-profile investigations, consistently exceeding expectations and is considered a worthy recipient of the Australian Police Medal.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

South Australia

Superintendent Guy BUCKLEY

Superintendent Guy Buckley joined South Australia Police (SAPOL) in 1983, initially serving in general duties roles before joining Special Tasks and Rescue (STAR) in 1989 where he served in various roles for 12 years.

Promoted to Inspector in 2002, he served as Officer in Charge of Emergency and Major Events Section before a promotion to Chief Inspector in 2006 when he commenced a six-year stint as Staff Officer to Commissioner Mal Hyde and Deputy Commissioner Gary Burns. Since then he has provided exemplary leadership to frontline operational members as Operations Manager and Officer in Charge of Holden Hill Local Service Area, and since 2018 as Officer in Charge of Northern District.

He has provided guidance, advice, direction and leadership to frontline staff during a period of significant organisational reform and has delivered a professional level of leadership and support to the Assistant Commissioner, Metropolitan Operations Service. He has consistently performed to a high standard leading a District with a significant number of staff and complex policing challenges. He has positively influenced countless frontline members in a challenging policing environment and been proactive in establishing positive and effective working relationships with local Members of Parliament and councils within Northern District. This has enabled SAPOL to work collaboratively with the community to reduce and prevent crime.

He has displayed innovation, with the trial of employing nurses in police custody facilities at Elizabeth now being a permanent feature in the metropolitan area. He has also shown an innate understanding of the impact of mental health demands on frontline operational police by working proactively and tirelessly to seek improvements in this critical area.

Superintendent Buckley's vast policing experience and renowned ability to provide strong, effective and positive leadership has delivered positive outcomes for staff and the public and been integral to SAPOL achieving safer communities.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Senior Sergeant Kylie-Marie ENGLAND

Senior Sergeant Kylie-Marie England joined South Australia Police (SAPOL) in 1993, commencing in general duties patrols at Port Adelaide. She has gained specialist operational policing experience through postings at Licensing and Gaming Advice Section, Child and Family Investigation Section, Communications Centre and Sexual Assault Unit. She also possesses broad organisational knowledge from roles within Recruiting Section and as a Grievance Resolution Officer and has acquired specialist police training experience through positions in Constable Development Unit and Learning and Development Services and as a Training and Development Coordinator.

Her extensive experience, achievements and expertise are primarily recognised within SAPOL's training environment where she supports frontline police by providing training that is rigorous, developmental and fit for purpose. This ensures frontline members are adequately trained to provide services to the community in times of emergency and disaster.

She consistently displays a high degree of professionalism and motivation. She leads by example and continually strives to positively impact those around her while displaying initiative, leadership and dedication to the training arena. She is highly respected by colleagues and renowned for her sense of purpose and collaborative approach.

She has been integral to the success of several significant corporate training projects. Her contribution to the implementation and facilitation of programs and innovations is extensive, demonstrating a sustained commitment to the development of both frontline and specialist personnel. She exhibits initiative, exemplary leadership and a sustained commitment to quality training and assessment outcomes evidenced through the delivery of substantial improvements to the design, development, coordination and management of training across SAPOL. Her outstanding dedication, work ethic, and in-depth knowledge of training and assessment requirements have ensured that recruit and in-service training is driven forward. Senior Sergeant England's significant contribution to teaching others has created a lasting legacy.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Senior Sergeant First Class Paul Joseph KAMENIAR

Senior Sergeant First Class Paul Kameniar joined South Australia Police (SAPOL) in 1988, initially serving in various operational roles before being promoted to Sergeant in 2001 and Senior Sergeant in 2003, both in Local Service Area intelligence positions.

He performed roles in Strategic Projects and Innovation, Intelligence and Planning, and Traffic Services before joining Health, Safety and Welfare Branch in 2018, where he now serves as Health and Wellbeing Coordinator. In this role he has been the primary driver and leader of the many programs the Branch has implemented to enhance the health and wellbeing of SAPOL's workforce.

He advocates tirelessly for initiatives and support for programs that improve the physical and mental health of employees due to the direct link between physical activity and people's physical and psychological wellbeing. He has been responsible for establishing a range of successful initiatives, most notably the Fitness Passport; Reconditioning Program; Operation Nutrition Support; My Health, My Wellbeing website; physical and mental health resilience training; and a network of Health and Wellbeing Officers. These have proven popular and instrumental in improving the overall health and wellbeing of SAPOL employees.

He is recognised for his innovation and development of best practice processes and systems that substantially contribute to enhancing SAPOL's effectiveness. He has devoted much time and effort researching best practice, and developing and implementing various programs to ensure SAPOL has a workforce that is operationally ready. His dedication and unquestionable focus on improving the physical and mental health of SAPOL employees is vitally important as staff adapt to the significant effects of COVID-19 on their lives. Senior Sergeant First Class Kameniar's leadership, strong drive, and desire to improve employees' health and wellbeing has directly contributed to the overall health of the organisation and its capacity to provide effective service delivery to the community.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Tasmania

Senior Constable Kelly Anne CORDWELL

Senior Constable Kelly Cordwell joined Tasmania Police in 1998. She is an investigator within Crash Investigation Services, a position she has held for 15 years. Upon commencement in this role, she was the only woman to work in this service for Tasmania Police. Her reputation in this field is widely recognised, not just within Tasmania Police, but also the judiciary, where she has been acknowledged by the Supreme Court of Tasmania as an expert witness for over 10 years. She has actively sought professional development to enhance her skills and knowledge as a crash investigator.

Her role is exceptionally challenging. She has attended fatal and serious crashes as an investigator for the past 15 years. These crashes are often traumatic and graphic, with loss of life frequently encountered. She has spent many years recalled to duty at all hours, with very short notice to attend serious or fatal crashes. Following attendance at the scenes and undertaking the relevant technical assessments that are required, She is also responsible for communicating with the families of crash victims. This requires her to possess high level interpersonal skills and empathy.

Her knowledge, skills and experience in assessing crashes are critical in ensuring comprehensive information is provided for coronial matters, or to prosecutors when criminal charges are pursued. She has given evidence in numerous high profile crash matters which has ultimately led to convictions, and is well regarded and respected as an expert witness.

Senior Constable Cordwell is highly regarded throughout Tasmania Police for sharing her unique knowledge of crash investigation with her colleagues, her technical skills and her dedication and ownership of a sensitive role for the past 15 years.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Inspector John Gerard TOOHEY

Inspector John Toohey has excelled at the rank of Inspector and as a leader across the organisation and government. This was evidenced in his first year at the rank where he was tasked with overseeing the State COVID Police Operations Centre in April 2020. This work involved ensuring the resources of Tasmania Police were coordinated, prepared, informed, and connected to other government departments during the height of the pandemic to enable effective policing response and services to the Tasmanian community. It also required significant coordination and oversight of police resources into hotel quarantine and border control duties at Tasmania's airports, including regular liaison with other government agencies.

He was an outstanding leader of Tasmania Police during the COVID response, taking control to ensure that all members remained safe, and stayed informed, organised and aware of what was required of them during the pandemic. He was a key driver in providing COVID-specific guidance for police officers at a time when there was information fatigue not only within the organisation, but also the broader community. He was proactive in ensuring police received information on charging and police legislative powers, police responsibilities under the Emergency Management Act 2006 and Public Health Act 1997 and the availability and appropriate use of Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment. Inspector Toohey was also a key driver in providing innovative and engaging regular question and answer videos for police officers, which were well received by the work force.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Commander Stuart Adrian WILKINSON

Commander Stuart Wilkinson joined Tasmania Police in 1993 and has worked in general duties and specialised areas across each of the three geographic districts of Tasmania during his career. He provides well informed executive leadership and direction at district and agency level, ensuring the delivery of quality policing and emergency services to Tasmanians.

He assumed control of Western Police District during the response to the state of emergency declared in March 2020. A COVID outbreak at the North West Regional Hospital resulted in additional directions and the limiting of movement and activities of people in the community. Significant impacts were experienced across the region with the closure of critical medical facilities and the quarantining of thousands of people.

He provided high-level strategic advice to the State Emergency Management Controller and State Police Operations Commander to ensure the effective command, control and coordination arrangements during the COVID-19 pandemic. He also coordinated and led a regional multi-agency response to support Public Health to meet their strategic objectives and priorities.

He ensured clear and consistent communication to key leaders as well as leadership and reassurance to the community and members of Tasmania Police during the COVID response. He delivered comprehensive strategic planning and response activities while engaging with key stakeholders, providing strategic advice to support activities in the transition to recovery.

Since December 2020, he has been in charge of the Northern Police District and effectively led the area through the next stage of the pandemic response. Commander Wilkinson continues to lead and innovate, facilitating significant organisational change, including recently, the implementation of safe staffing levels as well as the restructure of Launceston Division and Northern District Road Policing Services to provide high level policing activities to the Northern District and the many communities within it.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Northern Territory

Senior Sergeant Shaun Rodney FURNISS

Senior Sergeant Shaun Furniss has worked on the frontline for over 33 years having joined the Northern Territory Police Force in 1988. He has had an extensive and diverse policing career serving in a vast range of locations and positions throughout the Territory.

After graduating, he worked in general duties in Alice Springs for four years before transferring to Hermannsburg, Harts Range and then to Brevet Sergeant at the Ti Tree Police station. In 1999 he transferred to Casuarina Police Station to work as the officer in charge of the, then, Casuarina Juvenile Crime Unit, investigating high volume property crime. He was promoted to Sergeant in 2002 and served in Territory Communications before returning to his true passion of frontline policing in 2005, working as Patrol Sergeant, Relieving Officer in Charge of the Casuarina Police Station and Watch Commander for the next 9 years.

While in these roles, he was well regarded and highly respected as a leader who was diligent, hardworking and focussed on officer welfare.

He was promoted to Senior Sergeant as a Darwin Watch Commander in 2014, and then transferred back to Alice Springs in 2017 to become the Southern Watch Commander. It was in this role that his wealth of operational, remote policing and people management skills shone brightly. His mentoring, supervising, developing and people focussed leadership significantly benefited the largely junior workforce, teaching best practice refined over decades of frontline experience.

In 2021 he commenced as the Officer in Charge of Southern Desert Division. Having served at three of the remote stations within the division, his skills, local knowledge and vast operational and remote experience has helped drive the division from strength to strength. Senior Sergeant Furniss is highly trusted and respected by both the officers he leads and the community members and stakeholders he engages.

AUSTRALIAN POLICE MEDAL (APM)

Superintendent Peter Edward MALLEY

Superintendent Peter Malley has worked for the Northern Territory Police Force for over 20 years. He first served as a Police Officer with the Victoria Police for 11 years, working mostly in criminal investigations. He joined the Northern Territory Police Force in 2001 and was posted to Alice Springs, where he worked in general duties and the Alice Springs Criminal Investigation Branch before being transferred to Northern Investigations in Darwin and then the Special Operations Sections in 2004.

He progressed through the ranks to become Senior Sergeant and the Officer in Charge of the Special Operations Section (SOS). While working in the SOS, his experience and leadership came to the forefront. His dedication to dismantling organised crime was instrumental in the success achieved by the SOS. In particular he led Operation Thorium, an investigation into a transnational organised crime syndicate which led to 20 arrests and the seizure of over 8 million dollars in drugs and assets.

In 2011, he transferred back to Alice Springs Police Station where he returned to uniform duties as the Watch Commander before returning to the Alice Springs Criminal Investigation Branch. In both roles his extensive investigative experience enabled him to mentor and develop junior frontline members and provide them with advice and direction.

He was promoted to Superintendent in 2021 and currently manages Palmerston and Road Policing. Since commencing in this role, he has rebuilt community confidence and developed a culture that embraces professionalism. Superintendent Malley is committed to operational policing and is passionate about helping his people and serving the community.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

New South Wales

Mr Bruce William ANGEL, Tarcutta NSW 2652

Mr Bruce Angel joined the Tarcutta Rural Fire Brigade in 1968. He was elected Deputy Captain in 2001, a role he fulfilled until his election as Captain in 2003. He is a skilled firefighter, strike team leader, incident controller and Incident Management Team member. He is often a first responder to many motor vehicle accidents and incidents on the Hume Highway.

He demonstrates great leadership to his own Brigade and others in the Riverina Group 8, incorporating the brigades of Humula, Oberne Creek, Tarcutta and Umbango-Oberne. His 2012 election as Group Captain was a reflection of the respect for him in the Rural Fire Service (RFS) community. His fellow volunteers place their trust in him to represent his peers on the Senior Management Team and Service Level Agreement Committee and at Group Officer and Captains meetings.

He has attended numerous incidents during his 54 years of service and his wealth of local knowledge has been invaluable in protecting Tarcutta and the surrounding communities. His leadership as the incident controller when the Dunns Road fire started in January 2020 and his subsequent efforts as Divisional Commander are to be commended. The knowledge he provided on the ground and was able to relay to the Incident Management Team was instrumental in determining incident action plans.

A professional, dedicated and selfless volunteer for more than half a century, Mr Angel is a very worthy recipient for the Australian Fire Service Medal.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mrs Jennifer Gaye BAMMAN, Moruya NSW 2537

Mrs Jennifer Bamman joined the Surf Beach Rural Fire Brigade after a major fire impacted the area in January 1994. Consistently demonstrating exceptional leadership and achievement, she was awarded the Commissioner's Commendation for Service in 2001 in recognition of her commitment and involvement in District training and the development of junior brigades. She was awarded Life Membership in 2010.

She has held various operational and administrative roles since 1997, including Deputy Captain, Senior Deputy and Brigade Captain, and in 2013 became one of the first female Group Officers elected for the Far South Coast District and Region. She remains in this position, as well as fulfilling the roles of permit officer, Incident Management Team officer, Far South Coast Training Team and Senior Management Team member.

She has multiple qualifications across all facets of operational activities, willingly sharing her knowledge and experience with others. She has contributed to the Far South Coast Training Team as an instructor, course coordinator and assessor. One of the first female Compressed Air Breathing Apparatus (CABA) operators on the Far South Coast, she is committed to volunteer development and capability and is heavily involved in the provision of CABA and Advanced Structural Firefighting training for volunteers who travel to Mogo for training.

She has been instrumental in the development of junior brigade members, guiding these future Rural Fire Service (RFS) volunteers and preparing them for competition at the state level. With extensive Incident Management experience, she has led multiple Strike Teams to incidents across the state. During Bushfires 2019-20, she served as Divisional Commander for the devastating Currowan and Clyde Mountain fires for numerous days while her own family and friends were under threat.

Mrs Bamman dedication and professionalism have earned the respect of her fellow RFS members and make her a worthy recipient for the award of the Australian Fire Service Medal.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Peter BULLIMAN, Young NSW 2594

Mr Peter Bulliman joined the Boara Brigade of the New South Wales Rural Fire Service (RFS) in 1982 and has held positions of Deputy Captain, Senior Deputy Captain, Captain, Brigade Training Officer and Brigade President. For a number of years, he has operated as a volunteer at the Harden Fire Control Centre, providing a high level of customer service to members and the community.

As Group Captain for the South West Slopes Zone, he displays compassion and professionalism while representing volunteers within the Senior Management Team and Rural Fire Service Association Consultative Committee, encouraging growth in the organisation at all levels. His leadership has transformed Boara from a relatively inactive brigade into one relied upon for incident response and support, with diverse membership.

He has been a driving force in developing the capability of the South West Slopes Zone, which now has a solid core of volunteers capable of Remote Area Firefighting and two brigades with Breathing Apparatus capability. As a firm believer in sharing knowledge at all levels and an instructor for most training courses across the Zone, he maintains a level of course consistency, while also maintaining his knowledge of new advances and techniques.

He maintains his operational capability, responding to fires and other emergencies locally, as well as further afield. He is an integral part of the Zone Duty roster of personnel responsible for co-ordinating the response to emergencies and is developing his capability to act as a Duty Officer. Mr Bulliman's consistency, integrity and commitment to achieving the best outcomes and his high level of community service make him a worthy recipient of the Australian Fire Service Medal.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Warren James CREE OAM, Belrose NSW 2085

Mr Warren Cree has a longstanding personal and family commitment to the New South Wales Rural Fire Service (RFS), with his father, mother, brother, wife and children all involved as RFS volunteers and salaried officers.

He followed his father into the Davidson Brigade as soon as he was able at age 16 in 1986. By the age of 18, he was as an active, experienced member and elected Deputy Captain. He served in that capacity for 12 years, attending many fires and other incidents, leading training and engaging the community. He was elected as Senior Deputy Captain in 2000 and as Captain in 2002. Re-elected to that position for five terms until 2007, he was elected as a Deputy Group Captain and then Group Captain in 2020, a position he still holds.

He has earned the trust and gratitude of volunteers and staff in the Northern Beaches District and further afield through his operational, training, community engagement and administrative efforts. He has managed many local fires as Incident Controller, Operations Officer, and Logistics Leader and most recently on multiple deployments during Bushfires 2019-20. He also has been selected as a Strike Team Leader on interstate deployment to Western Australia.

He contributes countless hours to district brigade meetings, Cadets and District training initiatives. An advanced structure firefighting and breathing apparatus principal trainer, he is also particularly committed to volunteer welfare, helping many individuals through difficult times, including after the Black Summer fires. A member of the Northern Beaches District Advisory Committee, Senior Management Team, Bush Fire Management Committee and the Area Command Engagement Group, he promotes the New South Wales RFS at every opportunity and makes himself available for any member around the clock.

