

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

NEW SOUTH WALES

Mr Neville Graham ANDERSON,
623 Sherwood Creek Road, Upper Corindi NSW 2456

Mr Anderson joined the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) as a member of the Corindi / Red Rock Rural Fire Brigade in 1968 and has been actively involved as a volunteer firefighter, leader and administrator with the RFS ever since. He was involved in the formation of the Sherwood Creek Rural Fire Brigade and later transferred to that Brigade. As such, he has been an integral part of the Brigade's history, leading by example and having a hand in most of the Brigade's projects, including the construction of the Sherwood Creek Brigade Station which was completed in 2003. He has been an extremely active firefighter during his service and has performed with distinction in the roles of Crew Leader, Sector Commander, Divisional Commander and Task Force Leader. He was involved extensively with most of the significant local fires, and has had extensive experience as an 'out of area' Divisional Commander and Task Force Leader. He was also selected for interstate deployment as a Divisional Commander with the 2005/2006 Service Task Force sent to Victoria. Mr Anderson held the rank of Group Captain with the former Ulmarra District and has been very active as a RFS instructor for over 20 years. He is a natural and outstanding leader and is currently the Group Captain in the Clarence Valley District. He is an enthusiastic participant with the District's Senior Management Team and has actively contributed to a number of significant District projects and initiatives. Mr Anderson has provided outstanding and dedicated service to the Rural Fire Service and is a most respected volunteer.

Mr John Mark BEDFORD, 21/21-25 Burke Road, Cronulla NSW 2230

Mr Bedford was appointed as a permanent firefighter to the NSW Fire Brigades in 1979 and currently holds the rank of Superintendent. Throughout his career he has served and achieved standards of proficiency second to none. Mr Bedford has gained wide operational and administrative experience within the NSW Fire Brigades and in the highly complex and sensitive area of counter terrorism. His experience in the Sydney 2000 Olympics liaison role and Manager Breathing Apparatus and Hazmat Section saw him appointed to the position of Manager Counter Terrorism in 2003. Since assuming that position, Mr Bedford has been responsible for the continued development and planning of the NSW Fire Brigades' role and capability in anti-terrorism, and recently performed with distinction as the Manager of the NSW Fire Brigades' APEC Planning Group. Mr Bedford is widely respected within and outside the NSW Fire Brigades and his distinguished service has been of the highest order.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Clinton Everett JESSOP-SMITH, NSW

Mr Jessop-Smith joined the Berkshire Park Rural Fire Brigade in 1973. In 1983 he was elected as the Brigade's Captain. In 1990, he was elected to the position of Deputy Group Captain and then to Group Captain in 1996. As a senior Group Captain, Mr Jessop-Smith has been directly involved with the mobilisation and organisation of volunteer firefighters. His proven ability as a leading fire tactician is second to none; this has been demonstrated on many occasions in the Cumberland Zone during major wildfire campaigns. Through his leadership at major incidents the number of properties and possibly lives saved are many. He has also been involved in responses to assist in major campaigns in other areas of New South Wales on many occasions, and has also committed to interstate assistance. In addition to his superior fire ground leadership, Mr Jessop-Smith also played an integral part in bringing together the local government areas of Blacktown, Fairfield and Penrith during the zoning process of 2001; a reasonably new initiative by the Rural Fire Service (RFS) at the time that required bringing districts together. In this case, the districts concerned had major operational and managerial barriers to overcome. Mr Jessop-Smith's enthusiasm and outstanding ability to motivate others proved essential in leading the Brigades forward into what is now known as the Cumberland Zone. Mr Jessop-Smith has also organised many local field days and assisted and judged at numerous Regional and State Field Days and has demonstrated interest and participation in the Cadet Rural Fire Service Program, particularly in the Cumberland Zone. He is an inspiration to all who serve with him.

Mr Clive Maxwell LINNETT OAM, 'Kilfera', Ivanhoe NSW 2878

Mr Linnett joined the Ivanhoe Rural Fire Brigade in 1961, and in 1969 he was elected Captain of a 'zone' within the Ivanhoe Brigade's area of responsibility. Due to a keen sense of responsibility to his community and brigade he took on a number of other positions throughout the following years, including Secretary which he continues to hold, Deputy Group Captain from 1989 to 1998, and Group Captain from 1998 to the present day. Mr Linnett has fought long and hard to ensure that the Ivanhoe Brigade, along with all other brigades within the Central Darling Shire, have continued to survive and flourish in far western New South Wales, often in difficult circumstances and facing many obstacles. As a Councillor on the Central Darling Shire Council he has been able to provide guidance to Council on the strategic direction of the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) locally. In recent years he has been a very active and supportive member of RFS consultative committees, including the Senior Management Committee and Bush Fire Management Committee. He has always been willing to consider options for improvement of the local response to emergencies of all types. His willingness to accept change has provided the necessary leadership to his Brigade to enable its members to move forward and grow. Mr Linnett is an outstanding example of what it means to be a volunteer in remote areas, willing to travel many hundreds of kilometres to attend meetings and always willing to support RFS staff. Also, with a keen sense of history, he has maintained accurate records of all membership, response and resourcing of his Brigade over many years.

