

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Kevin Allan BEVEN, Weipa Qld 4874

In the afternoon of 9 March 2011, Mr Kevin Beven rescued a man from a 300 kilogram crocodile. The crocodile had launched itself from a creek in Weipa to attack the man, who was fishing. It bit the man's hand, causing him to slip down the river bank, and then bit his legs while he clung desperately to mangrove roots. Mr Beven was the first person on the scene after the alarm was raised. He grabbed the man and tried to pull him free. When others arrived, they beat the animal with stones, logs and sticks until it eventually let the victim go. Mr Beven then pulled him up the bank to safety.

By his actions Mr Beven displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: Not available

Senior Constable Peter Graham COLEMAN, Queensland Police

Around midday on 11 April 2011, Senior Constable Peter Coleman assisted a man trapped in a burning vehicle. Alerted by smoke coming from a single vehicle accident on the Gympie Arterial Road, he drove to the scene, calling for emergency assistance, and entered the vehicle while the engine was on fire. Unable to pull the seriously injured driver free, he stayed with the man and kept his head upright. When a bystander doused the flames with a fire extinguisher, Senior Constable Coleman gave first aid to the driver and remained with him until he was cut from the wreckage.

By his actions Senior Constable Coleman displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: Work (07) 3863 5111

Petty Officer Ian Mark DAVIES, WA

In the evening of 9 February 2011, Petty Officer Ian Davies rescued a fellow sailor who had been injured during a training exercise onboard a submarine. Despite the risk to his personal safety, he acted with calm resolve to assist his fellow sailor to safety and to contain the danger from the original incident.

By his actions, Petty Officer Davies displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: Not available

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Garry Allen DURBIDGE, PO Box 644, Hamilton, Vic 3300

On the afternoon of 14 November 1997, Mr Gary Durbidge assisted in the attempted rescue of a man from a burning truck at Wannon, Victoria. Mr Durbidge and a colleague were at work when they heard the sound of an accident nearby. Driving to the scene, they discovered a semi-trailer had crashed and its trailer, loaded with woodchips, had separated from the prime mover. The prime mover was upside down and the driver was calling for help. Mr Durbidge and his colleague attempted to free the trapped driver, as flames emanated from the truck's engine. After trying several times to free the driver, Mr Durbidge attempted to beat out the growing fire with tree branches. Despite attempts by several passers-by to quell the flames with fire extinguishers, the fire grew, forcing the men to safety. Soon after, fire engulfed the truck and the driver sadly perished.

By his actions, Mr Durbidge displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: Not available

Mr Paul Bronte GATENBY, PO Box 211, Batemans Bay NSW 2536

On the morning of 14 September, 2004, Mr Paul Gatenby rescued a driver from an overturned petrol tanker in Nelligen. A tanker carrying 25,000 litres of fuel had overturned on the Kings Highway. The truck slid down an embankment and came to rest close to the residence on Mr Gatenby's property. As the trailer ruptured, fuel was dispersed throughout the area. After alerting his neighbour, an off duty police officer, Mr Gatenby dragged the driver from the vehicle. Both men were covered in fuel. Mr Gatenby tore up his shirt to make bandages as he provided first aid to the man, who had suffered scalping to the forehead and lacerations. Although he was asked to leave his property because of the risk of explosion from the leaking fuel from the nearby tanker, Mr Gatenby remained to support the injured man until the arrival of emergency services.

By his actions, Mr Gatenby displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: (02) 4478 1224 Mobile 0429 781 224

Mr Raymond Reginald GORRELL deceased, late of New South Wales

On the evening of 10 July 1948 at Central Railway Station, a man fell from a platform onto the tracks as a train was about to enter the station. He struck his head and knocked himself unconscious. Mr Raymond Gorrell (deceased 1994) saw the incident and immediately jumped down onto the tracks and lay on top of him. Another man also jumped down on the tracks and pulled the man's legs off the line. Both men then held the man on the ground, against the side of the platform, as about one and a half carriages rolled over them. After being trapped under the train for nearly ten minutes, authorities managed to drag the men back onto the platform.