Mr Cree's commitment to the RFS, the Northern Beaches District, his fellow volunteers and the community is of the highest standard and makes him a worthy recipient of the Australian Fire Service Medal.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Stephen Alan HIRST, East Ballina NSW 2478

Mr Stephen Hirst commenced with Fire and Rescue New South Wales (FRNSW) in 1984 in the trades section, transitioning to a firefighter four years later. He has dedicated his career to enhance the safety of communities during that time and played a significant role in the prevention, preparedness and response requirements of FRNSW from his first day of service.

He has moved across many roles within FRNSW, from working in the electrical trades, to a proactive firefighter, a Breathing Apparatus and Hazmat Instructor, Senior Instructor in regional areas, progressing to a Station Officer, Duty Commander, Zone Commander and is currently an Area Commander/Chief Superintendent. He has played a significant role in many major emergencies both locally and internationally. Spanning back to the Thredbo Landslide in 1997, where he was the rescuer who located Stuart Diver. He also responded to the Japan Earthquake and Tsunami in March of 2011, followed by six weeks in Washington State in the United States of America as a Strike Team Leader fighting horrendous bushfires.

During the Bushfires 2019-20 he planned and committed strike teams to deploy from region west to the east coast of New South Wales. He spent countless hours planning, communicating and leading the deployment of the strike teams. During 2022 he played a lead role in FRNSW's response and recovery to the Northern Rivers floods. His own home and family became isolated and impacted by the floods and regardless of his own personal situation he carried on over the following months leading and managing FRNSW deployment needs, as well as recovery from the flood emergency and business as usual.

Over the last 39 years, Mr Hirst's contribution has been in the finest tradition of FRNSW and he has gone above and beyond the call of duty to ensure the communities of New South Wales and internationally have been given the best possible emergency service.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Ms Belinda Gai HOOKER, Beacon Hill NSW 2100

Ms Belinda Hooker was appointed to Fire and Rescue New South Wales (FRNSW) in January 1996 and has made a significant and distinguished career benefiting FRNSW. Her generous nature, passion for decency, equality and dedication directly impact and influences firefighters capabilities and provides a demonstrated example for those who wish to pursue a career within FRNSW.

She has progressed through the FRNSW ranks from recruit to Inspector and has been an example to all firefighters. She is aware of the significance of her achievements and is generous in providing leadership to other female firefighters, both through her direct achievements, and as a mentor to others seeking assistance. She values diversity and inclusion and leads by example within this field. Her leadership and behaviours acknowledge varied views to provide a more beneficial outcome to FRNSW in representing the community that it serves. She believes everyone has the right to feel included in the workplace, and through her involvement in the Women's Inclusive Network and FRNSW Sports Association, her aim is always to be proactive to improve organisational culture.

She has had a diversified career filling several key operational and non-operational roles during her extensive service to the community of New South Wales. She has spent time in education and training, operational safety, capability as a research officer and building fire safety where she was the team leader and research project officer for the cladding task force, enhancing FRNSW building fire safety for the New South Wales Government.

She is an engaged professional with an ability to provide strategic direction in the implementation and delivery of professional development programs in the FRNSW Education and Training Directorate. With exemplified leadership over 70 Officers and 75 Senior Officers have been successful in reaching their potential. She maintains her operational capability and continues to contribute to frontline duties including leading Strike Teams during Bushfires 2019-20 and floods, as a multi operational liaison and strategic safety officer, and during Urban Search and Rescue humanitarian disaster response exercises and incidents.

With a passion and significant experience in Incident Management training, Ms Hooker strives to enhance stakeholder engagement in the Emergency Management Sector and creates multi-agency training opportunities.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Deputy Commissioner Peter Matthew McKECHNIE, Jiliby NSW 2259

Deputy Commissioner Peter McKechnie joined Narara Rural Fire Brigade as a volunteer firefighter in 1994, moving through the ranks to become Deputy Captain and Captain, as well as Deputy Group Captain for the Gosford District.

With a passion for the development of operational capabilities, he mentored and trained brigade members, as well as leading local firefighting responses across the Central Coast and further afield. Becoming a salaried officer of the New South Wales Rural Fire Service (RFS) in 2002, he has provided exemplary service and been instrumental in the organisation's strategic management, leadership and operations. He has held roles including Director Area Operations, Manager State Operations and Aviation and District Manager before his appointment as Deputy Commissioner, Field Operations in 2021.

He has been deployed to major fires and other emergencies in New South Wales, interstate and overseas as an Incident Controller, Major Incident Coordinator and State Operations Controller, leading Australian deployments to the United States of America and Canada to assist local firefighting authorities. He has also represented the service as part of international programs to support and inform fire services in Singapore, Indonesia and the United States of America. He has maintained his skills and qualifications and is able to be deployed operationally if required.

Throughout the devastating Bushfires 2019-20 (Black Summer), he regularly filled the role of State Operations Controller, responsible for co-ordinating firefighting operations, resources and emergency warnings across the state. He oversaw the response to an unprecedented 17 bush fires at an Emergency Warning level on 8 November 2019, a situation never before experienced in New South Wales. He was also deployed to fire grounds to support firefighters and incident management teams.

He has been responsible for overseeing the development of the RFS centralised dispatch system, modernising the way in which brigades are responded to emergencies. Deputy Commissioner McKechnie is a leader focused on the ability of members to safely deliver quality services to protect the community and a worthy recipient of the Australian Fire Service Medal.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Maurice William McMILLEN, NSW 2795

Mr Maurice McMillen has been a member of the New South Wales Rural Fire Service (RFS) for 48 years, joining the Eglinton Brigade in 1974. Currently holding the elected position of Group Captain, his leadership ensures local brigades are ready to respond to emergencies.

For almost three decades, he has contributed to the after-hours emergency call out system, often dispatching fire and emergency service vehicles on weekends and late into the evening. His leadership has contributed to Eglinton Brigade's many successes, raising funds for the brigade's needs. His commitment to the brigade has seen him hold all field positions, and President. He was awarded Eglinton Brigade's first life membership in July 2022.

He has earned great respect from the brigades within his group and the wider membership base of the Chifley/Lithgow Zone. He can be relied upon to assist in emergencies, including leading strike teams to fires and storm emergencies in Sydney, Coonabarabran, Pilliga, Blue Mountains and Bombala. During 2019-2020, he was an Incident Management Team (IMT) operations officer and led strike teams to the Gospers Mountain fires.

During the 2013 State Mine fire, with all staff committed to the IMT, he and his wife Barbara kept the Chifley Fire Control Centre office open to support local volunteers, organising day/night shift strike teams, issuing equipment and keeping the members safe and organised. He received the Commissioners Certificate of Commendation in 2016 in recognition. In 2021, he attended the North Coast Flood crisis as a strike team leader.

For 20 years, he has trained and mentored many members and passed on his knowledge and skills to members participating in the Zone Bi-annual Exercise. He was also Chairperson for Chifley Zone RFS Association (RFSA) for three terms, an alternate delegate for the RFSA State Council and member of the Chifley Senior Leadership Team and Zone Liaison Committee, and currently sits on the RFS/RFSA joint consultative committee.

He continues to be a strong and decisive leader of Chifley/Lithgow volunteers and represents the New South Wales RFS with integrity and professionalism. Mr McMillen is a worthy recipient of the Australian Fire Service Medal.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Assistant Commissioner Roger Henry MENTHA, Woollooware NSW 2230

Assistant Commissioner Roger Mentha has made an exemplary contribution to Fire and Rescue New South Wales (FRNSW) and its people during his 34 years of service. He has made significant contributions to training and education, particularly the development of future officers and now as Assistant Commissioner Education and Training he is leading the ongoing reform and development of the directorate.

His expertise and knowledge of firefighting has also been utilised to maximise the safety of firefighters particularly in the area of structural collapse. His operational expertise was also heavily drawn on throughout the Bushfire 2019-20 emergency where he had organisational wide responsibility for the allocation of firefighting resources.

He has maintained an operational focus, leading one of FRNSW's Incident Management Teams and responding to major incidents throughout New South Wales. This has included being the Incident Commander at complex multi-agency incidents such as responding to concerns about the structural stability of Opal Tower and having to evacuate hundreds of residents on Christmas Eve.

During his service with FRNSW, he has volunteered for many years with the New South Wales Fire Brigades Relief and Welfare Fund and he is currently the Senior Vice President. In his volunteer role with the Relief and Welfare Fund he has helped hundreds of his colleagues and their family members when they needed it most as they dealt with hardship and distress.

Consistently throughout his service with FRNSW Assistant Commissioner Mentha has displayed distinguished service and is a worthy recipient of the Australian Fire Service Medal.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Peter Charles RYAN, Dubbo NSW 2830

Mr Peter Ryan was appointed to Fire and Rescue New South Wales (FRNSW) in June 1972 and has since given over 50 years of exemplary service to FRNSW and the people of New South Wales.

He has been the backbone of Peer Support for FRNSW in Western Regional areas since 1996 giving up thousands of hours of his own time. He has provided support and coping strategies to countless numbers of emergency service staff and community members throughout New South Wales. Along with this he has provided service as the Deputy Captain at Dubbo since 1987, performing operational firefighting duties and attending a wide variety of emergency incidents both in the local area as well as to the wider New South Wales community during Bushfires, Floods and Hailstorm natural disasters.

He is highly regarded amongst all who know him in the community and within the FRNSW Peer Support Service, personnel throughout New South Wales are grateful for his dedication to helping others in their time of need. Mr Ryan's distinguished service is one to be revered spanning over a 50 year period helping out all who require it with no questions asked, all for the reward of being able to help people who may not be able to help themselves at that time.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Ms Kym Maree STANFORD, Mungindi NSW 2406

Ms Kym Stanford's leadership potential was soon recognised when she joined the Mungindi Rural Fire Brigade in 1995. She was elected Senior Deputy Captain in 1999 and elected Captain two years later. The fact that she has remained in that role for more than 20 years is testament to the high regard in which she is held by her Brigade.

In 2022, she shared a Rural Fire Service (RFS) Commissioner's Unit Citation for Service awarded to the Mungindi Brigade for its response to a large fire in the main street of Mungindi in September 2020 that destroyed the town's supermarket. She was instrumental in leading the RFS response and coordinating other emergency services from both New South Wales and Queensland, along with the community and business members who assisted.

In addition to her admirable long-term operational commitment, she has held the position of Brigade President since 2013, is a permit officer and as a trainer and assessor, has supported the establishment of new operational capabilities. She has led her Brigade to meet the changing needs of the New South Wales RFS and community, including qualifying as a Rescue Operator when the need arose for the Brigade to provide rescue capabilities for Mungindi and the surrounding area.

Her commitment to the New South Wales RFS and the community is consistently demonstrated through her effort, professionalism, leadership and selfless commitment to the values of the Service. Ms Stanford is an outstanding ambassador and worthy recipient for the Australian Fire Service Medal.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Craig WALTERS, NSW 2831

Mr Craig Walters joined the New South Wales Rural Fire Service (RFS) in February 1987 with the Elong Elong Brigade. He joined the Wongarbron Brigade as a dual member in 2015. He has held many positions including Secretary, Permit Officer and Training Officer, Deputy Captain, Senior Deputy Captain and Captain for six years. He has held the position of Group Captain since his election in 2016 and was also elected as the Chair of the Orana Team's Senior Management Committee.

A pro-active operational member, he has been deployed to major incidents locally, across New South Wales and interstate in locations such as Tasmania, the Blue Mountains and Northern Tablelands as a Brigade Captain, Strike Team Coordinator and Sector and Divisional Commander. Whenever available, he will assist in Incident Management Teams. He is committed to training, regularly serves as a course instructor and is a strong supporter of the area's inter-brigade Black Snake Competition.

He has been an advocate for the needs and interests of rural industries, landholders and communities, delivering seminars for new staff members undertaking the RFS Operational Officer Training program on the expectations of volunteers living in Western New South Wales and combating grassland fires. With an understanding from a farmer's perspective and experience as a Divisional Commander, he has also been involved in the development of the Farm Fire Unit project and was instrumental in delivering the Secondary School Cadet Program to schools in the Dubbo area in the program's initial phases. As a member of the Elong Elong Brigade, he assisted in the development of the Neighbourhood Safer Place.

He has served the New South Wales RFS in the Orana District with distinction for 35 years and embodies the finest attributes of Australian volunteerism. Mr Walters is a worthy recipient of the Australian Fire Services Medal.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Victoria

Mr Mark Robert CARTLEDGE, Ballarat East VIC 3350

Mr Mark Cartledge has held numerous positions since January 1992 which span over 30 years. With resolute and loyal service, he has held positions with the Country Fire Authority (CFA) such as 1st Lieutenant, 3rd Lieutenant, Captain and Specialist Response Team Leader within the Ballarat Fire Brigade, and currently holds the position of Captain at the Brigade.

He is committed to having the best trained and equipped members possible, and his operational leadership, commitment and dedication to the Rescue Unit has been instrumental in increasing awareness of road trauma. In 2018, he received a CFA Chief Officers Letter of Commendation following his response to a serious collision involving a CFA vehicle, which left two firefighters trapped and seriously injured.

He has shown great leadership skills at incidents and has a very level-headed approach to any circumstances that may arise in an operational leadership activity. He is always willing to work alongside all emergency services personnel at incidents, to ensure that the best outcome is achieved. Under his leadership, the operational members of the Ballarat Fire Brigade respond to fire calls, motor vehicle accidents, strike teams and other incidents to assist neighbouring brigades when required, and also interstate when the needs arise.

The greatest contribution he has made to the brigade, and what has defined his Captaincy, was his and the brigade's response to historic abuse incidents that occurred in the brigade in the 1980's. He worked tirelessly with the survivors and victims of the abuse across multiple stakeholders to achieve positive outcomes. These outcomes would not have occurred without his strong leadership. As a result, the CFA signed up to the Redress Scheme and the Working with Children Check became mandatory.

Mr Cartledge also holds the competencies and skill sets of Burn Controller, Strike Team Leader, and Sector Commander.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Guy Thomas McCrorie, Maidstone VIC 3012

Mr Guy McCrorie has over 35 years of passionate service and continues to improve fire safety within Victorian's diverse communities. Joining the Melbourne Fire Brigade (MFB) in April 1986, he was promoted to Station Officer in 1991, Senior Station Officer in 2003 and commencing in his current role as Commander in 2010.

He has demonstrated prolonged and exceptional service in the Emergency Management sector, including as an Incident Controller at large structural fires and Hazmat Incidents. He has attended major campaign fires as an operational firefighter and also held senior positions in Level 3 Incident Control Centres.

His commitment and dedication to multicultural communities is held in high regard amongst many leaders and people of influence in these communities within the suburbs of Melbourne. Never wavering, his approach to develop and deliver home fire safety messaging through varying treatments has seen other Emergency service agencies follow the lead, adopt and implement these approaches within Melbourne's growing multicultural communities.

As representative for the State Prison Fire and Emergency Management Committee, he works tirelessly and continuously with numerous government departments and organisations to ensure that they are prepared for an emergency event within their respective facilities but also in the preventative measures, for example, tamper proof sprinkles in juvenile detention centres.

Mr McCrorie's ongoing commitment, dedication and support for staff, persons in custody and or in detention, and vulnerable members of our community is commendable.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Neil Leslie MARSHALL, Rosanna VIC 3084

Mr Neil Marshall has provided operational service for over 60 years and has been a distinguished contributor to the Country Fire Authority (CFA) from the Brigade, Group, Region, Board, and up to National levels.

Commencing in December 1960, he has held a number of roles from Firefighter, Communications Officer, and Fire Spotter to Community Safety Coordinator. He is a life member of the Pantom Hill Fire Brigade and is a veteran of major fire events including Ash Wednesday in 1983, Alpine fires of 2003 and Black Saturday in 2009.

As Deputy Executive Chairman, he played a key part in the introduction and documentation of the Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System and processes which are now used nationwide. He demonstrated significant leadership in the establishment of the Pantom Hill Firefighters Welfare Trust that raised donations and provided on-going support to the families of the Pantom Hill firefighters who lost their lives on Ash Wednesday. As a founding member of District 14 Head Quarters East Brigade, he provides his extensive knowledge and experience to the Brigade as well as providing significant support to the Brigade's online training sessions for volunteers throughout Victoria.

Through his sheer breadth of service, knowledge and experiences as well as his modest demeanour, he has diligently served the State of Victoria and the community. Mr Marshall's leadership and support for the introduction of several innovative changes within the CFA have made a significant contribution to the CFA's ability to protect life and property.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Anthony Gerard O'DAY, Pascoe Vale South VIC 3044

Mr Anthony O'Day has dedicated himself to service improvement within the fire service for more than 30 years, demonstrating his strong commitment to the health and wellbeing of firefighters.

He commenced as a junior volunteer with the Country Fire Authority (CFA) in 1984, before becoming a career firefighter in 1993. He is an endorsed Level 3 Operations Officer and has attended many significant incidents throughout his career, including the devastating Black Saturday bushfires in 2009.

He has performed the role of Level 3 Incident Controller at numerous incidents and is an endorsed Regional Controller. He performed this role across the state during numerous emergencies, notably the Gippsland fires of 2019 on repeated rotations. He continues to respond to Alarm of Fire. He was promoted to Assistant Chief Officer Emergency Medical Response (EMR) and Wellbeing, where he introduced the highly effective EMR capability and led the introduction of a range of wellbeing programs, including CFA's career firefighter Peer Support Program.

