

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

VICTORIA

Mr Neil Ronald BURDEN, 2/4 Bapaume Avenue, Edithvale Vic 3196

Mr Burden has provided outstanding service as a Mobile Intensive Care Ambulance flight paramedic with the Metropolitan Ambulance Service in Victoria. Throughout his distinguished service he has shown exceptional commitment to the provision of ambulance services and outstanding leadership in the encouragement and development of paramedics, especially flight paramedics. In particular, he has been a mentor and role model to numerous colleagues and assisted others to develop and grow into the challenging and complex role of a flight paramedic.

Mr Geoffrey Keith HARVEY, 5 The Little Terrace, The Terrace, Bendigo Vic 3550

Mr Harvey has served Rural Ambulance Victoria with distinction over a prolonged period, particularly in his providing outstanding leadership in the development of volunteer and career ambulance staff to enable the delivery of the highest level of clinical services to rural Victorians. He has also worked tirelessly with rural communities beyond the requirement of his position in the development and implementation of a community-first responder program, as evidenced by the introduction of a training team model for the provision of clinical training and clinical education systems and processes to enhance the quality of ambulance services in north western Victoria.

Mr Keith HERRING, 8 Brampton Close, Craigieburn Vic 3064

Mr Herring has made an outstanding contribution to the development and provision of ambulance services through the mobilisation of the Craigieburn community into a cohesive and effective group to provide an emergency ambulance response capability. This has required a significant investment of his personal time and consistent effort. He has provided exceptional service in attaining community participation, and outstanding leadership in the encouragement and development of members of the public in the role of Community Emergency Response Team members.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

Mr Paul Francis HOLMAN, 21 Primrose Street, Moonee Ponds Vic 3039

Mr Holman has served the Metropolitan Ambulance Service in Victoria with distinction. In particular, he was responsible for and the management of the Service's involvement with the Melbourne 2006 Commonwealth Games which, through excruciatingly detailed planning over an 18 months' period, resulted in an outstandingly successful event. His contribution brought significant benefit to the Service and to the community, particularly in the interests of providing high-level emergency medical care. The Service's involvement with the Games is considered by many emergency managers as setting the benchmark for the medical response to large public gatherings and major public events. Mr Holman was also responsible for the introduction of level C personal protective equipment for paramedics, including training, in the event of chemical, biological or radiological threats, and the expansion of the response to level A personal protective equipment.

Mr Colin John HORWELL, 9 Park Lane, Mount Helen Vic 3350

Mr Horwell has made an outstanding contribution to the development and provision of ambulance services within Victoria for over 28 years. In particular, he has displayed leadership in the development and support of comprehensive ambulance peer support and crisis counselling services throughout rural Victoria. He has shown exceptional dedication and commitment in fostering and furthering the aims and goals of Rural Ambulance Victoria and peer support services within the community and the wider health and public safety sectors.

QUEENSLAND

Mr Rodney James MULLER, Lot 1, Regent Street, Coen Qld 4871

Mr Muller commenced duty as an Honorary Ambulance Officer at Ipswich in 1978 and was appointed as a permanent officer to the Ipswich Station in 1980. Over the next 5 years he performed a broad range of ambulance duties with distinction, always promoting a very high standard of patient care. Between 1981 and 1998, Mr Muller undertook a number of country postings, gradually increasing his level of responsibility and culminating in his appointment, in 1998, as the Officer-in-Charge of the Yarrabah Station, an Indigenous community south of Cairns. In 2002, he was awarded an Australia Day Achievement Medallion for his commitment to this community. He also supported two Indigenous Ambulance Paramedics through their training period and contributed to their gaining the Diploma of Health Science (Ambulance). In 2002, Mr Muller was appointed as Ambulance Field Officer in Coen where he is responsible for injury prevention, first aid and health-related programs to the remote and isolated Indigenous communities and outstations throughout the Cape York Peninsula. During his time in Coen, Mr Muller has demonstrated unparalleled dedication and commitment. He is recognised professionally as a committed and dedicated ambassador for the Queensland Ambulance Service, particularly in Indigenous communities.

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

Mr Gregory Paul SKERMAN, 75 Althaus Parade, Purono Park Qld 4818

Mr Skerman has served throughout Queensland, in particular in rural and remote locations developing definitive relationships with rural people. As the Area Director in Townsville he was responsible for the delivery of services during the major flooding in Townsville in 1997 and oversaw operations for the Queensland Ambulance Service in Townsville during Cyclone Tessie in 2000. All his roles have been earmarked by successful outcomes and by his attention to detail. As the Area Director (Coastal), Mr Skerman was responsible for the implementation of roster reform in the Coastal area. He successfully implemented 10 hour rostering throughout his area, negotiating with staff, local Ambulance Committees and local communities with success on each occasion. As Area Director he has overseen the redevelopment of Townsville, Kirwan and Black River stations and the planning and development of a new station at Oonoonba. He has overseen the introduction of 34 staff into the new Townsville rosters and has been the key driver in planning new rosters and service delivery initiatives. Mr Skerman has also been intimately involved in the development of ambulance services to the indigenous community of Palm Island and was a key operator in the employment of two local Indigenous officers to ambulance services on Palm Island. He has served the Queensland community with distinction in both rural and major metropolitan centres and has given over 26 years of service in the roles of ambulance officer, Superintendent, Officer-in-Charge and Area Director. Mr Skerman has also undertaken many periods of long-term relief as Assistant Commissioner.