By his actions Mr Gorrell displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: Not available

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mrs Judith Therese HENNOCK, Cootamundra NSW 2590

On the afternoon of 5 February 2007, Mrs Judith Hennock put her own safety at risk to assist a woman who was trapped in a burning vehicle near Wagga Wagga. Two vehicles had collided head-on while travelling on the Junee to Bomen road. The driver of one of the vehicles was conscious but injured and trapped, and her son, a passenger, was injured and in shock. After the young man had been lifted to safety, Mrs Hennock entered the burning vehicle and comforted the driver, until she too was able to be rescued.

By her actions Mrs Hennock displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: Not available

Mr Derek Scott MACLUCAS, Aldgate SA 5154

On the night of 30 December 2007, Mr Derek MacLucas rescued a man from a burning vehicle in Largs Bay. Mr MacLucas was at home around 11pm when he heard screeching tyres and a loud crash. He ran outside to see that a vehicle had collided with a telegraph pole and caught alight. Mr MacLucas ran toward the burning vehicle and found that the driver was unconscious. As the fire and smoke intensified, he leaned inside the vehicle through an open window and managed to unbuckle the driver's seatbelt. Assisted by another person who arrived on the scene, Mr MacLucas dragged the driver clear of the vehicle just before it was engulfed in flames.

By his actions Mr MacLucas displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: Mobile 0431 930 808

Mr Byron Alexander MARSHALL, Vic

On the afternoon of 12 December 2010, Mr Bryon Marshall rescued a man trapped in a capsized fishing vessel at Point Nepean. When the alarm was raised that a vessel had overturned in rough water, Mr Marshall and two colleagues boarded a boat in Queenscliff Harbour and steamed towards the upturned boat. Having established that ten of the twelve people on the charter boat had been rescued, Mr Marshall entered the water and swam approximately 100 metres towards the vessel to search for the remaining two passengers. On reaching the fishing boat, Mr Marshall attempted to untangle a deceased man floating face down with lines wrapped around his legs. Realising that the conditions were worsening, and in danger of being entangled himself, Mr Marshall shouted into the vessel to identify if the remaining passenger was nearby. A man trapped inside responded and Mr Marshall immediately assisted him to an opening in the vessel's bridge. Mr Marshall pulled the man free of the boat where a rescue helicopter was able to winch him to safety.

By his actions Mr Marshall displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: Mobile 0429 145 315

BRAVERY MEDAL

Detective Senior Constable Steven MURPHY, Victoria Police

In the afternoon of 24 June 2010, Constable Stephen Murphy intervened and subdued a man armed with a knife who had stabbed two people in Meadow Heights. Constable Murphy and another officer arrived at the scene of the stabbing and found a man with severe wounds collapsed in the street. While the police officers were attending to the victim and establishing a crime scene, the offender, armed with a knife, ran into the street and confronted Constable Murphy and his colleague. When the offender focused on the other officer, Constable Murphy, fearing his colleague's safety, drew his firearm and shot the offender several times. The armed man continued his attack, stabbing the other officer in the arm. Reacting quickly, Constable Murphy moved next to the offender and hit him on the head with his firearm. The armed man stopped attacking the officer but continued struggling as Constable Murphy and a fellow officer restrained and arrested him.

By his actions Detective Senior Constable Murphy displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: Not available

Senior Constable Shane Francis PEDLER, New South Wales Police

In the afternoon of 5 February 2007, Senior Constable Shane Pedler (then Constable Pedler), rescued a woman from a burning vehicle near Wagga Wagga. Two vehicles had collided head-on while travelling on the Junee to Bomen road and both cars caught alight. Constable Pedler arrived at the scene as two other passers by were using their small fire extinguishers in an attempt to put out the flames. He saw a truck in the banked up queue of vehicles and organised for its driver to bring his extinguishers forward for use. Constable Pedler then tried to prise open the door of one of the vehicles whose driver was injured and trapped inside. Unable to open the driver's door, he forced open the rear door and pulled the driver's seat down, enabling her to be dragged from the vehicle and lifted to safety. Constable Pedler ran to the other vehicle and with the assistance of another person, cut the driver's seatbelt to remove him from the vehicle. He then cleared the area before both vehicles were engulfed in flames.