He joined Fire Rescue Victoria (FRV) in July 2020 as Assistant Chief Fire Officer Interoperability and has been pivotal in successful change management by bringing together the cultures, operational doctrine, and relationships of career firefighters from CFA and the former Metropolitan Fire Brigade. He has consistently displayed exceptional leadership qualities and has been acknowledged for his support and development of both career and volunteer brigades.

Mr O'Day has made a significant contribution to the fire and emergency service sector, undertaking extended periods as Acting Deputy Chief Officer in CFA and Acting Deputy Commissioner in FRV.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Michael John ROWE, Cape Clear VIC 3351

Mr Michael Rowe is recognised for his long and exemplary service of 41 years with the Country Fire Authority (CFA). He became a member of Clunes Brigade in 1981 as a teenager, alongside his father. In 1989 he transferred to the Cape Clear Rural Fire Brigade and was an active and keen firefighter at Clunes and is currently still at Cape Clear. After holding various lieutenant positions, he was elected Cape Clear Captain in 2010.

As a Captain, he has provided leadership and inspired others. As a Strike Team Leader, he has protected his crews in dangerous fire events including during Bushfires 2019-20 (Black Summer). He has responded to fires throughout Victoria, as well as events in New South Wales and South Australia.

The Cape Clear Brigade has a history of roadside burning for community protection. He acknowledged this and developed strategies and techniques to make it safer and more productive. As a talented communicator he was happy to share this knowledge widely and using his learnings, he penned a book 'The Art of Roadside Burning' in 2015. He has helped brigades and members who had stopped roadside burning, to relearn the skills, and by taking part in the CFA Planned Burn Taskforce.

He instigated the Women's Burn Days in 2019 for women to learn, share and experience these skills within a safe and encouraging environment. This is now an annual and unique event which has drawn widespread acclaim, with ongoing benefits to the hundreds of participants.

Mr Rowe is passionate about protecting his community and by using and sharing his knowledge of controlled burning, he has created a mindset change within brigades and the wider CFA community with those who have benefitted from his passion and knowledge, stand by in saluting him.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Robert Kenneth SMALL, Ferntree Gully VIC 3156

Mr Robert Small has dedicated a large proportion of his life to the vision, mission and values of the Country Fire Authority (CFA). Commencing in September 1974, his 47 years of distinguished service in numerous roles as Captain, Senior Operational Manager, Community Liaison, Innovator, Designer and Trainer, has positioned him as a leader with an astonishing depth of knowledge and the respect of all who work with him.

His conspicuous achievements on the fire ground and at the design table include leadership and management at some of Australia's most significant fire events. His understanding of fire science and the ways the CFA employ its equipment to fight fires is well respected. His ingenuity and involvement in design of appliances like the Medium Pumper program and key equipment designs has had immeasurable benefit to the safety of firefighters and the community all over Australia.

His guidance in design and implementation of vehicle and procedural innovations has improved the efficiency and safety of CFA members and has always shown exemplary leadership at a Brigade, Group and District level. Dedicated to training and development of CFA members, he is always available to support anyone who needs assistance or guidance. He also holds the competencies and skills sets of Crew Leader Wildfire, Strike Team Leader Wildfire, Structure Wildfire Firefighter, and Crew Leader Structure.

His provision of dedicated and informed leadership is supported by his renowned commitment to the safety of all firefighters. Mr Small's extraordinary service to our community, state and country is deeply appreciated and a worthy recipient of this award.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Kenneth John STUART, Clifton Creek VIC 3875

Mr Kenneth Stuart joined the Mount Taylor Fire Brigade in March 1967 and has given over 55 years of service to the Country Fire Authority (CFA) and community, including 20 years as Captain of Mount Taylor Fire Brigade. His leadership took this large and active Brigade to a new level. The Brigade received Victoria's first Special Recognition Award from the CFA Board, primarily for its role in assisting communities devastated by fires, but also for its work in fire prevention and community protection.

In late 2019, major fires were burning to the north and east of the brigade area. He was influential in undertaking back burns to try and meet this threat, leading a strike team during the construction of a 42km burn, over seven days. The majority of this firebreak held, preventing the Barmouth fire moving south toward the populated areas around Bairnsdale.

His influence extends far beyond that of a single brigade. He was instrumental in supporting the Omeo community during and after fires, and in arranging for a Mount Taylor Brigade owned light tanker to be donated to Omeo Brigade. His expertise in fuel reduction, construction of firebreaks and back burning is widely credited with preventing the 2007 Alpine fires reaching the heavily populated areas around Bairnsdale and reducing the impact of the 2020 fires on these areas.

His passion is serving his community. Mr Stuart's work and leadership in reducing the impact of fires on the East Gippsland, and in assisting the recovery of those affected has been outstanding.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Queensland

Mr Robin Paul BONIWELL, Ormiston QLD 4160

Mr Robin Boniwell has demonstrated exemplary service to his community for over 28 years (11 in the United Kingdom and 17 in Australia). He joined the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) in 2006.

As a Senior Operational Fire and Rescue Officer, he is regularly deployed to operational command roles to coordinate and control large-scale bushfire events, and other emergency responses, including floods, cyclones and hazardous incidents.

He has demonstrated excellence in frontline service delivery through multiple avenues and for several major disaster events as a Specialist Rescue Swiftwater and Urban Search and Rescue Technician. He has also served as the QFES State Operations Centre State Coordinator and Queensland State Disaster Coordination Centre Deputy Commander, leading the COVID-19 disaster management, and other natural hazard responses.

He is a proactive leader who continues to deliver quality and successful outcomes. He has built and developed incident management capabilities across the entire Northern Territory Police Fire and Emergency Services (NTPFES), and Papua New Guinea Fire Service (PNGFS). This included incident management training, upskilling and exercising. Mr Boniwell demonstrated exemplary leadership by upskilling hundreds of NTPFES and government emergency services practitioners. He was also engaged to lead and develop the Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System (AIIMS) throughout the PNGFS, enhancing community resilience and inter-operability.

He developed and led the QFES Workplace Conduct Branch, including establishing the Workplace Standards Advisor Network, a new Complaints Management System, the *Think.Say.Do* Program, and has led and implemented several workplace standards initiatives, including the publication of disciplinary outcomes, video vignettes, and research papers.

He was instrumental in progressing an initiative to engage and recruit 19 First Nations and female Auxiliary Firefighters on the culturally diverse Minjerrabah (North Stradbroke Island) and led a program to achieve the unprecedented categorisation of the QFES School of Fire and Emergency Services Training, as a registered Civil Aviation Safety Authority accredited training establishment. Mr Boniwell is also acknowledged for successfully enhancing the QFES organisational incident management capability, through his leadership, vision, and dedication.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mrs Lesley Charlotte BRAND, Brooweena QLD 4620

Mrs Lesley Brand has been serving the Queensland community since 1990. She has volunteered an enormous amount of time over the last 28 years, improving the Rural Fire Brigades Operational Support capability, with a particular focus on the welfare of the front-line firefighters and ensuring her community is informed, prepared and engaged.

Throughout her career, she has performed countless deployments undertaking the roles of Incident Controller, Logistics Officer, Liaison Officer, Firefighter, Volunteer Community Educator and Engagement Officer. She is a true community leader who is trusted, respected and acknowledged for her ethos and commitment to the brigade with both her local and broader community. She is also a volunteer community educator, driving community engagement in bushfire preparedness and prevention in bushfire-prone and impacted communities. She has also given countless hours to attend fire and flood incidents, community engagement and education activities, hazard reduction activities, and training.

She is passionate about supporting her local community and actively works to improve community resilience and defence for natural disasters. She has performed a key role in improving the Queensland Rural Fire Service's ability to deliver enhanced services through connection and cooperative efforts. Mrs Brand has demonstrated a high degree of initiative and devotion to her local community, the wider community of Queensland, and the Rural Fire Service.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Ian Maxwell FULTON

Mr Ian Fulton has been an operational Fire Officer for over 38 years, commencing his career with the Tasmanian Fire Service in 1984, then transitioning to Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) in 1997.

He has and continues to provide distinguished service to the Queensland community, where he has served with exemplary dedication and commitment to excellence in Fire and Rescue and in particular Road Crash Rescue (RCR) capabilities. He was instrumental in the introduction of the STABFAST vehicle stabilisation devices. Which is now a standard piece of equipment on all new frontline appliances, enhancing their safety and the safety of the casualty by immediately isolating any vehicle movement. He led the development and design of new techniques for the stabilisation system. These techniques have proven to be very efficient and effective and are now taught by QFES in RCR training.

He has held qualifications in technical rescue for QFES for 20 years and some of the highlights have been recognition for rescues, those being Ship Fires, Structure Fires, Road Crash Rescue and Swiftwater Rescues. Most recently, in 2018 he was awarded the Commissioner's Commendation of Notable Action for flood rescue of 42 people at the Big 4 Caravan Park Redlynch.

Some of his other key professional achievements and projects have been the development and trial of a Wellness Program in partnership with James Cook University.

He has contributed significantly to improving standards in the care of road crash casualties in Queensland. Mr Fulton's effective leadership, clear communication, and ability to coordinate the delivery of complex extrication processes, has provided considerable benefit to the Queensland community.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Western Australia

Mr Justin FOUREUR, Kinross WA 6028

Mr Justin Foureur has been building knowledge and skills for successful emergency rescues for over 15 years. He started as a bush fire volunteer in 1998 before moving to the role of career firefighter with the Royal Australian Air Force between 2002 and 2006. It was following his return from a Middle East deployment as part of the International Coalition Against Terror that he became engrossed in rescue techniques.

While working at the Welshpool Fire Station in 2010, he was selected for the Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) team. After attending a number of fires, natural hazard events and searches he rewrote and improved the Heavy Rescue course in 2013-14. His skills were also crucial at incidents, such as one exceptionally difficult heavy rescue in 2015. In 2016 he was appointed Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) Rescue Officer. He developed a three-tiered Trench Rescue training package for DFES, including facilitating the manufacture of specialised equipment needed for the task.

His comprehensive research of rescues, skills and knowledge played significant roles in the resolution of several trench incidents. In 2017, the successful rescue of a father and child from a trench, performed under his guidance, made global headlines. His pursuit of excellence in the field convinced him to attend a Trench Rescue Technician course in the United States of America in 2019, making him the only person in Australia qualified for the role under both countries' accreditation systems. Mr Foureur is currently a Senior Firefighter assigned to Welshpool Fire Station.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr George Robert GRANT, WA

Mr George Grant was inspired by his father to fight bushfires when he was 14 years old. This led him towards a lifetime of outstanding service to his local community. In 1963, he joined the Gingin West Volunteer Bush Fire Brigade, starting a 60-year career battling blazes and mentoring others on how to protect their districts.

During his tenure at Gingin he has held many positions, including Captain, Lieutenant, Fire Control Officer, and Deputy Bush Fire Control Officer, a role he relinquished in 2018 to give the young ones a go'. So diligent is he to the team that he had a service radio fitted to his work vehicle so he could carry out incident management operations. This strategy was particularly valuable when in 2015 the Shire of Gingin had two Level 2 incidents running simultaneously and he was not only a responder but a ground controller. He has also fought blazes outside his district, including 12-hour shifts battling the devastating 2021 Wooroloo fire.

In June 1987, he was presented with a Commendation for Brave Conduct for rendering assistance to another volunteer firefighter, which highlighted his high regard for safety of self and others during incidents. He has been a leader in his community through his dedication to service and care of others in his volunteer roles. Mr Grant's guidance has ensured the next generation of volunteer bush firefighters is well prepared for the task.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Peter Mark THOMAS, Bridgetown WA 6255

Mr Peter Thomas has attended many fire and rescue incidents over his 32 years of service, but it is his work in preparing others for emergency service tasks that has had a resounding impact on many Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) careers.

He commenced with the Rockingham Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service (VFRS) in 1990, serving at times as Captain. In 1994 he became a career firefighter, rising to the rank of Station Officer across Perth's south and Bunbury. In 2012 he was promoted to Area Manager of the Lower South West and coupled with his relocation to Bridgetown he quickly constructed programs to recruit and improve the skills of volunteers across the region.

He has organised a range of training and refresher courses to ensure the volunteers reach a professional level of performance and safety. He has also helped lift the recruitment of volunteers within the district. He is currently in the process of creating training videos on Road Crash Rescues, Hazmat and Structural Firefighting for the availability of all volunteers.

Four years ago he commenced the Emergency Services Cadet Program with Bridgetown Senior High School to introduce students to all services. During his tenure in regional Western Australia he has also attended a variety of incidents, including the 2016 Waroona bushfire, for which his service earned him the DFES Certificate of Distinction. In 2020 he received the National Emergency Medal after being deployed to help battle the devastating New South Wales bushfires. Mr Thomas remains a member of the Bridgetown VFRS.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

South Australia

Mr Joseph HANSEN, Prospect SA 5082

Mr Joseph Hansen joined the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) in 2007. He was promoted to the rank of Senior Firefighter in 2013 and then to Station Officer in 2017 and has maintained his operational training to enable deployment in the event of an emergency. He has served in an operational capacity at Adelaide, Elizabeth, and Prospect Fire Stations, as well as working in day-work on the Operational Training Relief crew. His significant frontline experience and training has greatly enabled his current position within the Special Operations Department as the Planning Officer with the MFS COVID Taskforce.

Throughout the pandemic, he has led the MFS COVID-19 Taskforce that reports directly to the Chief Officer, ensuring that the MFS follow the advice of the Office of the Commissioner for Public Sector Employment and South Australia Health. He conducted considerable research and investigation into COVID-19, ensuring that the MFS and its personnel are always provided with the most up to date and relevant information. This intelligence helped protect MFS employees, its ability to maintain business and better safeguard the community. This has been an extremely complex undertaking in a rapidly evolving landscape, and has required in depth working knowledge, significant consultation, forward thinking and service excellence.

In his current role throughout the pandemic he maintained operational responsibility as a Technical Advice Coordinator, directing frontline services in response to hazardous substance incidents. Previously, as a Station Officer, he would respond to all hazards and on many occasions, fulfilled the role as an Incident Controller for complex operational scenarios.

He prioritised the wellbeing of others and the success of the MFS before himself, dedicating his efforts to helping others and improving the fire service. His actions and commitment exemplify loyalty, respect, integrity and selflessness. His distinguished service has been demonstrated at many levels, well beyond the normal call of duty. Mr Hansen is a worthy recipient of the Australian Fire Service Medal.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Neville Howard KIES, Lyndoch SA 5351

Mr Neville Kies joined the South Australian Country Fire Service (CFS) in 1978 and has served diligently for 44 years. He has served as a Deputy Group Officer in Barossa Group as well as Captain at Lyndoch Brigade, a position he held for 29 years.

He is a true leader and mentor within the CFS and wider Barossa community. He is generous with his time, always making himself available for callouts, training, or community events. He has attended more than 800 incidents since 2008 - more than anyone else in the Barossa Group. He has also completed more than 170 training courses in his career.

He is known for putting others first and for setting high standards. He is passionate about collaboration and professionalism. People and equipment under his control are meticulously cared for. His support goes well beyond his Brigade and extends region-wide, including managing two regional vehicles, representing the volunteer's interests as Brigade and Group CFS Volunteer's Association representative, and providing exceptional support to other Brigades, Farm Fire Fighting Unit Groups and residents in the community.

Mr Kies' exemplary leadership and commitment to the CFS spans well beyond the expectations of a volunteer and he is deserving of the Australian Fire Service Medal.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Brett Anthony LOUGHLIN, Mount Barker SA 5251

Mr Brett Loughlin repeatedly goes well above expectations to ensure great safety outcomes for South Australians. His dedication and calm, professional, leadership style sets the standard for others to follow and through his command of large emergencies he has contributed greatly to the safety of South Australians.

In late 2019, he volunteered to go to New South Wales and lead the teams of firefighters that were sent to assist them as they faced multiple large bushfires and his skills in jurisdictional liaison were valuable in ensuring an effective and safe mission.

He has excelled in the fields of planning and preparation, incident command and legislative enforcement and, by doing so, has contributed greatly to the safety of South Australians. Mr Loughlin's leadership, work ethic and professionalism has set great examples for others to follow and his commitment to developing less experienced members of staff ensures that the whole Service benefits from his skills.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Ms Cecilia Elizabeth LOW, Glenelg East SA 5045

Ms Cecilia Low joined the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) on 23 July 2007. She was promoted to the rank of Senior Firefighter in 2013 and works hard to uphold the MFS values every day. She is bold and unafraid to challenge inappropriate or disrespectful behaviours, striving to ensure a culture of respect and safety for those around her.

Currently based at Adelaide Station, she remains on operational duty, responding on a daily basis to a range of emergencies such as structural fires, road crash rescues and hazardous incidents. As required, she participates in strike teams during bushfire seasons.

She creates strong connections and designs processes that continue to drive momentum for gender equality in the MFS. She is a leader in this space and is recognised across the MFS as an extremely valued member. She is extremely modest about her efforts and achievements but undoubtedly goes above and beyond her normal firefighting role, simply to make a difference.

She connects and supports other firefighters to be able to escalate issues and ensure appropriate supportive responses are provided. It takes great courage to stand up for others with regards to equality and inclusion, or to call out inappropriate behaviours. For Ms Low, the MFS values are a key part of the culture she is passionate to see become the norm in MFS, and she shows great conviction to achieve this.

