

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise of a group of citizens and a police officer.

Mr Patrick BELLOT

Mr Paul William BLEEKER

Mr Paul Darren BURGESS

Mr Patrick DUNKS

Senior Constable First Class Mark Richard Nancarrow

On the morning on 3 February 2010, a group of citizens and a police officer helped contain a fire and assisted victims find their way through smoke and debris following an explosion at the Territory Insurance Office, Darwin.

A number of shoppers and workers at a retail centre in Darwin heard repeated explosions in the complex and ran to the Territory Insurance Office (TIO) which was engulfed in flames and thick smoke. A man was able to make his way out of the TIO and assisted another injured person escape to safety. Despite sustaining burns and other injuries the man remained at the front of the office with a group of civilians and a police officer, using fire extinguishers and a fire hose to try to contain the fire. Four men and the officer attempted to enter the burning office to check for other victims but were forced to retreat from the heat and smoke. Without any breathing apparatus and confronted by extremely limited visibility, they and other men called out repeatedly to people inside while torches were shone through the thick smoke, helping guide a group of victims out of the building. One of the men prevented a female worker from re-entering the burning office, ensuring that she was kept safe and uninjured. Confirming there were no people unaccounted for, the group continued to hose down the fire and provide first aid and comfort to the victims until emergency services arrived at the scene.

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

Mr Patrick BELLOT

44 Armidale Street
STUART PARK NT 0280
Phone No: Mobile 0416 945 827

Mr Paul William BLEEKER

PO Box 7006
PARK BEACH PLAZA NSW 2450
Phone No: Mobile 0423 632 486

Mr Paul Darren BURGESS

24 Majestic Drive
DURACK NT 0830
Phone No: Mobile 0433 988 816

Mr Patrick DUNKS

Gove NT 0880 Victoria Police
Phone No: Mobile 0422 243 844

Senior Constable First Class Mark

Richard NANCARROW

Northern Territory Police
Phone No: Mobile 0431 356 156

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Awardees comprise of members of the Melbourne Metropolitan Fire and Emergency Services.

Mr Andrew Dean CLIFF
Mr Mark FINCHER
Mr Damian Keith FOLETTI
Mr Ronald Adrian MILLER AFSM
Mrs Elise Maree MOR
Mr Brian Vincent O'CONNELL
Mr Graham Hylton PEACOCK
Mr Craig Robert WILLIAMS
Mr Andrew Sam WILSON

On the morning of 12 October 2007, crews from the Spotswood, Newport and Footscray fire stations helped rescue a colleague trapped in a fierce fire at a furniture factory at Yarraville, Victoria.

Fire fighters were informed that a small fire was underway at a furniture factory in Yarraville. Wearing protective equipment and breathing apparatus, the first investigating crew was not able to locate flames or a heat source. A second and third crew joined to assist the search and provide rescue backup respectively. The officers thoroughly scoured the building, and within moments of being ready to report their findings, a chemical reaction occurred as a result of the build up of spontaneous combustible substances. The resulting toxic explosion ignited a flash fire of such magnitude that it forced the officers to quickly retreat the scene. Fire raced through the building, immediately engulfing it and trapping one of the officers. Despite the inferno and the risk to their own lives, fire fighters from the three stations, some of whom had already sustained burns, returned to rescue their unconscious colleague who was not breathing. The victim was able to be carried to safety and revived while other fire fighters contained the fire at the site, protecting surrounding residential and business properties.

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

Mr Andrew Dean CLIFF
Victoria
Phone No: Not available

Mrs Elise Maree MOR
CAROLINE SPRINGS VIC 3023
Phone No: Home (03)9363 6241

Mr Mark FINCHER
HOPPERS CROSSING VIC 3029
Phone No: Mobile 0425 798 650

Mr Brian Vincent O'CONNELL
Victoria
Phone No: Not available

Mr Damian Keith FOLETTI
5 Brisbane Street
STRATHMORE VIC 3041
Phone No: Mobile 0408 534 577

Mr Graham Hylton PEACOCK
HILLSIDE VIC 3037
Phone No: Mobile 0414 394 235

Mr Ronald Adrian MILLER
6 Exford Road
MELTON SOUTH VIC 3338
Phone No; Mobile 0412 686 035

Mr Craig Robert WILLIAMS
5 Bloxham Court
HOPPERS CROSSING VIC 3029
Phone No: Mobile 0402 055 030

Mr Andrew Sam WILSON
AIRPORT WEST VIC 3042
Phone No: Mobile 0412 055 552

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Mr Christopher Thomas HARVEY
Mr Joshua James HICK
Mr Paul Steven WINGATE

Late on the morning of 20 February 2009, a group of men made a citizen's arrest on an armed offender at Shellharbour, New South Wales.

A man disguised with a beanie and a bandanna and wearing gloves was spotted acting suspiciously by a civilian at a shopping centre. Minutes later the sound of smashing glass was heard and the person was witnessed stealing items from a display case at a jewellery store, placing them in a backpack. The offender was armed with a 30 centimetre shifting spanner and a 30 centimetre kitchen knife. As he raced from the store, a civilian pursued him and began to phone '000'. As the man attempted to escape, other civilians, also unarmed, separately tackled him, successfully wrestling the offender to the ground and disarming him. A knife was located by one of the men and kicked into an adjacent store to prevent the offender from grabbing it. The three young men struggled with the man and kept him pinned to the ground until police arrived to make an arrest.