Mr Linnett was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the Australia Day 2003 Honours List for his service to the community of Ivanhoe through a range of service groups, and to local government.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Brian Lindsay McKINLAY, 122 Macquarie Street, Windsor NSW 2756

Mr McKinlay joined the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS) in 1962 as a member of the Berowra Rural Fire Brigade in the Hornsby District. By 1966 he had become a Deputy Captain of that Brigade, progressing to Senior Deputy Captain in 1968 and Captain in 1970. In 1974 he was promoted to Deputy Group Captain and held that rank through until 1977 when he moved from the Hornsby District to the Hawkesbury District, joining the Grose Vale Rural Fire Brigade as Deputy Captain. In 1981 he became Captain of the Brigade. In 1982 he was appointed Group Captain and remains in that position today. Mr McKinlay is a Life Member of both the Berowra and Grose Vale Brigades. He has been an integral part of the Incident Management Team for all Section 44 Emergencies in the Hawkesbury District. During the serious bush fire emergencies of 2001, 2002 and 2006 where aerial observation had become a specialist role, he was heavily involved as Deputy Incident Controller and Planning Officer, and worked tirelessly at night for up to several weeks. In addition, Mr McKinlay has also committed himself to other RFS roles, including Chairing the Hawkesbury Rural Fire District Disciplinary Committee and Hawkesbury Bush Fire Management Committee, and being involved with the RFS Corporate Executive Group, Fire Services Joint Standing Committee, State Assessment Panel Bush Fire Mitigation Program, RFS Internal Awards Committee and the NSW Rural Fire Service Association. Mr McKinlay has provided dedicated, committed and distinguished service to the RFS and to the community of New South Wales.

Mr Thomas Jeffery MILBURN, 9 Daly Road, Faulconbridge NSW 2776

Mr Milburn was appointed as a permanent firefighter in the NSW Fire Brigades in 1977 and was promoted to the rank of Station Officer in 1989. He was further promoted to the rank of Inspector in 1992 and served on the relieving staff prior to his appointment to the Fire Safety Division in 1995. In 1999, Mr Milburn was promoted to the rank of Superintendent and was appointed to the position of Zone Commander West 3, based in Katoomba, in 2001 where he was responsible for the administration and operations of all fire stations covering an area from the lower Blue Mountains to the regional centres of Orange and Bathurst. In 2005, Mr Milburn accepted a secondment to the Australian Federal Police where he was deployed to assist the Commissioner Royal Solomon Island Police and Commander Participating Police Force in the effective and efficient management of the Royal Solomon Island Police Fire Service. In 2006, major riots saw the destruction of a great part of the central business district of Honiara. During the riots, Mr Milburn directed all firefighting operations and, although fire damage was severe, the amount of property that was saved is testament to his outstanding skills and leadership qualities. As a consequence of his actions, Mr Milburn was awarded the Australian Federal Police Commissioner's Group Citation for Conspicuous Conduct.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Peter MURPHY, 14 George Booth Drive, Seahampton NSW 2286

As a professional, highly respected member of the NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS), Mr Murphy's vast knowledge, skills level and talents, not only on the fire ground but also in every area of his life, are unparalleled. He instils a distinguished ethos through his leadership, dedication, achievements and commitment to the promotion of the RFS. Due to his discreet nature, neutral leadership and thorough knowledge of RFS policies and procedures, his ability to guide, influence and direct his colleagues and the public is exemplary, as demonstrated when leading small or large groups through training exercises, fire ground incidents and task force deployments. Beginning his service in 1982, Mr Murphy demonstrated an enthusiastic commitment to Brigade life with the Wakefield Rural Fire Brigade. His outstanding leadership qualities shone through and he was quickly promoted to Deputy Captain. With the advancement of his skills and knowledge, he was Captain of the Brigade just 7 years later. He was responsible for coordinating the building of the new and current Wakefield Station, leading and managing this project with fellow field officers and Brigade members. He was then elected Group Captain of Group North and made a Life Member of the Wakefield Brigade. There are no limits to the amount of time and energy that Mr Murphy dedicates to the RFS and to its members, and he is committed to the advancement of existing and new techniques and resources to aid in protecting life and property.