Her dedication, enthusiasm and resolve not only sets a standard of excellence within departments during her time in Learning and Development, and Wellness and Safety, but contributes markedly to positive recruiting initiatives and outcomes within the MFS. Her distinguished service, commitment and passion to help create a diverse and inclusive organisation are commendable. Ms Low is a worthy recipient of the Australian Fire Service Medal.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Tasmania

Mr Neil Ross BROOKSBANK, Margate TAS 7054

Mr Neil Brooksbank has been a member of the Tasmania Fire Service (TFS) for 27 years. He joined the TFS as a Volunteer Firefighter in 1995 and in 1999 commenced as a career firefighter. He currently supports the Deputy Chief in his role as Assistant Director in State Operations providing state-wide, organisational, and strategic direction in operations and capability. The TFS began recording firefighter attendance at incidents in 1998 and since that time, he has attended approximately 1,135 hazard emergencies.

He has received many qualifications that have seen him rise to the ranks of Leading Firefighter, Station Officer, Senior Station Officer, Acting District Officer, Acting Regional Chief in the north and south of Tasmania and his current position as Assistant Director State Operations.

During his tenure at State Operations, he has developed and implemented the Tasmania Fire Service Aviation wing and the Remote Area Firefighting capability which has positively impacted not only the Tasmania Fire Service but the broader Tasmania community.

Mr Brooksbank was deployed to New Zealand for the Christchurch earthquake in 2011 and to North America for the British Columbia fires in 2017 and is a current Army Reservist.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Richard Edward COSSTICK, Devonport TAS 7310

Mr Richard Cosstick joined the Devonport Fire Brigade in January 1990, and during his 33 years' service with the Tasmania Fire Service, has attended emergency calls in the thousands. He has been on both intrastate and interstate deployments during major fires in his 33 years of service with the Tasmania Fire Service.

He was the Northwest Regional Secretary of the Tasmania Retained Volunteer Firefighters Association for 22 years and was their representative on the Volunteer Training Advisory Committee for several years. For this service he was awarded life membership in 2015, this honour is rare, with him being one of only two to receive life membership.

He has been active in the competition side of the Tasmania Fire Service and is a member of the Tasmanian Fire Brigades Competition Association, an association that oversees the Tasmanian Fire Brigades Championships. He started with the association in 1990 and was Assistant Coach of the Devonport U14 and U17 juniors. He was a member of the committee that oversaw the amalgamation of the Urban and Rural Fire Competitions and for this work he was awarded Life Membership in 2020.

He is currently a volunteer training instructor and has been since 1997. Mr Cosstick has the qualifications, skills and experience needed to instruct all necessary courses required for a volunteer firefighter in Tasmania.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Wade Edward STEWART, Risdon Vale TAS 7016

Mr Wade Stewart has been a member of the Tasmania Fire Service for 40 years. He joined the Risdon Vale Fire Brigade in southern Tasmania as a volunteer in 1982 and remains as a Volunteer Firefighter to this day. He was voted by his peers to be promoted to 3rd Officer in 2001. He was promoted to 1st Officer in 2007 and remains in this position.

As a 1st Officer, he has trained, mentored, and developed countless career and volunteer firefighters in road crash rescue, hazmat and firefighting. He has and continues to spend countless hours of his personal time on the fire ground and on the training ground to ensure proper preparation for all hazard emergencies. He has bridged the gap between career and volunteer firefighters by organising volunteer firefighters to undertake weekend training sessions for career firefighters leading firefighting promotions.

He has provided and continues to provide high-quality service to the Tasmanian community, aiding to keep Tasmania safe against fires and other emergencies and providing strong, consistent leadership. Mr Stewart's tireless dedication goes above and beyond what is the normal expectation and standards that a dedicated volunteer firefighter commits to the Tasmania Fire Service.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Australian Capital Territory

Mr Gregory Istvan ABRAHAMFFY, Broulee NSW 2537

Mr Gregory Abrahamffy joined Australian Capital Territory Fire and Rescue (ACTFR) as a recruit firefighter on 20 June 2002. Since joining ACTFR, he has served in various front line operational roles specialising in Emergency Communications Centre operations, and Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS) appliances. His front line operation experience includes the 2003 Canberra Bushfires and Bushfires 2019-20.

He has dedicated his time to furthering the safety of firefighters and the community through the promotion of innovative approaches to fire appliance and fire station design. He has been a fierce advocate for best practice approaches to vehicle and building design. This dedication is evident in his invaluable contribution to numerous ACTFR Workplace Consultative Committees focused on vehicles, equipment, and facilities.

He was instrumental in the development and delivery of ACTFR's Station User Requirements document that provides a standardised approach to fire station design and construction into the future. His work in these areas promotes firefighter safety, maximises sustainability, and reduces the level of risk to the community. His knowledge of risk in the context of the Australian Capital Territory community has been utilised to plan strategic station locations in the Australian Capital Territory. He has advised the Australian Capital Territory Emergency Services Commissioner directly in the planning of fire and ambulance station locations into the next 15 years. The result will be a comprehensive plan that identifies the future emergency services infrastructure needs of the Australian Capital Territory with consideration for planned population growth. This work will reduce the vulnerability of the Australian Capital Territory community to the enduring hazards unique to the Bush Capital through reduced emergency response times.

He has made a significant contribution to the safety and wellbeing of firefighters and the protection of the Australian Capital Territory community, particularly through strategic planning. Mr Abrahamffy has served ACTFR and the Australian Capital Territory community with distinction throughout his career.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Matthew Ian MAVITY, Hawker ACT 2614

Mr Matthew Mavity has served at every rank in Australian Capital Territory Fire and Rescue (ACTFR) from recruit to Chief Officer. During his 25 years of service he has maintained his energy, curiosity and drive for change and innovation. Inclusion and belonging are at the heart of his goals for ACTFR.

From a firefighter on the front line of the 2003 fires to an incident controller during the 2019/20 bushfires, he has seen a lot change and has contributed to that change as an employee representative, firefighter and member of the community. Specialisation and dedication to technical excellence has informed his view of service to the community and his passion remains working with the community to understand how best firefighters can help in supporting resilience, whilst also being ready to intervene where required with compassion and dignity of the community as the first guiding principle.

During the Covid pandemic, then Superintendent Mavity pivoted from his traditional Fire and Rescue role and ran a small team which partnered with local industry to manufacture hand sanitiser and cleaning products for the Australian Capital Territory Government and medical Non-Government Organisations. This role ensured supply of critical products during significant supply chain disruptions.

He aims to build a more inclusive service with equal representation from throughout the entire community. He also strives to ensure the organisation he loves reaches the potential it has through constant evaluation and a willingness to change and be ready for whatever comes next. Mr Mavity has dedicated his adult life to service of the community and his passion and enthusiasm are both effective and contagious. ACTFR is in good hands as it navigates a period of growth and renewal driven by generational change and a desire for the service to remain amongst the very best fire services in Australia.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Northern Territory

Mr Robert John BURGESS, Humpty Doo NT 0836

Mr Robert Burgess has been a volunteer firefighter with the Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service (NTFRS) since 2007 and currently holds the position of Brigade Captain with the Humpty Doo Volunteer Fire Brigade (HDVFB). Having served for over 15 years with the HDVFB, he has been the backbone of the brigade in terms of training, recruitment, mentorship, recognition and other areas. He works tirelessly to enhance the training of all volunteer and auxiliary firefighters across the NTFRS particularly in the area of wildfire suppression and the techniques used to bring a wildfire under control.

In 2018 he was recognised with a certificate of appreciation for attending a hazard reduction burn in the townships of Batchelor and Adelaide River; where he spent up to twelve hours a day for three days straight, assisting with operations on the frontline. He further demonstrated his commitment to protecting his community in August 2019, when he was called on to attend a bushfire in Humpty Doo and then to attend a bushfire in Girraween. This response occurred over an eleven hour period without respite. Operation Redux saw him deployed in one of the first strike teams to Boonah, Queensland, in 2019 to assist the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services in battling blazes in Tarome, Spicers Peak, Mount Barney and Maryvale.

Ever dedicated to supporting his fellow firefighters and the community, he also provides ongoing station relief for both Katherine and Jabiru track fire stations. Mr Burgess's commitment, drive, leadership and enthusiasm for his role continues to make a significant difference to protecting our community and raising the profile of volunteer firefighters.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Nathan Gregory FERGUSON, Girraween NT 0835

Mr Nathan Ferguson began his firefighting career with the Australian Army then became a volunteer with the Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service (NTFRS) in 2000, serving with the Howard Springs Volunteer Fire Brigade, where he regularly responded to callouts and became an integral part of the volunteer team.

In 2007 he laterally transferred as a career firefighter to the NTFRS and was posted to Alice Springs Fire Station. While there, he also volunteered as a designated training officer to deliver essential training to the local fire volunteers. He proactively organised multiple training weekends with career and volunteer firefighters to combine their training and strengthen their relationships.

During his career, he has dealt with many serious fire events including being deployed as to the Eastern Victorian Great Divide bushfires in 2007 to combat a series of bushfires that continued for 69 days. At the time they were the longest running bushfires in the state's history and burned out approximately one million hectares. In 2011, he was given the responsibility of Strike Team Leader during the Alice Springs Campaign Fires, which burned thousands of hectares across Central Australia and drew a Territory-wide firefighter response effort.

He was promoted to Station Officer at the Tennant Creek Fire Station in 2015 and since then he has led many initiatives, including securing funding to modernise the Tennant Creek Fire Station, which lifted the station profile in the town and boosted morale of the small team of volunteers and members. In 2020, he was transferred to serve in the Capabilities Development Command in Darwin where he currently operates with distinction. Mr Ferguson remains a strong leader and is committed to serving the NTFRS and more importantly the wider community.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

New South Wales

Dr Gary TALL, Terrey Hills NSW 2084

Dr Gary Tall began his retrieval medicine career in 1993 with the Westpac Lifesaver Rescue Helicopter before joining what later became the New South Wales Ambulance (NSWA) retrieval service at St George Hospital. He became the Medical Director of the Sydney Aeromedical Retrieval Service in 1997 and transitioned the service to the current model of New South Wales Aeromedical and the Aeromedical Control Centre, becoming the Director of Aeromedical Clinical Operations in 2005.

He continues to work as a Senior Staff Specialist with NSW Aeromedical Retrieval teams, in the Emergency Department and as a Senior State Retrieval Consultant with clinical oversight of critically unwell or injured patients in New South Wales. He has played a critical role in State Emergency Management as the State Medical Controller since 2011 and Acting State Health Services Functional Areas Coordinator since 2018, overseeing state wide responses during the COVID-19 Pandemic, New South Wales Bushfires and New South Wales Flood Emergencies.

Whilst retaining a significant managerial role in NSW for 18 years, he has maintained active clinical practice in both Emergency Medicine and medical retrieval operations operating across helicopter, road and fixed wing platforms since 1993.

Whilst maintaining a contemporary practical knowledge and technical capability in both Emergency Medicine and Pre-Hospital and Retrieval Medicine Retrieval Medicine (PHARM), His experience and knowledge of both PHARM and Disaster Medicine remains at the leading edge of the PHARM sub-speciality on a state, national and international basis. This has positively reflected on NSW over the past two decades.

As with many NSW senior staff he has been recalled to duty at all times and circumstances due to the critical care nature of his work and his expertise. Dr Tall is always available for consultation and advice and is untiring in his support of the New South Wales community and health system in times of need.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

Victoria

Mr Brett DRUMMOND, Mernda VIC 3754

Mr Brett Drummond commenced service with Ambulance Victoria in 2003. During his career he has served in a range of frontline roles as an Advanced Life Support Paramedic, including as clinical instructor, team manager, and group manager, as well as in a suite of emergency management coordination roles. He currently works in operational service and holds the position of Manager, Consequence and Planning in Ambulance Victoria's Emergency Management Unit.

He has made a significant contribution in advancing the capability and capacity of Ambulance Victoria as a leading organisation in pre-hospital emergency management. As a leader in emergency management, he has made an outstanding contribution to a number of disaster response events in Victoria, including Thunderstorm Asthma 2016; Bourke Street Attack 2017; Flinders Street Attack 2017; Barwon South-West Peats Fires 2018; Bourke Street Terrorist Attack 2018; Eastern Victoria Fires 2019-2020; and the Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic 2020-2022.

Of particular note is his contribution in implementing landmark changes in response to Ambulance Victoria's review of the Thunderstorm Asthma event of 2016. As well as co-authoring the review report, he wrote Ambulance Victoria's Thunderstorm Asthma Emergency Response Sub Plan and coordinated its implementation. The plan includes Ambulance Victoria's new capability to issue information and warnings directly to the community using Emergency Management Victoria's platform; making Ambulance Victoria the first non-control agency in the state to have this ability.

He was also instrumental in developing doctrine for both Ambulance Victoria and the State to ensure agencies are able to respond in the best way possible to the community, including: Ambulance Victoria Emergency Response Plan (2017); the Victorian Emergency Management Preparedness Framework (2017); and State Extreme Heat Plan (2017).

During his 19 year career as a paramedic, Mr Drummond has served Ambulance Victoria with distinction, and made a significant contribution to the safety and wellbeing of the Victorian community.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

Mr Lewis Gerald McDONALD, Mitta Mitta VIC

Mr Lewis McDonald commenced service with Ambulance Victoria in 2000. During his career he has served as an Ambulance Community Officer. He currently holds the position of Ambulance Community Officer in the small rural community of the Mitta Valley, located in far North-East Victoria, with significant rural land surrounding small townships. He is the longest serving current member of the Mitta Mitta Ambulance Community Officer Team.

Passionate about men's health, and in particular the mental health challenges of returned servicemen living with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, as well as local farmers, he has been instrumental in ensuring services are accessible to those in need. He is a critical link between the community and health services, ensuring those most at risk are connected, even if someone just needs a meal and a chat, an extra place is set at his family's table.

A strong advocate within the community, he is driven to seek opportunities to encourage new members to join the team, ensuring the Mitta Valley has a sustainable ambulance service into the future. He has also played a pivotal role in training team members who have just commenced their careers at Ambulance Victoria and supports and encourages colleagues to reach their full potential.

Ambulance Victoria, its paramedics and first responders, can impact health outcomes over and above the traditional mandate of ambulance attendance and transport. They can enhance the ability of regional communities to take charge of their own health needs through strong community engagement and patient follow-up; reaffirming the concept of resilient communities. Mr McDonald has been an integral part of driving this ethos and model of care in the Mitta Valley. During his 22 year career as an Ambulance Community Officer, Mr McDonald has exemplified what it means to go above and beyond in the faithful discharge of duties.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

Dr Benjamin MEADLEY, Leongatha VIC 3953

Dr Benjamin Meadley commenced his career as an Ambulance Community Officer in Anglesea in 1998, before taking up a paramedic position with Ambulance Service New South Wales in Sydney in 1999. He returned to work as a paramedic with Ambulance Victoria in 2003.

Training as a Mobile Intensive Care Ambulance (MICA) paramedic in 2004 and 2005, he worked extensively across Melbourne, undertaking clinical instructor and acting MICA team manager roles, before joining Air Ambulance Victoria as a MICA Flight Paramedic in 2009. He currently holds the position of MICA Improvement Lead.

Throughout his career he has maintained a keen focus on the education and wellbeing of paramedics, which led him to undertake his PhD; investigating the cardiometabolic and physiological health of Australian paramedics. This first of its kind research was a catalyst for Monash University launching its Paramedic Health and Wellbeing Research Unit, which continues to invest in research and projects to improve the health and wellbeing of the paramedic workforce.

He has been a driving force of innovation in the education of paramedics, with a long history of academic association through Monash University, where he helped re-design the Postgraduate Intensive Care Program. This has been operationally reflected in the GippSIM Program, which brings simulation access to a wide range of staff across regional Victoria.

As a MICA Flight Paramedic with a specialty in clinical ultrasound to support practice, he has been instrumental in the advanced practice of the MICA Flight Paramedic cohort, and driven forward programs related to mechanical ventilation, ultrasound guided vascular access and lung/heart/abdomen assessment, surgical airway, and use of blood products. He is a leader who is actively sought out for his opinion and advice. During his 24-year career in the sector, and 19 years at Ambulance Victoria, Dr Meadley has made a significant and distinguished contribution to Ambulance Victoria and the community which he serves.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

Ms Julie Faye MILLER, Talgarno VIC 3691

Ms Julie Miller commenced service with Ambulance Victoria in 2006. During her career she has served as a volunteer Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) member in Bethanga, a small rural town in North-East Victoria. She currently holds the position of Community Emergency Response Team Leader Bethanga/Berringa.

As a founding member of the local volunteer CERT in Bethanga/Berringa, she has been instrumental in ensuring the local, widely dispersed rural community has 24-hour access to vital emergency care. She not only undertakes the critical hands-on operational role of a CERT, but also provides a vital link that maintains the team's cohesion, wellbeing, and support to ensure that they can provide timely responses to medical emergencies in the local community through early life saving intervention and care of patients. This includes supporting new recruits through their initial training program, together with encouraging their continuing development throughout their volunteering careers.

As a first responder state forum representative, she has actively participated and significantly contributed to first responder initiatives at Ambulance Victoria, including their first responder team leader development program, initial first responder training course review and the development of an updated Patient Care Record for first responders state-wide.

During her 15-year career as an Ambulance Victoria CERT volunteer, Ms Miller has not only been an active, well known community leader, her determination and commitment to the community of Bethanga/Berringa and its local CERT, in this remote location in Victoria, has been distinguished.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

Ms Carmel Louise ROGERS, Pearcedale VIC 3912

Ms Carmel Rogers commenced service with Ambulance Victoria in 2001 as an Advanced Life Support Paramedic. Her career advanced quickly, and within five years was working as a senior team manager. She has also undertaken numerous interim roles in emergency management as well as group manager roles. She currently works in operational service and holds the position of Senior Team Manager on the Mornington Peninsula.

