

STAR OF COURAGE (SC)

Mr Jimmy Wayne BATEMAN, 33 Dunmovin Road, Moree NSW 2400

On the evening of 5 September 2014, Mr Jimmy Bateman assisted in the rescue of a truck driver after an accident near Charleville in south western Queensland.

At about 9pm a B-double truck carrying over 52 tonnes of a highly explosive chemical crashed off the Angellala Creek Bridge on the Mitchell Highway and burst into flames. The driver, who was severely injured, managed to get out of the truck's cabin and crawl up onto the bridge.

Mr Bateman and another passing truck driver arrived on the scene and noticed that the cabin of the overturned truck was well alight and beginning to melt. Minor explosions were occurring, as black smoke and 10 metre high flames were visible. Despite the considerable risk to their safety, they chose to stay and administer first aid and provide comfort to the injured truck driver.

Four Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) firefighters from the Charleville Station then arrived and, despite the risk of a major explosion, went to assist the injured driver. Not long after, the burning truck exploded, sending debris into the air. A second explosion and shockwave quickly followed, causing extensive damage to surrounding area. Mr Bateman, the other passing truck driver, the injured truck driver and the four QFES firefighters sustained significant injuries as they were only 30 metres from the exploding vehicle.

The QFES firefighters and Mr Bateman supported each other on foot from the scene. They met a Queensland police officer and QFES inspector and advised them that two men were still at the site of the accident. Mr Bateman and the four QFES firefighters were then transported to hospital.

By his actions, Mr Bateman displayed conspicuous courage.

STAR OF COURAGE (SC)

Mr Timothy John BUNYAN, Tottenham NSW 2873

On the evening of 5 September 2014, Mr Timothy Bunyan assisted in the rescue of a truck driver after an accident near Charleville in south western Queensland.

At about 9pm a B-double truck carrying over 52 tonnes of a highly explosive chemical crashed off the Angellala Creek Bridge on the Mitchell Highway and burst into flames. The driver, who was severely injured, managed to get out of the truck's cabin and crawl up onto the bridge.

Mr Bunyan was first on the scene and was soon joined by another truck driver. The men noticed that the cabin of the overturned truck was well alight and beginning to melt. Minor explosions were occurring, as black smoke and 10 metre high flames were visible. Despite the considerable risk to their safety, they chose to stay and administer first aid and provide comfort to the injured truck driver.

Four Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) firefighters from the Charleville Station then arrived and, despite the risk of a major explosion, stayed to assist the injured driver. Not long after, the burning truck exploded, sending debris into the air. A second explosion and shockwave quickly followed, causing extensive damage to surrounding area. Mr Bunyan, the other passing truck driver, the injured truck driver, and the four QFES firefighters sustained significant injuries as they were only about 30 metres from the exploding vehicle.

The QFES firefighters and one of the truck drivers supported each other on foot from the scene. They met a Queensland police officer and QFES inspector and advised them that Mr Bunyan and the injured truck driver were still at the site of the accident. The injured men were then transported to hospital.

Meanwhile, Mr Bunyan was still assisting the injured truck driver when QPS officers arrived at the scene. A Queensland Ambulance Service paramedic arrived and treated Mr Bunyan and the injured truck driver who were then removed from the scene as toxic smoke from the surrounding debris began to cover the crash site.

By his actions, Mr Bunyan displayed conspicuous courage.

STAR OF COURAGE (SC)

Mr Peter Robert HACKWOOD, 25 Wildie Street, Charleville Qld 4470

On the evening of 5 September 2014, Mr Peter Hackwood, and three colleagues from Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) assisted in the rescue of people after a truck accident near Charleville in south western Queensland.

At about 9pm a B-double truck carrying over 52 tonnes of a highly explosive chemical crashed off the Angellala Creek Bridge on the Mitchell Highway and burst into flames. The driver, who was severely injured, managed to get out of the truck's cabin and crawl up onto the bridge.

Two passing truck drivers arrived on the scene and noticed that the cabin of the overturned truck was well alight and beginning to melt. Minor explosions were occurring, as black smoke and 10 metre high flames were visible. They attended to the injured truck driver, administering first aid and providing comfort.

Mr Hackwood and three colleagues, QFES firefighters from the Charleville Station, arrived on the scene and, despite the considerable risk of a major explosion, they stayed to assist the injured driver. At this stage the burning truck exploded, sending debris into the air. A second explosion and shockwave quickly followed causing extensive damage to the surrounding area. They, along with the two passing truck drivers and the injured man, sustained significant injuries as they were only about 30 metres from the exploding vehicle.