Mr Graham William PARKS, 9 Belah Street, Leeton NSW 2705

Mr Parks was appointed to the NSW Fire Brigades as a Retained Firefighter attached to the Leeton Brigade in 1982 and, throughout, he has demonstrated a dedication to duty which serves as an exemplary example to peers and subordinates alike. Through his outstanding leadership, Mr Parks has been instrumental in lifting the NSW Fire Brigades' profile within the Leeton community where he is particularly active in promoting community safety programs. Mr Parks is held in high regard within the community, and he has been directly responsible for influencing improvements to fire service delivery and introducing complementary and coordinated multi-agency emergency management. He has introduced effective planning and consultation practices within the Leeton Brigade and has ensured a workplace culture that is second to none.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Stephen Leonard WEYMAN, 33 Homestead Road, Orchard Hills NSW 2748

Mr Weyman was instrumental in the formation of the Orchard Hill Rural Fire Brigade in 1970 at which time he was elected President and Senior Deputy Captain. He was elected Captain the following year, a position he held until 1985 when he was promoted to Deputy Group Captain in the Penrith area. He is currently Group Captain in the Cumberland Zone. He remained President of the Orchard Hills Rural Fire Brigade until 1996 and he was made a Life Member in 2000. While with the Orchard Hills Rural Fire Brigade, he developed the Brigade into a most effective firefighting unit. He has also promoted work safety practices and training and has been involved with the Penrith and Cumberland training groups, imparting valuable knowledge and acting as the Module Testing Officer. Mr Weyman was also actively engaged in the Amalgamation Committee for the zoning of Penrith, Blacktown and Fairfield during 2002/2003. He is also currently involved with the Cumberland Zone Senior Management Committee, Liaison Committee and the NSW Rural Fire Service Association. Mr Weyman has given freely of his time for the protection of the community of New South Wales and his outstanding leadership has seen the community become involved and supportive of the RFS.

Awards include:
Centenary Medal, 2001.

VICTORIA

Mr Ronald Tuckett HOOPER, 17 Civic Avenue, Echuca Vic 3564

Mr Hooper has been a volunteer firefighter for almost 51 years. During this time he has held various officer or management positions within the Brigade, including 9 years as Captain. He has been active in all facets of his Brigade including leadership, firefighting, training, Group, competitions, committees and junior brigade activities. His endeavours in these areas have ensured that the Brigade is highly regarded within the community and with other adjoining brigades and emergency services. He was awarded Life Membership of the CFA in 1992, and of the Echuca Fire Brigade in 1997. Mr Hooper's outstanding leadership goes beyond the bounds of the Country Fire Authority (CFA), providing leadership and direction to external forums such as the Municipal Fire Prevention Committees, local community committees, and fundraising activities, and on the Victorian Urban Fire Brigades Association (VUFBA). He has given exemplary service to the CFA, his dedication and commitment being above and beyond what would reasonably be expected of a volunteer firefighter.

Awards include:
Gold Star award, VUFBA, 1987.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr John David JUGUM, 9 Myrtle Grove, Altona Vic 3018

Mr Jugum joined the Metropolitan Fire Brigade (MFB) in 1989 and is currently stationed in the Health and Safety Department as the Critical Incident Stress and Peer Coordinator. He has provided outstanding leadership and contribution to the review, expansion, development, delivery and management of Critical Incident Stress and Peer Support programs both in the MFB and the wider emergency service community. Since joining the Employee Support Program (ESP), he has demonstrated exceptional performance. As the on-call Critical Incident Stress (CIS) coordinator; a voluntary and out-of-hours role, he developed and implemented a program to assess the impact of the Emergency Medical Response program (EMR) on MFB firefighters. During the 12 months' trial of EMR, he provided a follow-up service to firefighters involved in the pilot program, This was a critical aspect of ensuring personnel were supported in the performance of this new and demanding role. Furthermore, as the Peer Coordinator, Mr Jugum has enhanced the responsiveness and efficiency of this role by restructuring the CIS function to provide improved coordination and reporting of activities, introduced a Chaplain into the ESP, and supported the role of the Chaplain by developing a process for managing the MFB response to incidents involving the death or serious injury of a firefighter. Mr Jugum has consistently demonstrated outstanding leadership in the development of others, particularly in the areas of improving training and mentoring of peers, including the production of a peer manual and supportive material, and in the development and delivery of information and training to MFB employees and external organisations. This work has further expanded to include the development of an interagency resource manual and arrangements for a statewide Peer Support Program.