She has made a significant contribution in the area of community engagement. Her tireless efforts and passion for improving community training and response to cardiac arrests on the Mornington Peninsula has been outstanding. Her work has resulted in an increase in the availability of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) within the community by ensuring existing AEDs are registered, and by liaising with the community to convert private AEDs to publicly registered AEDs with 24-hour access to all.

Leading community engagement CPR training (Call-Push-Shock) sessions for over 600 members of the public, together with attending community events to encourage community members to join the GoodSAM initiative, Ms Rogers and her team were able to forge strong relationships with community leaders, stakeholders, and the broader community. This led to securing the donation of over 24 additional AEDs for the district. Furthermore, this close community effort resulted in the Mornington Peninsula Council seeking to work with Ambulance Victoria to ensure more AEDs are located in local businesses.

Ms Rogers and her team were successful with internal campaigning at Ambulance Victoria, securing a seasonal Advance Life Support Paramedic Single Responder Unit within the geographically remote areas of Flinders, a small sea-side town, and Red Hill, a small rural town, both located on the Mornington Peninsula.

During her 21-year career at Ambulance Victoria, there is no doubt that Ms Roger's efforts, with the support of her team, will result in saving countless lives and improve the resilience and capability of the community.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

Queensland

Ms Nadine Cherise BOND, Redlynch QLD 4870

Ms Nadine Bond has a long and distinguished ambulance career, commencing with the former Queensland Ambulance Transport Brigade as an Honorary Ambulance Officer in 1986 and was permanently appointed as an Ambulance Officer in 1987. Her career has seen her progress and excel as a Local area Assessment Referral Unit (LARU) Officer within the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS).

As one of the inaugural officers leading the implementation of the LARU model, she showed strong leadership skills as she worked collaboratively with broader health care providers to ensure high quality patient care is provided to the Queensland community. She is a strong advocate for her patients and their care who continues to look for change to improve operational outcomes.

While acting as Officer-in-Charge at various stations, she was pivotal in providing assistance to facilitate the education and skills programs that supported upskilling of frontline ambulance officers to the level of Associate Diploma qualifications. She has worked in rural and remote areas of Queensland in the course of her duty and has contributed by building and embracing strong relationships with the Indigenous and Torres Strait Islander communities.

She is well known and respected by her peers as a highly trained and competent clinician. She remains fully trained and able to respond in an operational capacity to an emergency. Her unwavering commitment and dedication to excellence in patient care, has seen her provide leadership in complex and extremely challenging and hazardous incidents.

She is well known and trusted as the Peer Support Officer that staff reach out to after critical incidents, usually done outside her working hours making her highly regarded as a mentor. Ms Bond has served the people of Queensland for over 36 years and her continued passion for patient care is highly valued by the Queensland community and the QAS.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

Mr Kerry Matthew DILLON, Nelly Bay QLD 4819

Mr Kerry Dillon has a long and distinguished ambulance career, commencing with the former Queensland Ambulance Transport Brigade as an Ambulance Officer in 1983, and permanently appointed as an Officer-in-Charge (OIC) in 1998. His outstanding career has also seen him act as Area Manager and Regional Manager Operations Support for the Townsville district. He has been part of and seen significant change within the organisation in which he has attended many multi-casualty incidents and actively participated in natural disasters including Cyclone Yasi and 2019 North Queensland floods.

As the OIC, Magnetic Island Ambulance Station, he is an integral and vital link in the service delivery chain which results in ambulance services being delivered in a timely and professional manner under duress. He expertly leads and manages staff and resources within the station's operational location. He has been a pro-active leader and assisted with foundational organisational change, provided coaching and mentoring to his peers and has been instrumental in building strong relationships with Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS) support teams and key community organisations that support the delivery of QAS services. He has gone above and beyond to positively influence the lives of patients with his unfailing commitment and dedication to excellence in patient care, education and training. This has enabled him to provide and manage highly complex and extremely challenging and hazardous incidents.

He continually performs the duties required of a frontline ambulance officer with distinction and utilises his knowledge and expertise gained through attending various complex incidents to benefit his colleagues by providing advice and assistance when attending to members of the public. Mr Dillon has been and remains an exceptional role model for junior staff and peers and has diligently served the people of Queensland for over 39 years.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

Mr Mark Thomas NUGENT, North Ipswich QLD 4305

Mr Mark Nugent's long and distinguished ambulance career commenced with the former Queensland Ambulance Transport Brigade in 1989 as an Honorary Ambulance Officer and was permanently appointed as an Ambulance Officer the same year.

His demonstrated commitment to developing his knowledge and skills afforded him the opportunity to undertake various roles including Critical Care Paramedic, Clinical Support Officer, Senior Clinical Educator, Regional Operations Supervisor and his current role as Senior Operations Supervisor (SOS) and has acted as an Area Director and Senior Clinical Educator at various locations.

His expertise as a subject matter expert in emergency management includes major incident management, emergency management operations and major events (including planning) which routinely sees him as a preferred leader for major events planning and management at a state-wide level. In 2020, he was the Forward Commander of a tragic incident at Wyaralong where he provided an exemplary level of leadership to the major multi-agency and multi-casualty incident which continues to have a profound effect on all who attended. His operational management of this event and his peers, both during and afterwards has been commended by his peers and supervisors.

He has current training and responds operationally to an emergency when necessary. His efforts in ensuring the ongoing welfare and safety of QAS staff following major cases and events sets him apart from many others. His extensive efforts and commitment to make sure the welfare of our people and patients is always at the fore is highly regarded.

His passion to positively influence the lives of patients and colleagues through his role as an SOS is recognised by those he has supported and mentored throughout his 32 years of service. Mr Nugent continues to demonstrate conduct, integrity and distinguished frontline service well beyond the standard.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

Western Australia

Dr Joseph CUTHBERTSON, WA

Dr Joseph Cuthbertson joined St John WA in February 2000 as a front-line Paramedic and has demonstrated outstanding service since, undertaking various front-line roles including Station Manager, Community Paramedic and Clinical Team Leader. In all these roles, he demonstrated his outstanding commitment to delivering quality clinical care to the community. He is currently serving as the Head of Specialist Operations.

With the imminent arrival of COVID-19 in 2020, the organisation's Incident Management Team was established, led by Dr Cuthbertson as Head of Specialist Services. He was instrumental in leading St John WA's pandemic response and the organisations operational readiness can be attributed to his efforts and expertise as well as dedication to learning and his relationships/connections in emergency management.

Preparations began early and under his leadership, St John activated the Incident Management Team to monitor the progress of the virus and plan for the anticipated flood of patients. His actions strategically connected St John WA to become part of the State, National and Global response with senior operational and logistics staff embedded in key strategic teams. Again, his genuine commitment to the St John model and its staff and volunteers has made him an outstanding leader through the challenges of the pandemic.

On top of the demands of the pandemic, he continued to complete his normal management role with St John's Critical Care Paramedics and Special Operations Paramedics. He has been instrumental with the intensive training, mentoring and specific upskilling of this group of paramedics including working with anaesthetists, surgeons, and trauma specialists.

His contribution has delivered outstanding leadership and service to the community through his embracing of the St John model and its values. Dr Cuthbertson's commitment to the model, staff, volunteers and the community has seen him go above and beyond the role for which he is employed for and seen him stand out among his peers.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

Mr Danny Louis ROSE, Kinross WA 6028

Mr Danny Rose joined St John WA in July 2012 and has held front-line positions as an Ambulance Paramedic and Clinical Support Paramedic. Over the past seven years he has turned his sights to improving patient outcomes within the role of Resuscitation Improvement Coordinator and currently holds the role of Clinical Hub Manager.

He is a person of high integrity, compassion, and authenticity. He treats people with respect and dignity. He is an advocate for understanding human behaviours and human factors that influence those behaviours. He works collaboratively with various stakeholders and communicates effectively for excellence in pre-hospital care and patient safety. He gives countless hours to St John WA and its goals to promote excellence in care and ensure more people survive Out of Hospital Cardiac Arrests (OHCA) incidents. He wants to see our organisation succeeding in becoming a centre of excellence for out-of-hospital cardiac care.

He shows great empathy when dealing with events that relates to OHCA outcomes and at times has met with family members to describe our activities and the care provided. Without fail he has been thanked for engaging with family members, for whom this was a difficult and challenging experience.

Further to the previous OHCA program, he has developed an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) data collection process. This initiative allows the various cardiology care teams to provide bespoke care to survivors of OHCA as they will understand the initial cardiac rhythm when the AED is applied. This initiative has benefited many patients in recent years and is now a subject matter expert on Corpuls3 in WA.

He shares his passion of OCHA resuscitation through regular engagement sessions within St John. Mr Rose has also represented St John WA at various conferences and has presented on the topic of OHCA at such forums.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

South Australia

Mr Paul Graham STRATMAN, Woodforde SA 5072

Mr Paul Stratman commenced service with St John Ambulance/South Australia Ambulance Service (SAAS) in 1983. He has demonstrated sustained provision and commitment to frontline ambulance services for over 38 years. He commenced service as a Volunteer Ambulance Officer in 1977; and has progressed with education to be an Extended Care Paramedic (ECP) in 2009, the highest clinical role within ambulance services. He has now held the frontline position of ECP for 13 years, providing health service to patients in their home or residential care facilities to reduce unnecessary hospital admissions and utilise a range of therapeutical drugs to increase treatment options.

As an ECP, he recognises the importance of alternate care pathways for patients and health care providers. His leadership and commitment to improve service delivery and patient care had led to improvements for workflows within the Emergency Operations Centre (EOC) that have improved efficiencies. His collation and assessment of ECP data has shown the effectiveness of current pathways and identification of ongoing needs.

He is a highly respected and trusted professional and clinician that has partaken in various new initiatives due to his clinical acumen, patient advocacy, compassion and supportive focus for staff and volunteers. The success of initiatives and their implementation have undoubtedly been a result of his approach, leadership (ECP, improving workflows in the EOC, and previously with Bicycle Response Unit) and effectiveness of current alternate pathways. He is also a committed mentor for those entering high end, high acuity qualifications and supporting the needs of all other clinicians and volunteers when attending a patient with complex needs requiring high level intervention. He does this with professionalism and empathy.

Mr Stratman has demonstrated exceptional commitment to ambulance services ensuring professional delivery of clinical care to the South Australian community for the past 38 years.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

Mr Robert George TOLSON, Port Pirie SA 5540

Mr Robert Tolson commenced service with St John Ambulance/South Australia Ambulance Service (SAAS) in May 1985. He has held a range of frontline and management roles in northern regional South Australia. He commenced service as a Clinic Officer rising to Intensive Care Paramedic and is currently the Interim Executive Director, Country Operations. He has demonstrated sustained provision and commitment to frontline ambulance service for over 37 years in regional South Australia.

He has maintained a clinical response level of Paramedic/Intensive Care Paramedic that enables him as a clinician to respond in support of an individual or community. His skills as part of the local response or the Incident Management Team have been valued by all who have worked with him through his attitude, management skills and knowledge. He has taken a lead role in the following major incidents along with many others throughout his career. Port Lincoln Fires, Sampson Flat Fires, Bangor Fire, COVID-19 Incident Response Far North and West Coast, COVID-19 response to vulnerable communities including the APY Lands, Yalata and Davenport.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted his strength and dedication. He worked closely with local communities, Aboriginal Health Care providers and Elders to develop COVID-19 response and resilience plans to enable SAAS to support the communities in a collaborative manner. He developed strong and respectful relationships with Indigenous communities which enabled the collaborative partnerships.

He has significantly contributed to SAAS through involvement on many major committees/boards, producing significant outcomes for the application of service delivery, community engagement and emergency response outcomes for the regional communities of South Australia. From major recruitments, establishment of partnerships in regional community and emergency services, integral part of the Community Paramedic program to support regional communities and as a lead on the Reconciliation Action Plan Committee ensuring our First Nations Peoples are recognised for their history and contributions, he exemplifies meritorious commitment to the provision of regional ambulance services. For 37 years, and particularly during the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, Mr Tolson has served with exceptional dedication and leadership.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

Mr David Christopher WALKER, SA

Mr David Walker commenced service with South Australia Ambulance Service (SAAS) in 2018 as a Volunteer Ambulance Officer and was soon promoted to the role of Volunteer Team Leader, Limestone Coast Volunteer Regional Response Team (LCVRRRT) in 2019 whilst still completing his studies. He also works as a casual ambulance officer in the Limestone Coast Region.

He has been exemplary in his leadership, embodying SAAS values of 'patient first' both in his dedication, approach and also in his development and support for others. He owns and operates two businesses in Mount Gambier, yet he is always available to assist the team at any hour and in any manner. This demonstrates his passion for volunteering, mentoring, for leadership and a tireless work ethic that greatly benefits the community he supports.

He has undertaken further study to become a registered trainer that allows him to support, develop and mentor Volunteer Ambulance Officer students. He consistently spends many hours with recruits whilst also fulfilling rostered shifts, all to benefit and continuously improve ambulance service provision in a regional setting. He is also a SAAS Digital Mentor, supporting volunteers navigating technology to complete their e-Learning training.

He is a great advocate for volunteers, he is a member of several committees, representing the Limestone Coast at the SAAS Volunteer Health Advisory Council (SAASVHAC), Zone Ambulance Coordinating Committee (ZACC) and the Electronic Patient Care Records (ePCR) evaluation committee. These meetings are significant commitments in addition to operational duties, often requiring significant travel but are undertaken with the same enthusiasm and passion he holds for volunteering itself. Such is his genuine dedication he also took part in a recent recruitment campaign, sharing his volunteering story to promote and motivate community members across the state to join SAAS. The success of the campaign is due largely to his enthusiasm for volunteering with the impact far reaching, helping to ensure volunteer sustainability now and into the future.

Mr Walker is an exemplary volunteer, role model, educator and a highly valued and respected Volunteer Ambulance Officer most worthy of being recognised with an Ambulance Service Medal.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

Northern Territory

Mr Stuart James ALLISON, NT 0810

Mr Stuart Allison has been employed with St John NT for 12 years. Since commencing with the organisation in 2010, he has consistently demonstrated the highest level of values and has developed his ambulance career from a paramedic to an intensive and extended care paramedic. As a frontline clinician he actively advocates for the ambulance profession, his fellow paramedic staff and most importantly his patients. He is an excellent leader and continues to give 110 per cent on all occasions. His leadership serves as an example to other staff within the organisation. The support and skills he provides is an asset to St John NT, his colleagues and community members that he works with.

He regularly provides both intensive care paramedic and managerial response out of hours and goes above and beyond the parameters of his requirements. He does this to provide support to the staff and ensure that patients are afforded the best care when needed. He also regularly takes clinical assistance calls at all hours of the day or night from crews to provide support and guidance to paramedics who are seeking reassurance and directions when faced with complex clinical situations.

He is respected by all staff as a compassionate and caring leader and clinician. He demonstrates exemplary work ethic, high degree of diplomacy and professionalism and is committed to the success of the organisation and its employees. The dedicated work and commitment he demonstrates on a regular basis is greatly appreciated by all who come in contact with him. Mr Allison is an asset to not only the St John NT organisation but to the Northern Territory community as a whole.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

Ms Judith BARKER, WA

Ms Judith Barker's career has spanned more than 25 years in ambulance services, she has been a Paramedic, Intensive Care Paramedic, Clinical Team Leader, Operations Manager, Director for Service Delivery (including emergency communication centre), and Chief Executive Officer (CEO). During her role as CEO of St John NT she has led St John NT through the COVID-19 pandemic and oversaw the organisation's response to operating under global pandemic conditions.

She is a registered paramedic and maintains her operational response to incidents through involvement with command and incident control functions to support and direct ambulance operations. Her commitment and dedication have ensured that ambulance service operations were established within the Territory-wide incident management structure and that services could be maintained while options for wider support to the community were delivered.

Her operational experience was invaluable during the most intense periods of the pandemic as she provided leadership and direction being the Incident Controller for the St John NT Incident Management Team for over two years. She remained operational seven days a week with daily health incident management briefings and planning meetings throughout the pandemic response.

Her commitment to the safety and well-being of all St John NT staff and volunteers over the pandemic was exceptional. Her leadership of the incident management team saw numerous COVID-19 policies and procedures established to support staff, provide clear direction to the organisation and align the organisational response to the pandemic with that of the Northern Territory Department of Health and other services across Australia.

She has modelled and exemplified the St John NT values of dedication, compassion, integrity, quality and respect in the COVID-19 response. Her leadership, strategic thinking, and actions resulted in St John NT ambulance delivering services to the community throughout this health emergency. Throughout this time Ms Barker has maintained her training regarding operational incident management and her understanding and experience of the management and requirements for Triple Zero (000) systems and ambulance emergency control.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

New South Wales

Mrs Susan Millicent CHAPPLE, Grafton NSW 2460

Mrs Susan Chapple has been a member of the New South Wales State Emergency Service (NSW SES) for over 25 years. She has recently been the Local Commander for the Clarence Valley Cluster in the Northern Zone, but has held many roles during her time at NSW SES such as Emergency Officer, Incident Controller, Liaison Officer, Course Instructor, Course Administrator and Administration Officer.

Mrs Chapple has managed many critical incidents during this time, including major floods in the Clarence/Nambucca Region. She has built up an expert knowledge of the flood hazard and risk across the entire Clarence Valley including the city of Grafton. She has collaboratively developed systems to manage this risk to deliver timely and informed responses. Mrs Chapple has built networks of individuals to build preparedness, planning and capability and led numerous community engagement and preparedness exercises. She is also known to provide support and mentorship to members of the NSW SES and is a strong role model for women in leadership.