By his actions Senior Constable Pedler displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: Not available

Mr David James PHILLIPS, 181 Mary Street, Gympie Qld 4570

In the morning of 27 November 2009, Mr David Phillips, a local businessman, confronted and assisted in the apprehension of an armed youth who had stabbed a man in Gympie. Mr Phillips witnessed a youth running from shopping centre, shouting that he had been stabbed. Mr Phillips followed the youth and noticed he was being chased by the offender carrying a bayonet. Following him into a car park, Mr Phillips confronted the offender who then threatened him with the bayonet. The armed youth was briefly distracted by a bystander and Mr Phillips took the opportunity to grab him from behind. In his attempt to disarm the offender, Mr Phillips was stabbed in the back. With the assistance of a third man, Mr Phillips restrained the offender until police arrived.

By his actions Mr Phillips displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: (07) 5482 5400

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Timothy James REID, 16 Bent Street, Berridale NSW 2628

On the evening of 3 August 2009, Mr Timothy Reid assisted in disarming an intoxicated man armed with a shotgun who had fired shots at a home in Berridale. Mr Reid heard a gunshot while sitting on the veranda of his home and went out onto the street to investigate. He saw an armed man and shouted at him to put the gun down; however the man fired a second shot that hit the legs of a resident of the house. Mr Reid immediately moved toward the offender, pulled away the shotgun and threw it over a neighbouring fence. Mr Reid remained with the offender until police arrived and arrested him.

By his actions Mr Reid displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: Mobile 0402 439 423

Able Seaman Catherine Lee SMITH, WA

In the evening of 9 February 2011, Able Seaman Catherine Smith sustained serious personal injury in an attempt to prevent damage to a submarine and minimise risk to the safety of other sailors following an incident during a training exercise. Able Seaman Smith's quick thinking and courageous actions averted wider damage arising from the incident and consequent risk to others aboard the vessel

By her actions Able Seaman Smith displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: Not available

Mr Daryl Ian TESTER, PO Box 77, Inglewood SA 5133

In the early morning of 6 February 2010, Mr Tester put his personal safety at risk in an attempt to rescue a man from a burning vehicle in Upper Hermitage. Mr Tester was at home when he heard a car crash nearby. Along with a neighbour, Mr Tester ran barefoot to the scene of the crash, where he found a vehicle on fire. He and his neighbour attempted unsuccessfully to push the vehicle onto its wheels, despite the possibility of being pinned to a nearby fence. As the fire intensified, Mr Tester grabbed a wooden post and smashed a rear windscreen in an attempt to remove the driver. He crawled into the vehicle and shook the driver to rouse him. The fire intensified, and Mr Tester and his neighbour were forced away from the vehicle before it was engulfed by flames.

By his actions Mr Tester displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: Not available

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Fred David WHITLOCK, 1360 Skyline Road, Yarra Glen VIC 3775

In the early evening of 7 February 2009, during the "Black Saturday" bushfires in Victoria, Mr Fred Whitlock braved extremely dangerous conditions to rescue and assist several neighbours and friends in the Yarra Glen area. On learning that a man and his brother were trapped by fire at their property on Steels Creek Road and unable to restart their fire pump, Mr Whitlock went to their assistance. He drove his vehicle along several burning, heavily wooded back roads until fallen trees and the fire forced him to stop. He made his way on foot through the last few hundred metres to reach the men, and managed to restart the fire pump, which was critical to their fire fighting efforts. Mr Whitlock then drove toward his house on Skyline Road, stopping to check on a neighbouring couple. He found them sheltering at a nearby residence; escorted the man back to his property and drove the woman and her dogs to safety, crossing fallen power lines and chain sawing burning logs on the way.

By his actions Mr Whitlock displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: mobile 0417 771 716

Senior Constable Nathan Andrew WRIGHT, Queensland Police

During the afternoon of 12 January 2000, former Tasmanian Police Officer Constable Nathan Wright put the safety of others before his own during the apprehension of an armed and violent offender in New Norfolk. Constable Wright was on patrol, accompanied by another police officer, when he was called to an incident involving a knife wielding youth. In an attempt to apprehend him, Constable Wright came under attack by the offender. The offender was pursued to a car park beside a public swimming pool. At the time, a large number of patrons were leaving the pool. Observing the offender moving toward a group of people in the car park, Constable Wright positioned himself to protect them and was repeatedly slashed and lunged at by the youth. The offender then began moving toward other people in a nearby park. Constable Wright obtained a baton from a police vehicle nearby and pursued the youth, hitting his arm and making him drop the knife. Constable Wright and other police officers apprehended the offender after a violent struggle.

By his actions Senior Constable Wright displayed considerable bravery.

Phone No: Mobile 0421 033 100