Mr William Thomas (Bill) PRESSEY, 68 Scott Street, Mortlake Vic 3272

Mr Pressey has served as a volunteer firefighter with the Mortlake Urban Fire Brigade for over 53 years, and has the Brigade's Secretary for 43 years. During that time, he has set an outstanding example of leadership and untiring service to Brigade members and to other Brigades throughout the region. Mr Pressey has represented his Brigade on numerous committees and associations. He was his region's representative on the Executive Committee of the Victorian Urban Fire Brigades Association (VUBFA) for 9 years. As well as serving on various VUBFA Committees during that time, he helped with the preparation and conduct of both the Senior and Junior Fire Brigade State Championships. He is also active in Group Communications and has attended fires as a Staging Area Manager, and has promoted the Brigade's activities within the community through fire prevention education in schools, senior citizens and other community groups, as well as instigating community education evenings for local citizens. Mr Pressey has served the Country Fire Authority (CFA) and the community with distinction. He gives of his time unstintingly and has shown outstanding commitment. He has shown passionate support for and leadership of the volunteer culture within the CFA, exemplified by his work with all age groups within the organisation.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Michael James SANDERSON, 25 Park Street, Seymour Vic 3660

Mr Sanderson has served as a volunteer firefighter and officer with the Seymour Urban Fire Brigade of the Country Fire Authority (CFA) for over 50 years, and served as the Brigade's Captain between 1985 and 1993. Although not a person to seek recognition for his contribution to the community, Mr Sanderson has set an outstanding example of leadership at all levels to members of his Brigade and other brigades and volunteers in the region, from both an operational perspective and his commitment to ensure the Brigade was properly represented in many other fire brigade and community activities. Since 1970, he has been the Brigade's delegate on numerous committees and associations, and has assisted with the coaching of the Brigade's junior firefighters and officiates at both the Junior and Senior State Urban Fire Brigade Championships. Mr Sanderson has also been extremely active in promoting fire prevention education from primary school to elderly citizen levels and in initiation of fire prevention works in and around the Seymour township. He has been active in the training of all new firefighters, juniors, officers and Brigade delegates. He has been a mentor, leader, counsellor and friend to many members of the CFA family for many years. Mr Sanderson has given exemplary service to the CFA and to the community, his outstanding dedication and commitment being above and beyond what would reasonably be expected of a volunteer firefighter.

Mr William Andrew SPEIRS, 26 Pelican Lane, Nelson Vic 3292

Mr Speirs has had 45 years involvement with the Country Fire Authority (CFA) as a volunteer, primarily as a leader both locally and at state level, in firefighting and non-operational duties. As a strike team leader or in incident management during major bushfires in Victoria and interstate, including Ash Wednesday, Sydney's fires, Victoria's Alpine fires of 2003 and 2007, and locally in Victoria's south west. He willingly takes the leadership role, has the ability to recognise the need for change, defends the need for change, and holds the position for the better of volunteers and the organisation. Mr Speirs has provided distinguished service to the CFA, the Victorian Rural Fire Brigades Association (VRFBA) and the community. As State President of the VRFBA, he changed the role of the Association from one of adversarial to one of consultation and debate without rancour. His achievements include the re-introduction of 3000 litre 4x4 tankers, as well as persuading the CFA to reconsider its policy on 4x4 tankers and successfully lobbying for the introduction of Class A foam to the CFA fleet. He was also influential in rural volunteer firefighters adopting competency-based training now in place within the CFA.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr David TURNER, 42 Shadowplay Road, Mooroolbark Vic 3138

Mr Turner has given outstanding leadership and service to the fire agencies and the community in radio communication. He has delivered essential radio communication across Victoria to many remote and rural locations for over 28 years. His work has ensured safety in bushfires through the essential link of radio communication. Mr Turner has been the leader in the application of new technology, including the program to purchase new radio sets and implement the Very High Frequency State Mobile Radio system. This enabled the firefighters of the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) and other government agencies and the Country Fire Authority (CFA) to communicate on an open channel network while allowing discrete one on one conversation between fire line managers. Mr Turner continues to demonstrate outstanding leadership in the encouragement and development of the Radio Communicators Role and establishing joint training between DSE staff and CFA staff and volunteers. He has also been the leader in setting-up the next generation of high technology field communications that will provide significant benefits to firefighters, other emergency services and the rural community of Victoria in the future. Mr Turner continues to mentor staff in this complex area, ensuring long-term benefits to community safety.