In April 2015, Mrs Chapple was part of a deployment into Dungog to support the community as part of the Hunter Storms Operation. This was a particularly challenging time after some members of the Dungog community died as a result of flooding in the area. She approached her duties in this confronting time with great professionalism, building rapport and gaining the trust of the community and its leaders. She put service above self and carried out her assignments with great professionalism for the benefit of the community. She also worked tirelessly during the Bushfires 2019-20.

Mrs Chapple's commitment, dedication and sustained professionalism as not only a member but also as a leader within the NSW SES cannot be understated. She is a strong advocate for her people, her community, and the NSW SES, often under difficult circumstances and in times of adversity.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

Mr Gary Ronald DALY, Randwick NSW 2031

Mr Gary Daly has been involved in Surf Life Saving (SLS) for over 43 years and in that time has had a significant impact on SLS Services across three distinct Sydney Clubs, Sydney Branch and Surf Life Saving New South Wales (SLSNSW). He has over 32 years of Patrolling experience and has held the role of Patrol Captain for 24 seasons, which is quite remarkable at that level for so long and across different clubs. During this time he has held multiple roles within local club patrols as well as mentoring and training patrol leaders during this time.

Mr Daly has been at the forefront of the delivery of the Silver Medallion Beach Management Award since 2013 and has delivered to multiple members from various clubs. He has also mentored a large number of new facilitators in this award ensuring that the quality of delivery has been at the highest level. He also trains and assesses multiple lifesaving awards and has done so for more than 30 years.

Mr Daly has made an impact on lifesaving via his roles with both Club and Branch Management, having been in the role of Director of Lifesaving at Sydney Branch, and a member of the Coogee and Burning Palms SLS Club Management team for many seasons. Within these roles he has used his Patrol and Training experience to ensure lifesavers are highly trained and rescue ready, all having benefited from his knowledge and skills.

Mr Daly's SLS awards speak for themselves in the recognition of his outstanding work over many seasons at the frontline of Lifesaving and Education, these being awards for his very involved and active service which he continues to offer as a frontline volunteer. This level of commitment for over 43 seasons, and his positive input into multiple Surf Life Saving Clubs and Sydney Branch is certainly worthy of the Emergency Services Medal.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

Mr Paul Jeffrey MARSHALL, Albury NSW 2640

Mr Paul Marshall is the Captain of Albury Volunteer Rescue Association (VRA) and a member of VRA Rescue NSW. He has held this position for the last six years. He has 20 years of service with Albury VRA and during this time has held the role of Squad Secretary and Public Officer for 19 years, Deputy Captain for six years, Training Officer since 2015, and is the State Associations Social Media Officer for the past seven years.

He was selected to represent VRA Rescue NSW in a six man training team with Fire and Rescue New South Wales, New South Wales Rural Fire Service and the New South Wales State Emergency Service to train the Emergency Services in Vanuatu in General Land Rescue including but not limited to Road Crash Rescue, Industrial and Domestic Rescue, Urban Search and Rescue, Incident Management and Interagency Operability. This training team was sponsored by Rotary New South Wales.

He is a current General Land Rescue Operator and has attended many activations over his 20 years of service. He is on call 24/7 to attend any emergency rescue, missing person search, or recovery incident which may arise, as well as provide assistance to other combat agencies.

In his role as Deputy Region Coordinator, and now Acting Regional Coordinator, he assists with training and coordinating activations in the South Western area of New South Wales. He assisted the VRA in the Bushfires 2019-20 as a coordinator based at Albury. He is a member of the Chaplain and Peer Support (CAPS) team utilising his Peer Support and Critical Stress Management learnt through the Victorian Police. He is also part of a team that offers spiritual care to the 1126 members of VRA Rescue NSW, available to assist any member in need of care and support.

Mr Marshall is an exceptional leader who's committed to excellence in his roles as a General Land Rescue Operator and peer support officer.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

Mr Henry Edward SCRUTON, Newcastle NSW 2300

Mr Henry Scruton gained his Bronze Medallion in 1991. He subsequently threw himself into Surf Life Saving and has been a key figure and driving force of the Hunter Branch since. He completed his Advanced Resuscitation Certificate, Inflatable Rescue Boat (IRB) Drivers, and Training Officer's certificate all in the same season. He also took on the role of Chief Training Officer for his club, Nobbys Surf Life Saving Club, in the following season. Since then, he has been actively involved in multiple facets of Surf Life Saving, continuing to upskill and gain further qualifications including his Certificate IV in Training and Assessing, as well as being involved in management by being a member of different boards, panels and teams across his Club, Branch and New South Wales.

He has been the President of Hunter Branch since 1996. He is also the Support Operations Coordinator where he trains, mentors and manages 19 Duty Officers and 35 Rescue Watercraft Operators. By reaching out and supporting the smaller clubs in the Hunter Branch he increased this team by 9.25 percent in the 2021-2022 season. He ensures this team is supported through regular communication, by curating a flexible roster and volunteering his time as a frontline operational volunteer who is available on weekends if the team requires additional support.

He volunteers his time and expertise at Branch coordinated Central Venue Assessment days for Surf Rescue Certificate (SRC), Bronze and IRB candidates. In the 2021-2022 season he assisted in the assessment of 226 Bronze Medallion, 126 SRC, 65 IRB Crew and 27 Silver Medallion IRB Driver candidates. He facilitates courses for the ongoing upskilling of members such as the Silver Medallion Beach Management, Silver Medallion Aquatic Rescue and RWC courses. In the 2021-2022 season Mr Scruton trained 16 Silver Medallion Aquatic Rescue candidates and 72 Silver Medallion Beach Management candidates.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

Mr Bradley James TAYLOR, NSW

Mr Brad Taylor gained his Surf Life Saving Certificate in 1976 and since then has been an active patrolling member across the organisations patrol and emergency service sectors. He has 46 years active patrolling at Garie Surf Life Saving (SLS) Club, often as Patrol Captain. During this period, he has often undertaken multiple emergency management activities.

He was one of the founding members of emergency management in SLS Sydney. He assisted in pioneering the Duty Officer system and the 24-hour emergency call out system as the Emergency Services Coordinator. This service was a lead service in SLS within Australia and laid the foundations of call-out and duty officer systems to come. He has also patrolled for 17 years at Sydney Surf Radio Control centre, 1982-1999. He was responsible for managing day to day emergency management radio communications as a volunteer rostered member.

He joined the Offshore Rescue Boat in 2000 and then continued with another 22 years of service to emergency management as a crew, driver and skipper and continues his operational roles on the water. He has had a compelling volunteer officer history, holding positions at a club and branch level. He has held numerous awards at his club including President and Club Captain and at a SLS Sydney level he has been Emergency Services Coordinator and Radio Supervisor. He also has an extensive list of emergency management qualifications. He was an integral part of the early Inflatable Rescue Boat movement and spent many early years at carnivals at all levels of the organisations undertaking water safety. Mr Taylor was an active member of power craft panels and assisted with the early development of this sector of the organisation.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

Mr Barry Andrew WADEMAN, Kings Langley NSW 2147

Mr Barry Wademan joined the New South Wales State Emergency Service (SES) as a cadet in 1977 and has been an active volunteer in the Blacktown Unit for over 44 years. He has held many roles during this time including Unit Commander, Duty Officer and Course Administrator.

He helped to pioneer 'Swift Water Rescue' for the New South Wales SES in the mid 1990's and has continued to be a leader in this field. He has been at the forefront of developing Standard Operating Procedures for the Blacktown Unit, helping them to operate more effectively and efficiently, meet the needs of the community and retain members. He shares his knowledge with other emergency service and volunteer organisations where he assists with the training and delivery of programs.

He has been deployed to numerous high profile critical incidents over his career with the New South Wales SES, such as the 1989 Newcastle Earthquake, the 1997 Thredbo Landslide and the 1999 Sydney Hailstorms where he provided assistance in roles such as Operations Officer, Logistics Officer, Emergency Officer and Duty Officer. He also provided assistance to bushfire ravaged communities by managing the recovery centre in Ulladulla and Narooma during the Bushfires 2019-20. His years of experience and knowledge of working under hazardous conditions prove invaluable when the Service becomes operational.

During the New South Wales flooding events 2020-2021 he filled the role of Operations Officer, leading the Operations Team during record breaking events. He discussed and arranged important resources for the Blacktown unit, communicated with Council and local Members of Parliament (MP), held media appearances, and spoke to residents on how to better prepare their homes. In the Incident Management Team (IMT) space he directed teams and undertook planning for the unit in conjunction with the Deputy Unit Commanders. The rapport and respect that he has gained from those he has provided instruction to and mentored during these events is evident. Mr Wademan has demonstrated an unwavering dedication to assist disaster victims in times of need.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

Victoria

Ms Leanne Robyn BOYD, Ouyen VIC 3490

Commencing in October 1982, Ms Leanne Boyd has tirelessly supported and contributed to the Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) and the wider community for over 39 years, not only as a dedicated volunteer but as a significant leader within her unit, the Sunraysia District and the wider Northwest Region.

She has demonstrated her commitment to large scale emergencies, often going above and beyond the call of duty and contributing significantly to the response efforts as an Incident Agency Commander, Safety Officer along with making sure her unit always has a crew to help out units across the Region. This has included major floods during 2009, 2010, 2011 and significant storm events in 2016 in Mildura and Ouyen in 2017 and 2019. She has been the key leader and driver in moving the Ouyen Unit from a very small membership to a thriving community-based organisation with relationships with other emergency services and local community groups and has ensured her Unit is a robust emergency service able to provide emergency response at any moment.

She has always placed VICSES as a high priority in her life, at times has put not only her work but her family second to ensure her local SES Unit is ready to respond to emergencies 24 hours a day 7 days a week and support her local and wider community of Victoria. Her dedication and commitment towards her chosen field of assisting the community shows the passion that is well respected amongst her peers and staff across the State. Without Ms Boyd's persistence and dedication to VICSES Ouyen Unit, it would not be the outstanding unit that it is and her continual sacrifice of personal time, over an extended period is over and above what is expected of a volunteer.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

Mr Charles Paul DEBONO, Portland VIC 3305

Commencing in December 1982, Mr Charles Paul Debono has tirelessly supported and contributed to the Victoria State Emergency Service (VICSES) and the wider community for over 39 years not only as a dedicated volunteer, but as a Deputy Controller and Controller within VICSES for the Heywood and Portland Units and wider Community.

His commitment to large scale emergencies, often going above and beyond the call of duty, contributing significantly to the response efforts as an Incident Agency Commander, Taskforce Leader. This has included major floods during 1993, 2007, 2010, 2012 and 2016 across Gippsland, and in 2021 was a Taskforce Crew Leader to Cyclone Seroja in Western Australia and flood support in New South Wales.

In addition, he has made many valuable contributions throughout his volunteer career and has also been a strong advocate of Road Rescue training and skills maintenance with VICSES volunteers. He has competed at the highest level, representing VICSES at the Australasian Road Rescue Challenge in New Zealand and Scotland.

He continues using his skills and experience as an active volunteer, sharing his road rescue techniques with others. He has been an instrumental leader in the ropes rescue team, representing VICSES in many cliff rescues. As evidenced by numerous emergency events, he has displayed leadership, direction, emotional guidance, and support to others.

His dedication, commitment, and continual sacrifice of personal time in assisting the community shows his passion and he is well respected amongst his peers and community. He has been key in driving the Heywood and Portland Units membership to thriving community-based organisations. He has established strong relationships with other local emergency services and community groups.

Mr Debono has ensured both Units are robust emergency services able to provide an emergency response 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Without Mr Debono's persistence and dedication to VICSES Heywood and Portland Units, they would not be the outstanding VICSES Units that they are.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

Mr Matthew John PONSFORD, Point Lonsdale VIC 3225

Mr Matthew Ponsford has been an active member of the Point Lonsdale Surf Life Saving Club (SLSC) and Life Saving Victoria (LSV) at a regional and State level since December 1987.

He has held numerous positions of responsibility since his commencement such as Lifesaving Emergency Response Team (LERT) Captain, Assurance Officer, COVID-19 Safe Coordinator, and Member Back Beach Base Building Committee. This also includes 19 seasons of service through his Club's Executive Committee. The most senior role was that of President, and during his four-year term he led a project to construct a new clubhouse which had been a dream for 10 years and the third attempt in the last few decades. During this time a land lease and design was finalised, along with obtaining construction approval. In addition, joint government and community fundraising occurred, and funding was secured.

In 2006, he sought and obtained approval for the creation of a year-round out of hours response group - Lifesaving Emergency Response Team (LERT) at Point Lonsdale. With the creation of this team and through his work at Ambulance Victoria as a Paramedic and Manager, he established and mentored a group of members who have now obtained additional skills and qualifications that can respond to agency requests for assistance in hazardous conditions. This team has grown to include a Rescue Water Craft (RWC) service that provides both summer patrol services and a year-round callout service, all of which continue to operate. In 2013, LSV awarded the team and the Club the outstanding achievement of the year award for its efforts to assist with a five-day search and rescue for a missing scuba diver off the Point Lonsdale coast.

Mr Ponsford continues to be an active member of this team, undertaking rostered patrols and for the last season has resumed the LERT Captain role. Mr Ponsford continues to assist with the training of new RWC operators and the annual reassessment of existing RWC operators in his region.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

Mr David Anthony RYLANCE, Rowville VIC 3178

From 1991, Mr David Rylance has provided exceptional service to lifesaving over more than 30 years through various roles including Elwood Life Saving Club President and Chief Instructor as well as a Director on Life Saving Victoria's (LSV) Board.

Throughout 29 years of patrol service, including as Patrol Captain, he has responded to numerous incidents and major first aid cases. This has included searches for missing persons, radio operations and water rescues in hazardous conditions. Mr Rylance's service has also included working in a group that merged the volunteer patrol operations of Royal Life Saving Australia Victoria Branch (RLSAV) and Surf Life Saving Victoria (SLSV). His operational duties span working as State Duty Officer, being the inaugural Chief Pilot of Life Saving Victoria's Remote Piloted Aircraft Systems (RPAS) and working as a jet ski operator in LSVs Rescue Watercraft service.

Mr Rylance is responsible for training more than a thousand lifesavers who keep the state's beaches safe and instituted a program which sees high school students gain their Bronze Medallion. Mr Rylance's commitment to lifesaving has extended to state and national roles through LSV and Surf Life Saving Australia, including assisting in the development of Bronze Medallion training for lifesavers around the country.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

Queensland

Mr Alex George JOHNSON, Mount Cotton QLD 4165

Mr Alex Johnson has been a State Emergency Service (SES) volunteer for 25 years, the first five years in Penrith SES NSW. Since joining QLD SES in 2003 he has been a very active and dedicated SES volunteer. He has demonstrated his passion, commitment and enthusiasm through Resource and Group Management. He organises, coordinates and ensures that the unit's equipment and vehicles are operationally ready for activation.

During COVID-19 restricted periods, he ran one-on-one programs for members to attend maintenance and training sessions to maintain engagement. He regularly runs training sessions demonstrating storm operation and heights training principles and methods and always makes himself available for training activities such as flood boating and coaching the next generation. He is a member of the Training Executive, ensuring that members' skills matrix and training requirements are sufficient, and that interoperability and working collaboratively with external stakeholders to enhance the efficiencies and quality of processes is met.

He is one of the first SES members to respond to deployments and has been deployed multiple times throughout his career, demonstrating leadership to his colleagues. He happily mentors his younger colleagues, developing their skills and knowledge to ensure they have a 'can do' attitude towards their SES duties. He willingly stepped up to coordinate the last unit recruitment for new members despite his own demanding work commitments and SES duties. He assisted with the design and commissioning of the new Redland Bay facility. He coordinated the transition from the old facility to the new depot and assisted with the construction of furniture and relocation of equipment, vehicles, and other resources. Mr Johnson is the true essence of what a SES volunteer leader should be.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

Western Australia

Mr David John WHITE, High Wycombe WA 6057

In 1985 Mr David John White joined the Kalamunda Volunteer State Emergency Service (SES) Unit. He has performed a number of roles from Rescue Team Leader, Local Manager and Communications team member, a position he currently retains.

Over 37 years he has shown a dedication to various leadership and management roles, including with the Statewide Operational Response Division (SWORD). He assisted in rescues amid the Moora flood in 1999 and the clean-up after Cyclone Vance in Exmouth later in the year, provided logistical support in fighting the 2002 Norseman Wildfires and helped the Kalbarri area during the devastating Cyclone Seroja in 2021. He gained considerable experience in land searching and has worked with Western Australia Police as an SES Field Search Controller.

When he joined SWORD in 2015, shortly after its creation, he took on the task of Unit Manager, developing a team structure, responsibility profiles and operational guidelines. He remains in the role. He has travelled the State providing specialist training programs to SES and Department of Fire and Emergency Services (DFES) personnel. Those programs began at a local level before progressing to other metropolitan units, the regional office and the DFES Training Academy in Forrestfield. Mr White is currently working on delivering Workplace Trainer Assessor courses within DFES. This enables volunteers to train other volunteers in key areas.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

South Australia

Mrs Toni CLARKE, SA

Mrs Toni Clarke joined the South Australian State Emergency Service (SASES) in 2010 as a volunteer with the Enfield Unit where she held the position of Deputy Team Leader. She joined the Eastern Suburbs Unit in 2012 and has held senior leadership roles in Community Engagement, Training Coordinator, Business Coordinator, Deputy Unit Manager and Unit Manager. She is currently a joint member of Eastern Suburbs Unit and the Dog Operations Unit.