The QFES firefighters and one of the truck drivers supported each other on foot from the scene. They met a Queensland police officer and QFES inspector and advised them that two people were still at the site of the accident. They were then transported to hospital.

By his actions, Mr Hackwood displayed conspicuous courage.

STAR OF COURAGE (SC)

Mr Clinton Thomas McCARTHY, Charleville Qld 4470

On the evening of 5 September 2014, Mr Clinton McCarthy and three colleagues from Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) assisted in the rescue of people after a truck accident near Charleville in south western Queensland.

At about 9pm a B-double truck carrying over 52 tonnes of a highly explosive chemical crashed off the Angellala Creek Bridge on the Mitchell Highway and burst into flames. The driver, who was severely injured, managed to get out of the truck's cabin and crawl up onto the bridge.

Two passing truck drivers arrived on the scene and noticed that the cabin of the overturned truck was well alight and beginning to melt. Minor explosions were occurring, as black smoke and 10 metre high flames were visible. They attended to the injured truck driver, administering first aid and providing comfort.

Mr McCarthy and three colleagues, QFES firefighters from the Charleville Station, arrived on the scene and, despite the considerable risk of a major explosion, they stayed to assist the injured driver. At this stage the burning truck exploded, sending debris into the air. A second explosion and shockwave quickly followed causing extensive damage to the surrounding area. They, along with the two passing truck drivers and the injured man, sustained significant injuries as they were only about 30 metres from the exploding vehicle.

The QFES firefighters and one of the truck drivers supported each other on foot from the scene. They met a Queensland police officer and QFES inspector and advised them that two people were still at the site of the accident. They were then transported to hospital.

By his actions, Mr McCarthy displayed conspicuous courage.

STAR OF COURAGE (SC)

Mr Jake Paul SULLIVAN, Charleville Qld 4470

On the evening of 5 September 2014, Mr Jake Sullivan and three colleagues from Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) assisted in the rescue of people after a truck accident near Charleville in south western Queensland.

At about 9pm a B-double truck carrying over 52 tonnes of a highly explosive chemical crashed off the Angellala Creek Bridge on the Mitchell Highway and burst into flames. The driver, who was severely injured, managed to get out of the truck's cabin and crawl up onto the bridge.

Two passing truck drivers arrived on the scene and noticed that the cabin of the overturned truck was well alight and beginning to melt. Minor explosions were occurring, as black smoke and 10 metre high flames were visible. They attended to the injured truck driver, administering first aid and providing comfort.

Mr Sullivan and three colleagues from the Charleville Station, arrived on the scene and, despite the considerable risk of a major explosion, they stayed to assist the injured driver. At this stage the burning truck exploded, sending debris into the air. A second explosion and shockwave quickly followed causing extensive damage to the surrounding area. They, along with the two passing truck drivers and the injured man, sustained significant injuries as they were only about 30 metres from the exploding vehicle.

The QFES firefighters and one of the truck drivers supported each other on foot from the scene. They met a Queensland police officer and QFES inspector and advised them that two people were still at the site of the accident. They were then transported to hospital.

By their actions, Mr Sullivan displayed conspicuous courage.

STAR OF COURAGE (SC)

Mr Nathan James THOMPSON, Charleville Qld 4470

On the evening of 5 September 2014, Mr Nathan Thompson and three colleagues from Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) assisted in the rescue of people after a truck accident near Charleville in south western Queensland.

At about 9pm a B-double truck carrying over 52 tonnes of a highly explosive chemical crashed off the Angellala Creek Bridge on the Mitchell Highway and burst into flames. The driver, who was severely injured, managed to get out of the truck's cabin and crawl up onto the bridge.

Two passing truck drivers arrived on the scene and noticed that the cabin of the overturned truck was well alight and beginning to melt. Minor explosions were occurring, as black smoke and 10 metre high flames were visible. They attended to the injured truck driver, administering first aid and providing comfort.

Mr Thompson and three colleagues, QFES firefighters from the Charleville Station, arrived on the scene and, despite the considerable risk of a major explosion, they stayed to assist the injured driver. At this stage the burning truck exploded, sending debris into the air. A second explosion and shockwave quickly followed causing extensive damage to the surrounding area. They, along with the two passing truck drivers and the injured man, sustained significant injuries as they were only about 30 metres from the exploding vehicle.

The QFES firefighters and one of the truck drivers supported each other on foot from the scene. They met a Queensland police officer and QFES inspector and advised them that two people were still at the site of the accident. They were then transported to hospital.

By his actions, Mr Thompson displayed conspicuous courage.