Mr Franciscus Christianus van BAKEL, Viewbank Vic 3084

Mr van Bakel joined the Metropolitan Fire Brigade (MFB) in 1976 and was promoted to his current rank of Commander in 2001. He currently works as an Executive Officer to the Chief Fire Officer coordinating operational issues, activities and initiatives, and has provided distinguished service and outstanding leadership in the development, implementation and enhancement of operational communications for MFB firefighters. Mr van Bakel's first taste of communications with the MFB came in 1983 when he worked in the Communications and Computer Aided Despatch Centre where he was seen as one of the experts in this area and was always called upon to lead project teams to enhance the service delivery capabilities of the MFB communications. In 1995 the Victorian Government decided to combine all emergency service communication centres and established Intergraph Public Safety; this created a new domain for the way MFB and other emergency service organisations responded to emergencies. Mr van Bakel played a leading role in communicating the needs of the MFB and ultimately the community benefited from the clear service delivery standards that were developed. In addition to this change of service delivery a further decision was taken to return the despatching to the control of government. Mr van Bakel led the MFB teams that delivered a seamless transition. His role had responsibility for the development of service specifications, service level agreements, contract monitoring of performance against the contract. Finally in 2003, as part of the state-wide Integrated Public Safety Communications Strategy, Motorola was contracted to provide the Metropolitan Mobile Radio Service. Mr van Bakel again played a leading role on the MFB's team to achieve a seamless transition to the new communications system within the required timescales. This radio system has revolutionised the MFB's operational fireground communications and significantly enhanced firefighter safety. The development and delivery of these significant initiatives could not have been achieved without Mr van Bakel's outstanding dedication, expertise and commitment.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

QUEENSLAND

Mr Edward Gladstone KIRK OAM, 'Hazelton', Gayndah Qld 4625

Mr Kirk played a major role in the formation of the original Rural Fire Brigade in the Gayndah District and was its first officer. Since then, he has provided distinguished service to the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service as a volunteer with the Ban Ban Rural Fire Brigade and to the development of aerial fire reconnaissance. His service of over 55 years has been diligent and professional and he is the longest serving Fire Warden in Queensland. He has given selflessly of his time and expertise and is a willing and approachable source of advice, particularly on Rural Operations to his fellow firefighters and to other members of the community. His generosity to undertake aerial fire reconnaissance at no charge and flying his own private aeroplane exemplifies his commitment to the protection and preservation of land and properties, and to the local community.

Mr Kirk was awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia in the Australia Day 2003 Honours List for his service to the cattle industry, particularly as a Brahman breeder, to local government, and to the community.

Mr Andrew John SHORT, Qld

Mr Short has made an exceptional contribution to training and business management initiatives within the Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS). His significant achievements have resulted from his willingness to take on new challenges, many self-initiated and unsolicited, and accepting responsibility for projects beyond what is necessary to his core duties as a Command Superintendent. Of particular note is Mr Short's sustained commitment to leadership in the progression of a number of key organisational priorities including the QFRS iZone initiative, QFRS *Lessons Learnt* initiative, and the Statewide Integrated Operational Planning Process.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Mr Kevin John BULLEN, 13 Crawford Close, Broome WA 6725

Mr Bullen has been an active member of the Broome Volunteer Fire Brigade within the Fire and Emergency Services Authority of Western Australia (FESA) since 1981. Throughout, he has attended incidents mainly as the Officer-in-Charge or as a dedicated mentor to all new Brigade volunteers. He has demonstrated an enormous commitment to FESA, both in the Broome region and in other areas of Western Australia from Kununurra to Exmouth. Mr Bullen is not only an outstanding leader but also an extremely dedicated hands-on person, and his ability to provide assistance to all members is first class. Mr Bullen was instrumental when he became the Brigade's Captain in raising the membership to a well trained, highly motivated unit, and was extremely active during the construction of the new station. He is also a member of the Shire's Bushfire Advisory Committee and is the Shire's current Chief Bushfire Control Officer. Mr Bullen has also been an active member of the Broome community over many years, being involved with the local golf, cricket, basketball and Australian Rules football clubs.

Awards and recognition include:

Centenary Medal, 2001.

Inaugural Broome Citizen of the Year, 2000.

The Bullen Medal (Best and Fairest), West Kimberley Football Association, named in his honour.

