

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mrs Leanne Gayle BARBER, 26 Thomas Lane, Broken Hill NSW 2880

On the morning of 5 August 2012, Mrs Leanne Barber attempted to rescue a man who was being attacked by dogs at Broken Hill, New South Wales.

Mrs Barber was alerted to screams coming from outside her property and, on investigating, she saw three medium sized dogs savagely attacking a man who was lying on the ground. The dogs had inflicted major bite wounds to his limbs and puncture wounds all over his body. Mrs Barber immediately moved forward and attempted to stop the attack, but the frenzied dogs then mauled her and caused extensive penetrating injuries to her body. When the police arrived the dogs confronted them before they were captured a few hours later. Following surgery Mrs Barber spent four days in hospital

By her actions, Mrs Barber displayed considerable bravery.

Senior Constable Darryl Roderick CAMPBELL, Queensland Police

On 29 April 2011, Senior Constable Darryl Campbell responded to a single vehicle accident that occurred on Maroochydore Road, Maroochydore.

Arriving first on the scene, Senior Constable Campbell saw that the vehicle had left the roadway, rolled and remained upside down against the rear wall of a major shopping complex. The driver was trapped in his seat by the seatbelt and had sustained life threatening injuries. As fuel leaked into the cabin and pooled on the cabin roof, Senior Constable Campbell entered the vehicle to assist the man who was falling in and out of consciousness. When the driver regained consciousness he was in considerable pain, and Senior Constable Campbell attempted to calm him while he provided first aid. Despite his clothing being soaked by fuel, Senior Constable Campbell provided constant support to the driver as he assisted rescue personnel to carefully remove the injured man out through the door to the waiting ambulance officers

By his actions, Senior Constable Campbell displayed considerable bravery.

Detective Inspector Darren John CLOAKE, New South Wales Police

On the evening of 23 May 2006, Detective Inspector (then Sergeant) Darren Cloake rescued two people from a burning house at Auburn, New South Wales.

Sergeant Cloake was driving home from work when he observed a weatherboard house on fire. He stopped his vehicle, called emergency services and organised a local motorist to prevent traffic flow into the area. Sergeant Cloake ran into the backyard and was advised by residents that two people remained inside. He entered through the rear door and saw flames climbing the walls and moving into the roof cavity. He located two people and evacuated them outside. He then re-entered the house and made his way through the heavy smoke to search the rear rooms to make sure there were no other residents. When police arrived Sergeant Cloake briefed his colleagues and directed officers where further assistance was needed.

By his actions, Detective Inspector Cloake displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Rowan Anthony CUTBUSH, 25 Richardson Avenue, Boat Harbour NSW 2316

On the afternoon of 16 March 2011, Mr Rowan Cutbush rescued a woman from a shark attack at Jimmies Beach, Port Stephens, New South Wales.

Mr Cutbush and two friends were enjoying themselves wakeboarding when, after attempting a jump, one of them fell into the water. As she swam to her board she was attacked by a shark and suffered injuries to her left arm, neck and face. Mr Cutbush and his friend were manoeuvring their parasailing vessel to pick the woman up when they observed the attack. As they sped the vessel to the woman, Mr Cutbush dived into the water and swam approximately twenty metres to reach her in the bloodied water. He grabbed hold of her right arm with one hand and with the other held onto a rope which had been thrown to them. Mr Cutbush held onto the woman as he was pulled back to the marlin board of the vessel and climbed out of the water. Assisted by his friend, Mr Cutbush pulled the woman out of the water before he provided first aid to her severely lacerated arm. Mr Cutbush then drove the vessel at high speed while the woman continued to receive treatment until they were met by ambulance officers at the jetty.

By his actions, Mr Cutbush displayed considerable bravery.

Mr John Edward DAVIES, 7/399 Kooyong Road, Elsternwick Vic 3185

On the morning of 23 July 2012, Mr John Davies rescued a man at Hughesdale railway station, Victoria.

Railway employee, Mr Davies was walking along the platform when he saw a man, who had removed his clothing, was laying on the track as an express train approached. Mr Davies immediately ran fifty metres along the platform, jumped down onto the track, grabbed hold of the man and dragged him away. He held the man against a fence as the train passed. When another train approached, Mr Davies was forced to again restrain the man against the fence as he screamed and struggled to escape. Once the train had passed, Mr Davies then escorted the man back onto the platform and handed him into the custody of security guards and police officers who had just arrived.