She has dedicated her volunteer career to training and mentoring others. Since late 2017, she has inducted every new Eastern Suburbs Unit member and has served on the District Training Coordinators Committee until 2022. She was instrumental in implementing the new District Intake Model for the Northern Adelaide District and has been an advocate for improving training standards at the Unit, District and State levels. She is a volunteer instructor and assessor in a number of State Emergency Service (SES) disciplines including Rescue Operations, and regularly travels the state to pass on her skills and knowledge to other volunteers.

Recently, she has taken on the role of inaugural Unit Manager, Dog Operations. This unit was formed as an independent unit in 2021 with locations in the Riverland and Metropolitan Adelaide. Not satisfied with just supporting SASES in South Australia, she has volunteered on numerous interstate deployments in Queensland, Victoria and New South Wales for bushfires and floods and intrastate deployments, most recently supporting SA Health in Ceduna in 2022 and the Country Fire Service during the Bushfires 2019-20, Adelaide Hills and Bushfires 2019-20, Kangaroo Island. She has fulfilled the role of Base Camp Manager during many emergency situations, most recently Bushfires 2019-20, Kangaroo Island.

Mrs Clarke exemplifies what it means to be a volunteer member of the SASES. Her commitment and dedication to her community, SES members and the Service itself exceeds the highest expectations one would have of a volunteer.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

Mr Bradley Lewis FLEW, Mount Gambier SA 5290

Mr Bradley Flew joined the South Australia State Emergency Service (SASES) Eastern Suburbs Unit in 2010 and quickly moved through the ranks, from Deputy Team Leader, to Unit Operations Coordinator, to Unit Manager and was appointed to a staff role as District Officer for the South East in 2016. His knowledge, expertise, ability to lead and effectively train members at all levels is admirable. He is endorsed to deliver and assess 14 separate units of competency and delivers over 20 courses a year to hundreds of volunteers, his peers, and members of other emergency services agencies.

He has been a highly skilled and dedicated first responder for over 12 years and has attended over 140 emergency incidents in the past 24 months. He has also been a significant contributor to some of the largest incidents where he has deployed interstate and intrastate on several occasions. Incidents of note being the 2015 storm event in New South Wales, Bushfires 2019-20, Kangaroo Island, Tropical Cyclone Seroja in Western Australia in 2021 and most recently to the New South Wales flood event 2022.

He has been a guiding force in several initiatives within the SASES including the implementation of Microsoft Teams and SharePoint within the volunteer cohort which allowed volunteers to communicate effectively throughout the global pandemic. This initiative significantly reduced the negative impact COVID-19 had on hundreds of volunteers and peers during periods when SASES training was suspended. He is a driving force, bringing together other Emergency Services Organisations within the local community, and has successfully managed to break down many barriers that have been in place for decades.

Mr Flew has had a positive impact on every volunteer he has trained or worked alongside, and his respectful relationships with the community and other emergency services personnel is a true testament to his commitment to the organisation and the South Australian community. He is an incredible asset to the State Emergency Service and the emergency services sector as a whole.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

Tasmania

Mr Brett Matthew ROBINS, TAS 7250

Mr Brett Robins has been an active, dedicated, and passionate State Emergency Service (SES) member since 2007, with a high level of commitment and leadership as Deputy Unit Manager of the Northern General Response Unit until 2019, and Unit Manager of the Northern Search and Rescue Team (SAR) since 2016. He is extraordinarily committed, works hard to honour his commitments and displays an infectious energy.

He provides training and mentoring to new volunteers, always with the utmost professionalism and good humour. His commitment over the years has been significant in both response and training. He has been a member of the Northern team for the 2016 State Disaster Rescue Challenge, has attended Interstate deployments in 2011 and 2012 and has supported many bushfire responses. In addition, he was involved in intrastate activities including 2018 Hobart Floods and contributed significant hours to the 2016 Launceston Flood effort.

Within the community, he has educated school groups and led the team providing safety information and promoting SES at the Scotch Oakburn Community Days. His skills include rescue, flood management, storm damage, all-terrain vehicle searching to off-track navigation and roping to winter skills, strong leadership, big picture thinking and attention to detail. He is an outstanding operator and an invaluable asset to the SES, on both a personal and organisational level.

He ensures the welfare and health of others, particularly in following up with members after traumatic events. This approach has facilitated a sense of family and comradeship among members. He is a strong advocate for women, ensuring equal access and resources that are fit for purpose. Northern SAR Team is respected for its professionalism and skills across agencies including Tasmanian Police and Tasmanian Ambulance.

His humility and quiet achievements deserve to be recognised. He embodies what it means to be an SES volunteer, always available, motivated and he consistently embodies the organisations values. Mr Robins is professional, respectful, committed and with a high level of integrity.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

Mr Leon Alfred SMITH, Dynnyrne TAS 7005

Mr Leon Smith joined the Tasmania Fire Service (TFS) in 1985. In his 32 years with the TFS he contributed greatly to operations and training both as a career firefighter and volunteer.

During his service with TFS as Project Leader, he was instrumental in the development of the Compressed Air Foam System (CAFS) technology and capability. His expertise in CAFS technology became nationally and internationally renowned. Since joining State Emergency Service (SES) in 2017, he has effectively managed the SES operational response to the significant May 2018 Hobart severe weather event and numerous similar incidents throughout the state. He was appointed to the position of Deputy State Fire Commander for the 2018/19 Tasmanian bushfires, supporting TFS operations and coordinating the significant SES assistance to TFS in various support roles.

In March 2020 he established and coordinated a state-wide multi-agency process for conducting COVID-19 quarantine and isolation compliance checks by SES, TFS and Australian Defence Force personnel in support of Tasmania Police during the COVID-19 response in Tasmania. He is highly respected by the SES volunteers due to his willingness to join and support their activities. He has assisted volunteers on the ground during operations and participated in community engagement activities.

During his service, he has demonstrated the ability to effect organisational change in a positive and sustainable way and maintain (and future proof) the organisational capability. He has relieved in the role of Director SES on a number of occasions and leads by example, with professionalism, integrity, commitment and respect. Mr Smith's dedication to and pride in the SES as an organisation, SES volunteers and partner emergency services in Tasmania is invaluable and inspirational.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

Mr Neil Graham WRIGHT, Mornington TAS 7018

Mr Neil Wright is a proud and long serving member of the State Emergency Service (SES) Tasmania since commencing his role in 1998. He has provided dedicated and diligent service to the organisation and in turn, the Tasmanian community. He has taken his 24 years of SES volunteering seriously and has an exemplary attendance record at training and attendance during operational activities including on deployments to significant disasters interstate.

One of his strongest and most prominent attributes is his spirit and strong sense of mateship and camaraderie, attributes that have enabled him to establish and maintain legitimate friendships and professional relationships. He encourages others to have a go, enables contribution and brings out the best in people. He is a competent operational practitioner who takes the time to develop others and encourages them to be their best. He is a mentor and coach for younger members of the unit.

As well as being an exceptional team player and practitioner, he has diversified into roles including community engagement and education. In fact, he eagerly volunteered to participate in the initial Community Development Volunteer program, which he threw himself into with all his usual enthusiasm. He has assisted the SES in formalising the Community Engagement processes and set up at community events as the face of the SES where his smile and friendly approachable nature has won the hearts of children and parents alike.

He is capable, easy going, enthusiastic, with a heart of gold. Mr Wright is a proud volunteer and is recognised for his role in developing the capability of SES by leading by example and empowering, encouraging and developing others around him who appreciate his optimism and enthusiasm.

EMERGENCY SERVICES MEDAL (ESM)

Northern Territory

Mr Ian Mark SMITH, Alice Springs NT 0870

Mr Ian Smith joined the Northern Territory Emergency Service (NTES) in 1995 as a volunteer cadet with the Palmerston Volunteer Unit, where he served until he moved to Alice Springs in 2005. After a short break from volunteering with NTES, he re-commenced with the Alice Springs Volunteer Unit in 2007. Since then he has held various career and volunteer roles in the Southern Command often concurrently, including Deputy Unit Officer, Operations Support Officer, Volunteer Unit Officer, Rescue Officer and NTES Area Manager for the Barkly Region.

Over the years he has assisted in land searches, storm and flood damage tasks, including operations with Cyclone Thelma and Cyclone Ingrid, and in the Emergency Operations Centre during the response and recovery stages of Cyclone Lam. In June 2015, Ian was second in charge and the safety officer for a vertical rescue operation on Uluru, where a tourist had fallen while climbing into a crevasse. The climber had life threatening injuries and their survival was directly attributed to the retrieval assistance provided by the rescue team.

In June 2016, he provided reconnaissance on storm related jobs after a hail storm caused widespread damage across Alice Springs and also the team leader on a multi-agency rescue in November 2021, of a person trapped in flood waters in Alice Springs. The team included members of NTES, NTFRS, NT Police, and AFP.

It is estimated that he volunteers more than 500 hours of his own time every year to help his community, including as a team leader of the Alice Springs Motorsports Fire and Rescue crew and previously with the Alice Springs Men's Shed. Having served as a volunteer for over 25 years, Mr Smith has demonstrated superior dedication and commitment to NTES and to the community.

AUSTRALIAN CORRECTIONS MEDAL (ACM)

New South Wales

Ms Denise CONSTANTINOU

Ms Denise Constantinou commenced duties with Corrective Services New South Wales in 2001 as an Intern Psychologist. She is currently a Senior Psychologist and Team Leader at the Compulsory Drug Treatment Correctional Centre.

Throughout her 21-year career, she has been instrumental in the rehabilitation of offenders who need psychological and therapeutic help for Substance Abuse Disorder. She leads a multi-disciplinary team of psychologists, Community Corrections Officers and Services and Programs Officers to deliver an intensive Alcohol or Other Drug (AOD) program.

As Team Leader, she oversees all aspects of treatment at the centre, ensuring the quality of the AOD program delivered to offenders who are at high risk of relapse. She provides face to face case management for offenders with more complex needs, supporting them to change their behaviour at an addiction and criminogenic level. She provides individual supervision to psychologists, facilitating clinical peer consultation meetings, coordinating training schedules, vetting assessment reports and treatment plans, providing expert opinion in complex cases and overseeing case management recommendations for all program participants.

Ms Constantinou is unwavering in her dedication to the role and has care and compassion for all of those under her care. She recently identified an offender residing in the community who had relapsed. She maintained contact with the offender, alerted staff to the offender's location so the offender could be assessed and encouraged that person to return to custody voluntarily for their safety and that of the community.

Ms Constantinou is currently developing and trialling a unique maintenance program to support participants as they confront various challenges in reintegration and has shown exemplary leadership, resilience, courage and pride in her work with participants. She is dedicated, passionate and committed, providing guidance, support and advice to staff. She is willing to go above and beyond to ensure the highest quality service is delivered to offenders who are changing a lifetime of addiction and criminal offending behaviour.

AUSTRALIAN CORRECTIONS MEDAL (ACM)

Mr Andrew Steven GOLGINI

Mr Andrew Golgini commenced duty with Corrective Services New South Wales in 2006 as a Correctional Officer before becoming an Overseer. He is currently a Senior Overseer in centre hygiene at the Metropolitan Remand and Reception Centre (MRRC) in Silverwater.

Mr Golgini is a highly experienced Overseer who has worked across multiple fields including general industries and as an electrician. In his current role, he performs operational duties and assists with the rehabilitation of inmates by employing and leading them within his business unit.

Mr Golgini has played a key role in overhauling MRRC's hygiene service provision, developing and implementing a new system to improve the centre's presentation and cleanliness. Due to his efforts, MRRC was one of the first correctional centres to employ, train and manage an inmate working group dedicated to forensic cleaning - a daily requirement at the centre.

Mr Golgini's ingenuity continued throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, when he developed a cleaning process that eliminated the need for external contractors. He used the skills and expertise of inmates to ensure MRRC adhered to strict COVID-19 hygiene protocols, while keeping inmates engaged throughout the pandemic. His knowledge and skillset allowed him to develop comprehensive cleaning processes in other locations. He introduced changes at Amber Laurel Correctional Centre, Kariang Correctional Centre, Surry Hills Court Cells and other areas to reduce the need for contractors, implementing systems which used the skilled inmates to undertake cleaning works.

Mr Golgini is a dedicated, committed and outgoing team player who goes above and beyond to carry out his responsibilities, while devising creative new ways of working that benefit Corrective Services New South Wales.

AUSTRALIAN CORRECTIONS MEDAL (ACM)

Ms Hana HALLAK

Ms Hana Hallak commenced duty with Community Corrections in 2005 as an Arabic Community Engagement and Cultural Officer. She has held this position throughout her career within corrections.

Ms Hallak plays a critical role in the lives of offenders and their families, offering guidance to relatives and significant others prior to an offender's release from custody. She provides advice on supervision, her role and what can be expected from someone who has been in custody.

Ms Hallak conducts regular interviews with Arabic offenders when they are released and prepares them with cognitive tools and techniques to help manage stress, anxiety, impulsivity and their new environment. She also provides culturally appropriate referrals to community organisations and service providers.

Ms Hallak's role means she has ongoing contact regularly with offenders regarding issues affecting supervision that relate to cultural and religious identity. Her cultural knowledge extends to her colleagues, providing advice on what to expect from offenders and families during cultural or religious celebrations such as Ramadan or Eid. She is a dedicated officer who models organisational values within the Arabic community, while acting as a conduit for Community Corrections. She plays a key role in ensuring rapport is built and maintained with Arabic offenders, which enhances outcomes for both offenders and community safety.

Key to Ms Hallak's success is her calm and confident conduct, and her continued push to strive for better outcomes within the Arabic community and Community Corrections. She is always looking for ways to enhance engagement between officers, offenders, families and service providers. Ms Hallak encourages and supports initiatives that improve the public's understanding of the work Community Corrections undertakes.

Ms Hallak is creative, approachable, knowledgeable, and always has a focus on the wellbeing of offenders and their families. She is an incredible asset to Community Corrections and supports officers as they engage with offenders in behavioural change interventions.

AUSTRALIAN CORRECTIONS MEDAL (ACM)

Mr Jason Kenneth SCHNEPF

Mr Jason Schnepf commenced duty with Corrective Services New South Wales (CSNSW) in 1998 at the Metropolitan Special Programs Centre (MSPC). He is currently a Senior Correctional Officer at Kirkconnell Correctional Centre. He has worked in various high-level positions across the organisation.

After completing his tenure at MSPC, Mr Schnepf was appointed to the Metropolitan Security Unit and the Extreme High Security Escort Unit. He has also carried out duties at Mulawa Correctional Centre Immediate Action Team, Mid North Coast Correctional Centre, Parklea Correctional Centre, Court Escort Security Unit (CESU) at Surry Hills Court Cells, CESU Transport at Silverwater, Wellington Correctional Centre, worked in numerous Immediate Action Teams across the state and worked as Assistant Superintendent of Custodial Training at Brush Farm Corrective Services Academy.

Mr Schnepf has also been a member of the Corrective Services NSW Ceremonial Honour Guard since it was formed in November 1998, and he is the only founding member still active in the guard to this date.

Mr Schnepf is an enthusiastic and effective leader who improves inmate conduct and attitudes around offending behaviour with thorough and insightful case management team meetings. He is an excellent communicator and promotes change in inmates. His positive attitude and the way he undertakes his duties has a beneficial effect on those he interacts with, whether they are inmates or colleagues. He has previously used his skills in the commissioning of Mid North Coast Correctional Centre and the re-commissioning of Kirkconnell Correctional Centre. He has worked on other special projects including the restructure of Glen Innes Correctional Centre, and helped conduct a feasibility study on inmate populations at Glen Innes Correctional Centre

Mr Schnepf has dedicated his life to CSNSW and his staff, and always displays the qualities of integrity, ethics and professionalism.

AUSTRALIAN CORRECTIONS MEDAL (ACM)

Mr Rex Campbell TALBOT

Mr Rex Talbot commenced duty with Corrective Services New South Wales (CSNSW) in 1995 as a Correctional Officer. He is currently Assistant Superintendent within the Extreme High Security Escort Unit (EHSEU).

Mr Talbot is responsible for safely transporting high-security inmates who may be subject to terrorism charges and complex management regimes due to the nature of their offences and potential threat to national security, or who have severe and complex mental health issues. He safely conveys offenders to covert interview operations, crime scene walk-throughs and provides evidence in high-profile cases. He also escorts interstate offenders to New South Wales correctional centres following serious incidents that have occurred within their own centre. He also safely conveys offenders transitioning into witness protection. He is responsible for relaying information about inmates, and their behaviour during transport, to relevant stakeholders within CSNSW and other key agencies such as the Australian Federal Police.

Throughout his career, Mr Talbot has demonstrated exemplary leadership, courage and care. He supported staff members involved in a hostage situation as well as a high level incident. He provides exceptional care to his colleagues, putting their needs and wellbeing at the forefront.

Mr Talbot sits on a number of working parties for his team and for the wider Security and Intelligence division. He has worked extensively as a subject matter expert providing advice to the Executive Committee. He is a Field Training Officer with a specialised focus in the training and use of firearms by CSNSW staff, non-lethal restraint techniques, chemical munitions, critical incident response and the upskilling of staff. He is also an expert in risk assessment and providing high-level risk mitigation strategies which are invaluable to his work.

Mr Talbot is a dedicated, committed and forward-thinking leader, and a vital member of the EHSEU.