Mr Paul Walter MADDERN, 26 Helen Crescent, Byford WA 6122

Mr Maddern joined the Byford Volunteer Bushfire Brigade within the Fire and Emergency Services Authority of Western Australia in 1994 and has served with distinction as The Brigade's Captain. He is also a qualified Training Officer, actively promotes Bushfire Cadets, organises the Volunteer Bushfire Games, and has served as Vice-President of the Association of Bushfire Brigades of WA. He is qualified to Fire Control Officer level and, above all, is a very skilful hands-on firefighter who leads by example. In all instances, Mr Maddern has displayed outstanding leadership and organisation. He is very good at personnel management and inspires enthusiasm, and very ably represents the interests of the volunteer firefighters.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr John Patrick TRUSWELL, 12 Sector Place, Mullaloo WA 6027

Mr Truswell has dedicated over 36 years to being the most professional firefighter and Station and District Officer he can be. He is highly regarded and respected, professional and is always polite and approachable. Mr Truswell began his firefighting career as a volunteer at the Kellerberrin and Bassendean fire stations within the Fire and Emergency Services Authority of Western Australia (FESA) and has worked his way up to becoming a career firefighter, Station Officer, and then District Officer. His many achievements include being a member of the Australian Standards Committee for fire suppression, member of the International Association of Arson Investigators, member of the Institute of Fire Engineers, President of the Career Fire Fighters Fund for Children's Welfare Committee, and a member of the specialist team that designed the sprinkler system in Western Australia's 'Polly Farmer Tunnel'. Mr Truswell has continually expanded his firefighting knowledge and education, and he has instructed Recruit Fire Fighting schools, volunteer and career firefighters and Station Officers. He has performed his duties and responsibilities with distinction and his achievements reflect his outstanding commitment to serving the FESA and the community.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Mr Kevin Paul BOYLE, 18 Nicholas Court, Lyndoch SA 5351

Mr Boyle is a career firefighter who is relentless in his desires to improve the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) and bring about change so that the firefighters and the general public of South Australia work and live in a safer place. He has also been a true inspiration in his efforts to ensure the Australian Professional Firefighters Charity Foundation not only has a high profile but really does assist people in need. The Foundation is a vehicle to galvanise the professional firefighters of Australia in philanthropic endeavours and is a major sponsor of the Women's and Children's Hospital and Camp Smokey. From his role on the Foundation's committee to the many fundraising events he organises, his enthusiasm and genuine desire to promote the chosen causes never waivers. He has recruited many members and raised the profile of the Foundation to the point that it is a very well recognised institution, both within South Australia and nationally. Mr Boyle is involved at all levels, and has been a champion for many families who have suffered from devastating fires. His enthusiasm for the firefighting profession and the community is outstanding. He is a person of high integrity and honest and is respected by his peers. Mr Boyle has always displayed a very high level of professionalism.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Haydon William CASTLE, 7 Wyatt Street, Glenelg East SA 5045

Mr Castle joined the South Australian Metropolitan Fire Service (MFS) in 1977 as a firefighter and has progressed through the organisation to his current rank of Commander. He has worked in many specialist areas of the MFS and has become a highly experienced operational fire officer. He took command of the Northern Metropolitan Fire Command in 2004 and initiated the establishment of the Special Operations Unit. This unit was necessary to meet the expanding role of the MFS in complex areas of operation which included the threat of terrorist activities. Specialised services provided under Commander Castle's area of responsibility included the Chemical, Biological and Radioactive (CBR) response, Breathing Apparatus, Technical Rescue, and Major Events. In 2004, he was appointed as the management representative on the MFS Disciplinary Tribunal and continues to serve with distinction in this important role. Through this highly demanding appointment, Mr Castle continues to take the lead in ensuring that high standards of ethical and professional conduct are maintained at all levels of the Metropolitan Fire Service. In 2006, Mr Castle was assigned responsibility for the Southern Metropolitan Fire Command, including overseeing the main Adelaide Station and Marine Operations for the Port of Adelaide. Mr Castle serves the MFS and the community of South Australia with distinction.

Mr Christopher John MARTIN, 57 Johnson Parade, Blackwood SA 5051

Mr Martin joined the South Australian Country Fire Service (CFS) (then the Emergency Fire Service) in 1966 as a firefighter with the Eden Hills Brigade. In 1975, he moved to Ardrossan where he joined the local brigade. In 1985, Mr Martin was successful in becoming a staff member of CFS, firstly in the State Operations Centre and then as a Regional Officer, serving in the Adelaide Hills, Port Lincoln and Murraylands/Riverland. Between 1993 and 1997, he was a State Training Officer and was instrumental in moving the Training Centre from Brookway Park to Brukunga where it has evolved into a state-of-the-art training centre, providing a centralised location for specialised training with up-to-date methods and equipment. The facility not only provides a centralised location for the volunteers of CFS but is also used by other South Australian emergency service organisations, industry groups and interstate fire services. Since being appointed Commander of Region 3 in 2001, Mr Martin has been instrumental in the employment of Business Services Officers who now provide invaluable assistance to volunteers in helping them manage the non-operational functions of brigades and groups by reducing the level of paperwork, assisting with financial, procurement and asset issues; aspects which have significantly reduced the risk of malfeasance within the CFS and increased compliance with government audit requirements. Mr Martin's guiding force and outstanding leading in a number of initiatives within the CFS in particular and the emergency services in general is testament to his commitment to the organisation.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