By his actions, Mr Davies displayed considerable bravery.

Mr William Thomas DENNY AM, 15 Galway Grove, Tranmere SA 5073

On the afternoon of 14 November 1997, Mr William Denny assisted in the attempted rescue of a man from a burning truck at Wannon, Victoria.

Mr Denny was travelling with a group of men in a mini-bus along the Glenelg Highway when they approached a vehicle accident at the Wannon River Bridge. Further investigation revealed a semi-trailer had crashed and its trailer, loaded with woodchips, had separated from the prime mover. The prime mover landed upside down with the engine area on fire and the driver was calling for help. Mr Denny initially assisted in the attempts to extinguish the growing fire, however he quickly realised that this was to no avail. Mr Denny then climbed into the cabin where fuel was leaking and desperately tried to pull the driver out. Realising that the driver was pinned in the cabin by his legs, Mr Denny undid his seatbelt, and attempted to again pull him free. As smoke and flames intensified and with explosion imminent, Mr Denny along with his colleagues were forced to decamp back to the road. Soon after fire engulfed the truck and the driver sadly perished.

By his actions, Mr Denny displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Bradley David DRAPER, 32 Kumbari Crescent, Mitchelton Qld 4053

On the evening of 16 December 2008, Mr Bradley Draper rescued a woman from a burning house at Mitchelton, Queensland.

Mr Draper, accompanied by his family, was driving to his home when he saw smoke rising from a house. The fire which had emanated from a pot that was left cooking on the stove had flames leaping to the ceiling of the kitchen and thick smoke spread throughout the house. Knowing that an elderly couple lived at the burning house, Mr Draper immediately stopped his vehicle and went to the front door. The residents had exited the house with the assistance of others but the elderly lady went back in to retrieve her purse. Unable to see inside, Mr Draper bent down under the smoke level and crawled into the house. He heard the woman screaming and moved in that direction. When Mr Draper reached the woman, he stood up and helped her up before he assisted her outside to safety. Within moments several windows exploded and the roof began to collapse. Mr Draper later received treatment for smoke inhalation.

By his actions, Mr Draper displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Damian Simon HALL, 26 Paringa Way, Burnside Vic 3023

On the morning of 17 November 2011, Mr Damian Hall helped rescue a woman and baby from a dog attack at Burnside, Victoria.

Mr Hall was travelling along Westwood Drive when he saw a woman fighting off a pit bull terrier that was attacking a baby inside a pram. Mr Hall immediately stopped his vehicle and grabbed hold of a large metal wrench. He rushed to the victims and hit the dog several times before it began to attack him. A passer-by pulled up in a ute to assist and the woman and her child were able to climb inside. When they were safely inside the vehicle, Mr Hall jumped onto the tray of the ute to get out of harm's way. After a neighbour exited her house to assist, the dog began to attack her. Mr Hall immediately went to her aid and grabbed hold of the dog long enough for the lady to return to her house. Once Mr Hall realised she was safely inside her house he climbed back onto the ute tray where the vehicle was driven to a nearby medical centre.

By his actions, Mr Hall displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Rodney Charles HOWARD, Sydney NSW 2000

On the morning of 5 August 2010, Mr Rodney Howard assisted in apprehending an armed offender at Bonnyrigg, New South Wales.

Mr Howard was a customer in a major retail store at Bonnyrigg when three men assaulted a loss prevention officer and threatened him and other staff members with a pistol. When another staff member intervened to assist, the victim managed to hide elsewhere in the store. Mr Howard and a friend overheard staff members discussing the incident and along with the staff member followed the offenders outside the store. Mr Howard, his friend and the staff member continued to follow them in the car park where one of the offenders fired two shots in their direction. As the staff member prevented anyone from leaving the store for their own safety, Mr Howard and his friend called 000 and got into their vehicle. They followed the offenders, who were driving two trucks, until they stopped at a residence in a nearby suburb. The two men pulled over and they observed the house until the police arrived and apprehended them.

By his actions, Mr Howard displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Charlton William KABLE, deceased, Late of Sydney NSW 2000

On the afternoon of 12 January 2013, Mr Charlton Kable attempted to rescue several children who were swept out to sea at Patonga Beach, New South Wales.