AUSTRALIAN CORRECTIONS MEDAL (ACM)

Victoria

Ms Kerrie Louise FRANK

In 2004, Ms Kerrie Frank commenced volunteering at the Wodonga Community Correctional Office, marking the beginning of a career with Community Corrections. Since 2005, she has held numerous roles including Community Work Coordinator, Case Manager, Leading Case Manager and Officer in Charge, and is currently serving as the Supervisor, Court Case Management at Wodonga Community Correctional Services (CCS).

Ms Frank has led the Court Case Management stream at Wodonga CCS for the past 12 years, delivering oversight of offenders undertaking community-based orders, parole orders, and community work. She has also held the role of Specialist Case Manager Mentor, a position in which she mentored less experienced staff who were to specialise in managing offenders convicted of sexual-related offending. She excelled in this role due to her passion for meaningful offender-rehabilitation, paired with her commitment to providing support and guidance to staff.

Ms Frank has acted as Manager, Court Practice of Wodonga and Wangaratta on several occasions. Over this time the organisation has had two major reforms, with her being a dedicated champion of constructive change within Community Corrections. The geographical location of the Wodonga Justice Services Centre has required her to overcome unique challenges, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. She has initiated and fostered crucial relationships with key stakeholders to enable continued cross-border access to services for offenders while upholding community safety in Wodonga and neighbouring communities. She also offers support to various committees and initiatives with a shared goal of achieving better outcomes for offenders and the community.

Ms Frank has served the Wodonga community for over 17 years. She is recognised as an advocate and drive of change and a stalwart of integrity. Her professionalism, leadership, and dedication epitomise what it means to be an exceptional community corrections officer.

AUSTRALIAN CORRECTIONS MEDAL (ACM)

Ms Janet HATVANI

Ms Janet Hatvani commenced her service with Community Correctional Services (CCS) in 2003. Since then, she has served in a number of frontline positions in the Eastern Metropolitan Region, including as a Community Corrections Officer, Officer in Charge, and Professional Practice Advisor.

In 2011 she was appointed to Regional Change Leader, which led to subsequent roles in change management, quality assurance, professional practice, and system implementation. She is currently serving as Supervisor, Court Case Management at Lilydale CCS.

Ms Hatvani thrives in high-pressure environments and has been instrumental in the regions' successful reform initiatives over the last decade. As Regional Change Leader, she was a key leader in the implementation of sentencing reforms, and continued to champion change activities providing support and guidance to the region, during a time of great change and expansion.

Ms Hatvani is a well-respected leader, demonstrating a combination of warmth, compassion, forward thinking and strategic vision. She is goal oriented and proactively seeks to address systematic barriers to provide high levels of service to the Victorian community. She oversees the supervision of complex cases, taking the time to listen to statutory clients and using her knowledge and skillset to resolve difficult issues. She has exceptional interviewing skills and engages offenders in a way that results in meaningful change, acknowledging their progress to help them to address their offending behaviours. In turn, she positively influences the practice of the case managers that she leads.

Ms Hatvani is a motivational leader whose dedication and commitment has led to positive organisational change throughout her distinguished career. She remains committed to delivering best practice case management that contributes to community safety.

AUSTRALIAN CORRECTIONS MEDAL (ACM)

Queensland

Mr Shane Bucholz ALLWOOD

Mr Shane Allwood has served over 19 years within Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) with an absolute dedication to duty, community safety and offender rehabilitation. Commencing in 2003 as a Custodial Correctional Officer before progressing to a Correctional Supervisor, he has devoted his career to the safety and security of staff and prisoners within the Maryborough Correctional Centre.

Mr Allwood's current oversight at the Maryborough Correctional Centre, is managing high risk portfolios including breaches of discipline, safety orders, the high-risk register and portfolio, including prisoners of concern. Supervisors working in this area are selected by the Deputy General Manager through a merit process based on the Supervisor's significant risk identification and mitigation strategies.

Mr Allwood is an experienced accommodation Supervisor having worked all aspects of the Centres Leadership Team Portfolio. His breadth of knowledge and exemplary supervisory skills allow him to provide best-practice advice on service delivery and accommodation support. He models the QCS code of conduct, treating staff, prisoners and stake holders with courtesy and respect. He is exemplary in impartial decision making and is continuously relied upon for advice from other Correctional Supervisors and Custodial Correctional Officers.

Mr Allwood's sound leadership, ability to identify risk, support staff and handle high stress, intense incidents is held in high regard and continuously supports improved outcomes.

AUSTRALIAN CORRECTIONS MEDAL (ACM)

Ms Eloise Maree HAMLETT

Ms Eloise Hamlett commenced employment with Queensland Corrective Services (QCS) in 2000 as a psychologist at the former Borallon Correctional Centre. She has provided 22 years of distinguished service in a variety of positions including as a Senior Psychologist, District Manager, Director, Superintendent and Chief Superintendent. She is currently Acting Assistant Commissioner, Central and Northern Region Command for QCS.

Ms Hamlett brings a unique set of skills to QCS, working across custodial, community and specialist operations settings, and has contributed to significant organisational change and strategic projects, including her role leading implementation of the Human Rights Act 2019. She has led and managed the delivery of various correctional services for many years in Southeast Queensland. Passionate about improving responses to First Nations prisoners and offenders who are vulnerable and overrepresented in the criminal justice system, actively contributing to strategies that increase the percentage of First Nations staffing, particularly for the northern and far northern regions. She has improved the wellbeing of offenders through regular engagement and the management of delivery of sentence management and psychological services and rehabilitation programs and services.

For many years she has led the delivery of custodial services to women and contributed to the implementation of trauma informed and gender responsive practices. Ms Hamlett is also highly skilled in strategic leadership and as the Chairperson of the Statewide System Configuration Executive Group she has led the identification and implementation of immediate actions to maximise the utilisation of capacity, workforce resources and infrastructure, and align recruitment planning.

AUSTRALIAN CORRECTIONS MEDAL (ACM)

Ms Rhiannon Lee PORTER

Ms Rhiannon Porter is a highly respected and capable leader who has significantly contributed to community safety in Queensland across a variety of complex roles within Queensland Corrective Services. She is ethical, professional, hard-working, and consistently supportive of the professional development and growth of others around her.

Commencing at the frontline of Community Corrections in 2008, Ms Porter truly defines an operational leader who has contributed significantly to and understands the corrections environment. Throughout her progression to senior leadership roles, she applies and retains these real-time skills when engaging with offenders and continues to effectively manage their needs whilst ensuring the safety of staff.

Harnessing her passion for frontline service delivery, combined with her intricate knowledge of the work undertaken in community corrections, resulted in Ms Porter taking on the project lead for Streamlining the Management and Allocation of Resources and Talent - the SMART model. A contemporary and fit for purpose resource and funding allocation model was necessary to support the community corrections workforce by efficiently and fairly allocating funding and people across the state. Ms Porter has delivered undeniable success through her work on the SMART model. The leading-edge methodologies enabling the optimisation and modernisation of frontline services is ground-breaking, and the first of its kind in Australia. The SMART model has not only received attention from many human services agencies across Queensland but from multiple jurisdictions across Australia.

Ms Porter has made a significant contribution to the development and enhancement of existing organisational systems through her leadership in major change management projects and initiatives. She displays vision and drive and has played a key role in the recent and ongoing transformation of Queensland Corrective Services.

AUSTRALIAN CORRECTIONS MEDAL (ACM)

Western Australia

Mr Raymond Desmond EDGE

Mr Raymond Desmond Edge joined the Department of Justice Western Australia in 1995 as prison officer at the CW Campbell Remand Centre, now Hakea Prison. In 2000, he transferred to the Emergency Support Group at the Hakea Prison Complex as Prison Officer First Class, then promoted to Senior Officer in 2004. From 2006-2008 he was the Superintendent of the Emergency Support Group and in 2006 won the Western Australian Corrective Services Award for Safety and Security.

In 2008 Mr Edge was seconded as Director to the now Professional Standards Division, then substantively appointed to that position in 2010. His time there further promoted the Departments aim for integrity and positive conduct and continues to lead by example in terms of conduct and professionalism. In 2014 Mr Edge was promoted to Superintendent Youth Custodial Services at the Banksia Hill Detention Centre and was commended for his outstanding leadership and commitment in working with the children in care.

In 2017, Mr Edge was transferred to his current position as Superintendent Karnet Prison Farm focussing on expanding the Department's sustainability model to meet supply requirements significantly increasing training and development opportunities for offenders. In September 2018 he was seconded as the Assistant Commissioner Custodial Operations to implement the Agency Expenditure Review recommendations driving change and providing line management to Superintendents across the State.

In May 2019, Mr Edge returned to Karnet as Superintendent building partnerships with the mining sector to provide unique training to offenders via a simulated mine-site which they are supported to commence whilst completing their period of incarceration. In 2021, through strategic partnerships with the Departments of Fire and Emergency Services and Biodiversity Conservation and Attractions, a total of 23 offenders completed specialised training to provide vital support to Western Australia's fixed-wing water bomber fleet during the summer season.

AUSTRALIAN CORRECTIONS MEDAL (ACM)

Dr Joy Rachel ROWLAND

As the Director Medical Services for the Department of Justice Western Australia, Dr Joy Rachel Rowland oversees the treatment and care of complex prisoners. Part of her role is to supervise medical officers and conduct reviews of medical files and/or the medical treatment of prisoners ensuring effective case management.

Dr Rowland is required to provide advice to the Department of Justice regarding health care and management of the broad prisoner population as well as individuals with specific needs, including assessments, resourcing, clinical guidelines and staff training. This includes responding to concerns of prisoners or their families, and liaising with external agencies such as Fiona Stanley Hospital, and the Department of Health to ensure continuity and access to comprehensive care to meet the needs of prisoners.

Most notably, it is her contribution to the management of the COVID-19 Pandemic Plan which deserves recognition. Her ability to navigate vast changes that come with working on pandemic response in remote and rural settings is highly praised. Dr Rowland is an engaging knowledgeable professional who successfully works with the Department's COVID-19 Taskforce team to manage the pandemic across the Prison Estate and the Department's preparedness for an outbreak. Her development of relationships with prisons across Australia to share learning on the management of COVID-19 in the prison systems has been invaluable.

As a representative for the Department, her involvement at the Western Australia Department of Health Workshops to develop the COVID-19 Outbreak Response Plan for Secure Facilities has been instrumental. This was achieved by optimising the use of technology or telehealth to ensure that Prison Health Service meets the needs of its patients and staff during the pandemic. Her leadership in the development of extensive partnerships/relationships with community health service providers is extremely noteworthy.

AUSTRALIAN CORRECTIONS MEDAL (ACM)

South Australia

Mrs Helen Yvonne BALES

Ms Helen Bales began her career with the Department of Corrective Services (DCS) as a Custodial Officer in 2003 at Yatala Labour Prison (YLP). Throughout her career she has demonstrated willingness to learn, develop and be challenged.

In 2005 Ms Bales stepped into the role of Case Management Coordinator and was able to consolidate this role for many years. She was a Trainee Correctional Officer Course Supervisor in 2013, where she was able to use her skills and experience to help train, guide and develop new Correctional Officers. She has held management roles since 2014, with her current substantive role of Accommodation Manager at YLP. She has also spent considerable time acting in other senior manager roles including Assistant General Manager and General Manager both at Adelaide Women's Prison and YLP.

As a frontline worker, Ms Bales works within the operational challenges of a high-security prison. She works closely alongside prisoners when supervising behaviour, oversight of regime management and responding to emergencies and incidents. She is responsible for ensuring a quality prison system through the delivery of a safe and secure environment.

Ms Bales' dedication to corrections and commitment to improving the working environment for all inspires and motivates others around her. She reliably goes above and beyond the normal requirements of the position. Her leadership and calm and comprehensive approach has assisted the YLP team to successfully manage challenging and difficult circumstances including a number of serious and critical incidents. She is extremely well respected for her measured and resilient approach to driving and shaping large-scale operational change, playing a critical role in supporting the transition to smoke-free prisons.

Ms Bales is well regarded by all in the correctional system and cares deeply about the work and the people in custody. Her values are aligned with the organisation and she supports those that work with her to develop and achieve their own personal development goals.

AUSTRALIAN CORRECTIONS MEDAL (ACM)

Mr Anthony James SHILLABEER

Mr Anthony Shillabeer commenced with the Department of Corrective Services (DCS) in 1992 as a Community Services Officer in the remote area of Coober Pedy and undertook a number of regional assignments including Marla and Port Lincoln. Over a period of 10 years he undertook a range of case management roles in community corrections, before moving to the prison system at Port Lincoln Prison in the early 2000s. He has always had a strong commitment to the northern community region and worked across both prison and community, making him the ideal candidate to take up the role of Regional Director, Northern Region in 2009.

As a Regional Director, Mr Shillabeer has daily face-to-face contact with offenders and is responsible for the delivery of contemporary offender case management. He is actively involved in supporting offenders with their supervision and reporting requirements, escalation of breach activity and provision of high-level offender management related advice. This includes front-line contact with high risk, challenging offenders, working with the South Australia Police in the oversight of offenders who are receiving multi-agency case management.

Mr Shillabeer is well connected across the region, enabling him and the team to work effectively with other agencies, programs and services available in the community. He has a strong commitment to improving outcomes for Aboriginal people and families and has worked on a number of important projects and programs aimed at reducing Aboriginal incarceration.

Mr Shillabeer has been integral in implementing the nation leading Life Sentence Prisoners Program that enables homicide offenders assessed as suitable for return to community to participate in a transition program from the Adelaide Pre-Release Centre. He has played a key role in the establishment of the pilot program at Lemongrass Place, a community based rehabilitation and transition centre in Port Augusta for Aboriginal men from remote communities to safely transition back into the community.

Mr Shillabeer is highly regarded by everyone across the agency. He is a kind, decent and supportive individual who actively mentors, identifies up and coming staff to step into senior roles and learn the complexities of offender supervision and community engagement.

AUSTRALIAN CORRECTIONS MEDAL (ACM)

Tasmania

Ms Erin Louise HUNN

Ms Erin Hunn is currently the Acting Team Leader Planning and Reintegration with the Tasmania Prison Service (TPS) and has held a number of roles within the TPS since she was first appointed as a casual Prisoner Support Officer in 2002.

Throughout her 20 years with the TPS, Ms Hunn has also worked as a Family Liaison Officer, High Needs Support Counsellor and Senior Facilitator Intervention Programs. In each of these roles she has always had a strong focus on improving conditions and outcomes for prisoners in Tasmania. She has worked in a dedicated and consistent manner to ensure that prisoners are afforded every possible opportunity to rehabilitate during their time in custody and to support their reintegration into the community upon release.

From the time she commenced with the TPS, Ms Hunn has actively sought to identify opportunities for the TPS to support both prisoners and the community and has worked hard to deliver outcomes. She is well respected and liked by both colleagues and prisoners for the way she goes about her work and has proven herself to be innovative and adaptable. She regularly goes above and beyond to provide support to prisoners, particularly in helping them maintain family relationships and supporting them to remain engaged in programs to support their rehabilitation. Her broad experience across many rehabilitation and reintegration roles within the TPS means that she has a rounded understanding of the TPS, and she regularly and willingly uses that knowledge to assist others.

Ms Hunn has given distinguished operational support and service both to her colleagues within the TPS as well as individuals in custody. Her efforts have helped to make the Tasmanian community safer through her loyalty and devotion to public service with the TPS.

AUSTRALIAN INTELLIGENCE MEDAL (AIM)

Federal

Mr James ARNOLD

Mr James Arnold has over 34 years' experience in the intelligence field. He has played central roles in a number of high tempo operations over his career and has become a leading subject matter expert in counter terrorism intelligence.

Mr Arnold has continuously worked at a high standard in both domestic and international environments and has shown an unwavering commitment to the craft of intelligence, the people he works with and the Australian Federal Police. Mr James Arnold truly epitomises the best someone can be through a long career in law enforcement and the intelligence community.

Ms Justine FITZGERALD

Details not available.

Miss Ellen Joyce GRACE

Miss Ellen Joyce Grace is one of the three surviving 'Garage Girls'.

As a Typex Operator with the Central Bureau in the Second World War, Miss Grace performed distinguished service deciphering and communicating vital intelligence signals in support of Allied Forces across the Pacific.

With fellow personnel from the Australian Women's Army Service, Miss Grace worked from a garage at the rear of Central Bureau headquarters in Brisbane - hence the nickname 'Garage Girls'. She worked in difficult circumstances at an exhausting tempo, to ensure accurate, actionable intelligence was available to forces when needed, and was involved in several significant intelligence efforts including the crucial intercept of flight plans of a senior member of the Imperial Japanese Navy.

Like many members of the signals intelligence enterprise in the war, Miss Grace served in silence, unable to share the details of her service with family and friends, or have that service acknowledged publicly for decades.

Recognising these efforts commemorates the significance of their service and sacrifice to signals intelligence, the war effort, and the service of women in particular.

The 'Garage Girls' paved the way for future generations of women in intelligence and this award highlights the distinguished service they provided to Australia.

Mr Ian H

Details not available.

Mr Robert H

Details not available.

AUSTRALIAN INTELLIGENCE MEDAL (AIM)

Ms Ailsa HALE

Ms Ailsa Hale is one of the three surviving 'Garage Girls'.

As a Typex Operator with the Central Bureau in the Second World War, Ms Hale performed distinguished service deciphering and communicating vital intelligence signals in support of Allied Forces across the Pacific.

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Mrs Coral HINDS

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Mr Gareth K

Details not available.

Mr David L

Details not available.

Mr Luke S

Details not available.