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Mr David Joseph CLOUGHLEY, 96 Clydesdale Street, Como WA 6152

Mr Cloughley is currently employed as the Ambulance Service Director with the Western Australian Ambulance Service. He has played a leading role in the review and refinement of the ambulance service's Major Incident plans. He has also been responsible for the successful development and implementation of many of the processes that now ensure a timely and high quality ambulance service throughout Western Australia. In 1995 he was appointed to the position of Superintendent Metropolitan Operations where was responsible for the Ambulance Operations Centre and played a leading role in work practice changes that led to significant reductions in ambulance response times. He was also responsible for managing the contractual relationship with metropolitan hospitals for the provision of inter-hospital transport services. It was during this period that he oversaw the establishment of significantly improved customer relationships and customer service. As the Ambulance Service Director he was responsible for the implementation of a single statewide ambulance operations centre during 2005. This project saw the call taking and dispatch functions for the 110 country sub-centres consolidated through the State Operations Centre at Belmont. The process also involved the establishment of the Manager State Ambulance Operations positions under Mr Cloughley's outstanding leadership.

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Mr Thomas ROBSON, 8 Fenton Way, Hillarys WA 6025

Mr Robson is an Ambulance Paramedic with the Western Australian Ambulance Service. He has shown an extraordinary commitment to his fellow workers and the community through his involvement with numerous working committees. In particular, he has played a leading role in the development of the organisation's Occupational Health and Safety Committee, serving as a shift representative over many years. On many occasions, Mr Robson has made himself available to speak to his colleagues and pursue issues on their behalf in his own time. The concern for the health, safety and welfare of his colleagues and the community has seen Mr Robson continually becoming involved in driving ideas for the improvement of ambulance design, ambulance equipment and stretcher modifications. Many of his ideas have been implemented and have resulted in both an improved level of patient care as well as a safer and more efficient work environment for ambulance and patient transport staff.

Mr Charles John SHEPHERD, PO Box 560, Jurien Bay WA 6516

Mr Shepherd joined the St John Jurien Bay Sub-Centre in the late 1990s having retired as the principal of Claremont Primary School where he was an advocate of promoting first aid in schools and, through the Parents and Citizens Association, the school teachers, parents and senior scholars were trained in basic first aid. On his retirement to Jurien Bay he soon became involved in community activities. He was drawn to St John and started as an ambulance officer. His knowledge, skills and past experience saw him join the committee and soon take on a leadership role. He is currently chairman of the Sub-Centre. Mr Shepherd is proactive and very inclusive in terms of encouraging people to join the ambulance service and making the local community a safer place

AMBULANCE SERVICE MEDAL (ASM)

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Mr Graham Keith DENTON, PO Box 232, Whyalla SA 5600

Mr Denton has been a full-time career member of South Australian Ambulance Service (SAAS) and its antecedent organisations since 1982. During this time he has served with distinction in various capacities including on-road operations and air ambulance attendant, Communications Officer and Supervisor, Station and District Officer, and District Manager. He is the current Regional General Manager, North West Region. Mr Denton's extensive operational background has provided him with a high level of credibility as a manager. His ability to understand the psyche and environment ambulance paramedics, both career and volunteer, work in and the complex issues they face enables him to be an empathetic and effective manager. As Regional General Manager, North West Region, his initiatives, vision, insight and community-minded approach to provide a holistic management service to the teams and community across the Eyre Peninsula have assisted significantly in forming an established structure across the state. Mr Denton has also contributed significantly to improving relationships between the ambulance service and aboriginal communities in the north and west of South Australia. He has been honoured and acknowledged by a local aboriginal artist with a painting that depicts the story of white man's intrusion into their lands at Maralinga and was given in recognition of his support to the community, as a trusted friend. Mr Denton's distinguished service has benefited the SAAS and the community of South Australia greatly.

Mr Leith Roland GREGURKE, Section 14, Mallee Highway, PARRAKIE SA 5301

Mr Gregurke has been a volunteer member of the South Australian Ambulance Service (SAAS) and its antecedent organisations since 1967. During this time he has served with distinction in various capacities including Volunteer Ambulance Officer; District Staff Officer; Member, St John Council; Chairman, Lameroo Branch Committee; Chairman, Murray Regional Committee; and Delegate, Deputy Chairman and Chairman, Country Ambulance Services Advisory Committee (CASAC). Mr Gregurke has been the Chair of CASAC since late 2002. Under his outstanding leadership, CASAC has achieved innovative and outstanding results with the introduction of additional Team Leaders to assist with improved service delivery to the rural and remote areas of South Australia and the training of SAAS 1,600 volunteers. 2005 saw the implementation of a volunteer exchange program with New Zealand; each year four volunteers from South Australia and New Zealand spend two weeks with each ambulance service, exploring new ways to recruit and retain volunteers. CASAC is now exploring the option of introducing a scholarship program to provide a pathway for volunteers to attain the university degree necessary to enter the career ambulance service. Mr Gregurke's commitment to the volunteer workforce has dramatically increased the profile of the volunteer. The retention of volunteers is a major issue for SAAS and, under his leadership, CASAC has developed a professional marketing recruitment campaign; the first such campaign in the history of St John and SAAS which will target all media options and should assist significantly in raising the profile of SAAS volunteers and the invaluable work they undertake.