Mr Raoul Henri OTTO de GRANCY, Section 493, Richter Road, Glossop SA 5344

Mr Otto de Grancy joined the South Australian Country Fire Service (CFS) in 1975 and devoted a huge portion of his life and energy into improving the lives of his fellow firefighters and those in his Brigade, Group and region. He proved to be a good firefighter, a very good officer and excellent Group leader. He was instrumental in the merger of the Loxton and the Upper Riverland Groups into what is now Chaffey Group. Under his effective leadership, the transition was smooth and unified and all parochial differences were circumvented, giving the Riverland an extremely effective, professional and operational volunteer fire service. Apart from the normal duties of a Group Officer, Mr Otto de Grancy developed a keen understanding of the financial operations of Brigades, Groups and Region and put this knowledge to good use in training and teaching other volunteers. His commitment also extended into state matters such as the championing the SA Volunteer Fire Brigades Association (VFBA), now known as the Country Fire Service Volunteers Association, where he held the position of Branch Vice-President and delegate to the VFBA Management Committee. Mr Otto de Grancy's unequivocal loyalty and devotion to the CFS is an example for every volunteer to follow and his recent retirement as Chaffey Group Officer will be sorely missed.

Awards include:
Centenary Medal, 2001.

Mr Neville Robert SCHULTZ, Marne Road, Cambrai SA 5353

Mr Schultz joined the Cambrai Emergency Fire Service in 1964. The Brigade was typically rural with only minimal training and practice nights. In 1979 records of all members were lost and they were asked to re-enrol with the South Australian Country Fire Service (CFS). Mr Schultz was instrumental in building a more up-to-date fire appliance, putting in many late nights and weekends. Over the next 10 years, he actively held the positions of Brigade Training officer, Administrative Officer and Brigade Lieutenant, showing exceptional leadership qualities. These qualities were recognised in 1989 when he was unanimously elected to the position of Group Officer of the newly formed Ridley Group. He immediately undertook a building process to upgrade appliances and facilities for the volunteers in the Group. This process saw him undertake many hard fought battles with local government authorities for funding. As a qualified instructor, he devoted countless hours training volunteers within the Group and from around South Australia and was a regular participant and assistant at the State Training Centre. Mr Schultz has been instrumental in organising and hosting Regional Field Days and instructing at field days throughout the region. He is an active member of Region 3's Operations Committee and has served as the committee's Chairman. He was also the Operations Committee's representative on the State Committee for more than 6 years and has been involved with the SA Volunteer Fire Brigades Association (VFBA) committees for Regions 3, 7 and 8. The VFBA is now known as the Country Fire Service Volunteers Association. Mr Schultz has been an excellent ambassador for the CFS and his dedicated efforts have ensured he is held in the highest esteem by the community.

Awards include:
Centenary Medal, 2001.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

TASMANIA

Mr Gerald Thomas CRAWFORD, 825 Cambridge Road, Cambridge Tas 7170

Mr Crawford commenced employment with the Rural Fires Board of Tasmania as a bushfire firefighter in 1972. Since then he has worked in the Tasmania Fire Service in a number of fire management positions in all parts of southern Tasmania. From 1981 to 1985 he worked in the Training Division as an instructor before being promoted to Deputy Chief Training Officer. In 1987 he returned to regional fire management after promotion to his current rank of District Officer. Throughout his firefighting career, Mr Crawford has been a great supporter of volunteers and is held in the highest regard by volunteer brigades. Similarly, he is widely respected by his career colleagues and often acts as mentor for developing Officers because of his bushfire management expertise. Mr Crawford has served the Tasmania Fire Service and the community with distinction for many years.

Mr Antony GEE, Snow Hill, Avoca Tas 7213

Mr Gee joined the Avoca Brigade of Tasmania Fire Service as a volunteer in 1968. He was Brigade Chief from 1968 to 1993, Second Officer from 1993 to 1996 and Group Officer from 1983 to 2005, and still performs as an active firefighter. He has also been actively involved in the Golden Gate Group, and as Group Officer he has provided exemplary leadership in both fire operations and through his chairmanship of the Golden Gate Fire Management Area Committee. For the past 15 years he has been a Fire Permit Officer for his local area and has participated in fire brigade competitions as a judge. Mr Gee has served the Tasmania Fire Service and the community with distinction for many years.