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

Mr Christopher Thomas HARVEY
22 Orana Road
DAPTO NSW 2530
Phone No: Mobile 0408 686 254

Mr Paul Steven WINGATE
ALBION PARK RAIL NSW 2527
Phone No: Not available

Mr Joshua James HICK
Victoria
Phone No: Mobile 0412 878 550

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Mr Tiernan Hugh ANDERSON
Mr Tre Rhys CALMA
Mr Andrew DEMETRIOU
Mr Matthew David HIBBLE
Mr Samuel Glenn JESSEP
Mr Conor McCUE
Mr David James PAULL
Mr Morgan WISE

On the afternoon of 16 February 2009, a group of young people helped rescue a boy from the flooded Rapid Creek, Northern Territory.

Late on a summer's afternoon, groups of young people were swimming in Rapid Creek. Recent rainfall had created a fast flowing, swollen water course. A teenage boy had become entangled in a rope attached to a tree and was unable to struggle against the force of the water or remove the rope. He was being pulled under the surface as a number of boys swam out to help him. However they were overpowered by the volume of water and were forced downstream. Another teenager jumped into the creek and tried to remove the rope but he was repeatedly pushed under the surface. Other boys tried to help but were unable to resist the current. They swam out of the creek further on and hurried back to the victim. Two of them were able to reach the young boy and also assist the other rescuer still in the water. A teenager untied the rope from the tree while others held the victim above water. The boy was swum to the bank where preliminary CPR was administered. Emergency services were called and advice was relayed by phone about CPR methods until police and ambulance arrived. The young teenager was taken to hospital but sadly, as a result of the accident, died several hours later.

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

Mr Tiernan Hugh ANDERSON
WANGURI NT 0810
Phone No: Not available

Mr Samuel Glenn JESSEP
NORTHERN TERRITORY
Phone No: Not available

Mr Tre Rhys CALMA
NORTHERN TERRITORY
Phone No: Home (80)8945 5023

Mr Conor McCUE
RAPID CREEK NT 0810
Phone No: Home (08)8985 3608

Mr Andrew DEMETRIOU
10 Seagar Court
GRAY NT 0830
Phone No: Home (08)8932 7282

Mr David James PAULL
64 Jingili Terrace
JINGILI NT 0810
Phone No: Mobile 0412 711 836

Mr Matthew David HIBBLE
65 Gsell Street
WANGURI NT 0810
Phone No; Mobile 0448 727 949

Mr Morgan WISE
9 Kingston Place
RAPID CREEK NT 0810
Phone No: Mobile 0401 289 031

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Mr Glen Edwin LAKE
Mr Brendan George WEISE

On the morning of 20 May 2009, two people were rescued from being trapped in floodwaters at Kobble Creek, Queensland.

A man and a woman were travelling across a bridge covered by water when their four-wheel drive vehicle stalled. Moments later a wall of water pushed the vehicle from the bridge into a fast flowing creek where it became jammed against a tree. The woman assisted her friend from the car and they scrambled onto a tree and waited for help. Some ninety minutes later, the couple were spotted as floodwaters surged around the tree. A local resident arrived with an excavator and positioned it close to the water's edge and another man climbed into the machine's up-turned bucket. Another passerby gave directions where best to position the articulated arm and bucket from the creek bank. Two nylon lift belts were then thrown over to the tree. One was attached to the stranded driver enabling him to be hauled across the water and lowered safely onto the creek bank. Shortly afterwards a similar manoeuvre was used to rescue the woman.

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

Mr Glen Edwin LAKE
"Kargle"
Dales Road
KOBBLE CREEK QLD 4520
Phone No: Mobile 0418 153 116

Mr Brendan George WEISE
SAMSONVALE QLD 4520
Phone No: Not available

GROUP BRAVERY CITATION

Mr Joshua Michael ALLAN
Mr Lee CARSON
Mr Jacob Christy COLE
Mr Scott Mitchell SMITH
Mr Torren John WOOD

On the afternoon of 19 December 2008, five school companions assisted another of their friends who was bitten by a snake at Mundubbera, Queensland.

Six teenage friends were having a summer's afternoon swim in the Burnett River. One of the boys was lowering himself underneath a bridge into long grass about to jump into the water when he was bitten twice on the foot by a taipan snake. Immediately he fell into the water and began to have seizures. His friends jumped into the river and pulled their companion back to the bank to safety, aware that the snake could still be nearby. Applying recent training, the boys administered first aid while one of them called for the ambulance. As the victim continued to convulse and bleed from the mouth, the boys acted together to keep their friend's airways clear and used a t-shirt as an improvised pressure bandage around the bites. They reassured and comforted their friend until SES workers arrived with a four-wheel drive to carry the boy up the steep embankment to a waiting ambulance. The victim was taken to a local hospital and then transferred to Brisbane for further treatment. Some days later his condition improved and he went on to make a full recovery.

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

Mr Joshua Michael ALLAN
QUEENSLAND
Phone No: Mobile 0418 654 083

Mr Lee CARSON
9 Doomba Drive
BUNGAREE QLD 4507
Phone No: Home (07)5452 6841

Mr Jakob Christy COLE
46 Leichhardt Street
MUNDUBBERA QLD 4626
Phone No: Home (07)4165 3616

Mr Scott Mitchell SMITH
11 Stuart-Russell Street
MUNDUBBERA QLD 4626
Phone No: Mobile 0427 178 476

Mr Torren John WOOD
MUNDUBBERA QLD 4626
Phone No: Mobile 0458 940 044