Mr Kable was swimming with several children who were visiting from overseas at Patonga Creek, about 200 metres upstream of Patonga Beach, when they were swept out to sea by a strong tidal current. When the group were about 150 metres from the shore Mr Kable grabbed hold of one girl and held her above the water as he attempted to swim them to safety. When he became exhausted, Mr Kable fell below the surface but continued to hold the girl up until he became unconscious. Several men entered the water in a small boat and began rescuing the children. They then noticed the girl who was still hanging onto Mr Kable to keep herself afloat. When they rescued the girl they saw Mr Kable under the water and pulled him into the boat. Mr Kable was provided with CPR however was unable to be revived.

By his actions, Mr Kable displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Mark John McNICOL, Yellow Rock NSW 2777

On the morning of 5 August 2010, Mr Mark McNicol assisted in apprehending an armed offender at Bonnyrigg, New South Wales.

Mr McNicol was a customer in a major retail store at Bonnyrigg when three men assaulted a loss prevention officer and threatened him and other staff members with a pistol. When another staff member intervened to assist, the victim managed to hide elsewhere in the store. Mr Howard and a friend overheard staff members discussing the incident and along with the staff member followed the offenders outside the store. Mr McNicol, his friend and the staff member continued to follow them in the car park where one of the offenders fired two shots in their direction. As the staff member prevented anyone from leaving the store for their own safety, Mr McNicol and his friend called 000 and got into their vehicle. They followed the offenders, who were driving two trucks, until they stopped at a residence in a nearby suburb. The two men pulled over and they observed the house until the police arrived and apprehended them.

By his actions, Mr McNicol displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Daniel Martin RACE, 10 St Clair Place, Cooloongup WA 6168

On the morning of 3 August 2010, Mr Daniel Race restrained a man who had stabbed a woman at Rockingham, Western Australia.

Mr Race was working at a retail store in the Rockingham City Centre when he heard a female colleague ask a man to return a store item he was attempting to steal. He immediately moved out from behind the shelves and saw the man threaten and attack her with a knife. His colleague collapsed to the floor with severe lacerations to her face and throat. As the offender attempted to grab the injured woman's arm, Mr Race intervened. He fought with the offender receiving several lacerations to his face and shoulder. Mr Race then grabbed hold of the offender's wrist as another colleague stepped forward and assisted. The offender dropped the knife and they continued to struggle until they overpowered and held him until security staff arrived.

By his actions, Mr Race displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr David RADCLIFFE, Forrest Beach Qld 4850

On the afternoon of 15 September 2012, Mr David Radcliffe went to the assistance of a girl who was being attacked by a dog at Forrest Beach, Queensland.

Mr Radcliffe was visiting a friend when they heard children screaming for help from a nearby property. Mr Radcliffe, accompanied by his friend, immediately jumped the fence, grabbed a lump of wood and made his way through a vacant block to reach the next property. He ran up the stairs of the porch and saw a dog biting a young girl. The dog had inflicted multiple puncture wounds to her neck, throat and back. Mr Radcliffe struck the dog on its head several times with the wood and forced it to release the girl while his friend pulled her to safety. The dog then began to attack Mr Radcliffe so he hit it again and managed to lock it inside the house. He phoned 000 and helped apply pressure to the girl's wounds until ambulance personnel arrived.

By his actions, Mr Radcliffe displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Daniel REBBECHI, Dianella WA 6059

On the night of 26 March 2011, Mr Daniel Rebbechi assisted in the rescue of two people from a burning house at Dianella, Western Australia.

Mr Rebbechi was at his home when he heard the sound of glass breaking and a woman screaming. He immediately ran outside and saw a fire coming from a house across the road. He called 000 and then ran to the residence. Another neighbour also arrived to assist and helped open the side gate so they could access the rear of the house. After the neighbour smashed open a rear window with a chair, Mr Rebbechi began calling through the window into the smoky room in an attempt to find the woman. When a child became visible through the smoke near the window Mr Rebbechi reached inside and pulled the child out with the neighbours help. As the neighbour took the child to a safer area, Mr Rebbechi heard the woman and climbed through the window to help her. He crawled on the ground trying to avoid the thick smoke and found the woman semi-conscious. He managed to pull her to the window and held her head outside but was unable to push her outside. Firefighters arrived and lifted the woman out through the window. They then carried Mr Rebbechi who was overcome by smoke out through the front door.

By his actions, Mr Rebbechi displayed considerable bravery.