Mr Michael Frederick MUNNINGS, 104 Eldon Road, Colebrook Tas 7027

Mr Munnings joined the Colebrook Brigade of the Tasmania Fire Service as a volunteer firefighter in 1973, and he was elected to the position as Brigade Chief in 1979. He continues to display outstanding leadership as Brigade Chief, and his commitment has been exemplary. Mr Munnings has also been a keen participant in volunteer fire training as a Volunteer Training Instructor since 1999, and for the past 15 years he has been a Fire Permit Officer. Mr Munnings has served the Tasmania Fire Service and the community with distinction for many years.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

Mr Russell John SHEPHARD, 9 Reid Place, Kambah ACT 2902

Mr Shephard has provided significant commitment, passion and contribution to improving the health and safety of firefighters, both nationally and internationally. Early in his firefighting career he became interested in the area of occupational health and safety, particularly its relevance to firefighters' protective clothing and equipment. To pursue this interest he gained the position of Trustee representing the ACT Branch of the United Firefighters Union of Australia. This led to a long relationship with the Union and he held various elected positions, including National President for 3 years. In 2004 Mr Shephard was seconded to the then ACT Emergency Services Authority to establish a research and development section providing technical advice and project management for the procurement of items of personal protective clothing and equipment. The Authority is now known as the ACT Emergency Services Agency (ESA). As a result of his work, all ESA employees are now provided with items of protective clothing and equipment that are compliant with appropriate Australian and/or international standards. Mr Shephard was also instrumental in the establishment of the ACT Fire Brigade Critical Incident Peer Support Program and was the first person to be accredited by the Victorian Metropolitan Fire Brigade and the Victorian Health Professionals as a Peer Practitioner of Critical Incident Stress Debriefing. Mr Shephard's empathy, knowledge and experience in this area have allowed other organisations such as the Royal Australian Air Force, Australian Federal Police and ACT Health to benefit from his skills. In 2005, Mr Shephard was appointed to the part-time position of Manager of Standards for the Australasian Fire Authorities Council (AFAC), which is the peak representative body for Fire, Emergency Service and Land Management agencies in the Australasian region. In this role, he has *inter alia* the responsibility of managing some 80 national representatives on Australian and international Standards Committees. Mr Shephard himself represents AFAC and Australia on a number of these committees and is the Chairman of the International Standards Organisation's working groups TC/94 SC/14, responsible for the development of an International Standard on the Selection Use, Care and Maintenance of Firefighters Personal Protective Clothing and Equipment. Mr Shephard's focus on greater collaboration between fire and emergency services has seen him become jointly responsible for the establishment of the AFAC Collaborative Purchasing Initiative project, developed to encourage collaboration between AFAC member agencies when purchasing fire industry specific items. Whilst only relatively new, this project has already started to reduce the duplication of effort by agencies and, in so doing, has provided considerable savings to several agencies. Mr Shephard has been and continues to be a guiding force in the development and implementation of a number of key initiatives within the fire and emergency services sector. His commitment to improving the health and safety of fire and emergency services personnel both nationally and internationally is exceptional, as is his desire for greater collaboration between Australian fire and emergency services agencies.

AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL (AFSM)

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Ms Maxine Anne WAY, 60 Sittella Road, Howard Springs NT 0835

Ms Way joined the Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Service (NTFRS) in 1998 as a Volunteer Firefighter with the Howard Springs Volunteer Fire Brigade. In 2000 Ms Way was elected by her fellow Brigade members to the position of Captain. Since that time she has lifted the professionalism of the Brigade by encouraging the participation of her unit and her members in regular training programs. The large number of volunteer members is attributed to her positive attitude. Ms Way is currently a trainer assessor for volunteer firefighter training, and was closely involved in the development and delivery of the new Northern Territory Fire and Rescue Volunteer Training Manual that is also being used by volunteers from Bushfires NT. The current level of professionalism amongst NTFRS Volunteer Fire Brigades is largely due to the outstanding leadership shown by Ms Way and her attitude to emergency response and emergency response training. Ms Way was part of the contingency of firefighters sent by the Northern Territory to assist at the major bushfires in Victoria in 2007 and the large bushfire emergency in New South Wales in 2002. She also represented the NTFRS and its volunteer members at the inaugural National Volunteers Forum which was held in Canberra in 2003. Ms Way is a highly respected member of the NTFRS and is sought after by her fellow volunteers for her expertise as a trainer and her ability as an advocate for volunteers.