

STAR OF COURAGE

Flight Lieutenant Michael Lewis HOLDEN  
Royal New Zealand Air Force

On 30 October 1981 Flight Lieutenant Holden was the pilot of a helicopter which malfunctioned during flight and crashed in thickly timbered country in the Shoalwater Bay Training Area during Exercise Kangaroo 81. Flight Lieutenant Holden received minor injuries in the crash and scrambled clear of the aircraft. However, when advised by one of the passengers that some of the occupants were trapped, and despite his injuries, he went to the now fiercely burning aircraft and commenced to release one of the occupants who was trapped upside down in his flying harness. Notwithstanding the fierce fire burning in the aircraft, Flight Lieutenant Holden continued in his efforts, eventually freed the man and took him to safety. During all his endeavours Flight Lieutenant Holden accepted the substantial risk of the aircraft exploding.

By his actions Flight Lieutenant Holden displayed conspicuous courage and placed himself in great peril in effecting a rescue in such circumstances.

## STAR OF COURAGE

### Captain Wayne Thomas BOWEN

On 30 October 1981 Captain Bowen, then holding the rank of Lieutenant, was one of 6 passengers aboard a helicopter which crashed in thickly timbered country in the Shoalwater Bay Training Area during Exercise Kangaroo 81. Captain Bowen, although dazed by the impact, immediately went to the assistance of a crewman who was trapped in the wreckage of the cabin of the aircraft and whose clothing was on fire. With the assistance of a crew member the fire on the man's clothing was partly extinguished and he was brought to safety notwithstanding the fierce fire then burning in the aircraft. Captain Bowen then proceeded to another part of the aircraft and attempted to free another passenger until smoke, flames and heat drove him clear. After obtaining a fire extinguisher he then attempted to put out the fire in the aircraft but was unsuccessful. During all his endeavours Captain Bowen accepted the substantial risk of the aircraft exploding.

By his actions Captain Bowen displayed conspicuous courage and placed himself in great peril in effecting a rescue in such circumstances.

### Flying Officer Mark ELDRIDGE

On 30 October 1981 Flying Officer Eldridge, then holding the rank of Pilot Officer, was the co-pilot of a helicopter which crashed in thickly timbered country in the Shoalwater Bay Training Area during Exercise Kangaroo 81. Flying Officer Eldridge, although dazed by the impact, immediately went to the assistance of a fellow crewman, who was trapped in the wreckage of the cabin of the aircraft and whose clothing was on fire. With the assistance of one of the passengers the fire on the man's clothing was partly extinguished and he was brought to safety notwithstanding the fierce fire then burning in the aircraft. Flying Officer Eldridge then assisted a number of injured persons to move from near the crashed aircraft to a place of safety. During all his endeavours Flying Officer Eldridge accepted the substantial risk of the aircraft exploding.

By his actions Flying Officer Eldridge displayed conspicuous courage and placed himself in great peril in effecting a rescue in such circumstances.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Constable Neville Maurice BONE  
South Australian Police Force

On 26 May 1982 at about 10.00 a.m. Constable Bone attended the scene of a house fire at Thirteenth Street, Renmark, South Australia. In company with another police officer Constable Bone entered the burning smoke filled house and brought a woman to safety. They re-entered the house and located another woman who was then able to make her own way to safety. The police officers returned outside and Constable Bone then broke a window to attempt to extinguish the flames but, upon being advised that a 10 year old child might still be inside, entered the house a third time. Although the smoke and flames had increased Constable Bone searched the premises until driven back by an explosion and the flames.

Constable Bone displayed considerable bravery in entering a burning building in such circumstances.

Sergeant Second Class Leslie Robert ELVIN  
New South Wales Police Force

On 2 October 1980 at about 8.50 p.m., Sergeant Elvin, who was off duty, at the request of a Security Officer, accompanied a 15 year old girl from her place of employment in the Warringah Mall, Brookvale, New South Wales, to bank premises in the Mall as she was carrying a large sum of money to be deposited in the bank's night safe. Upon approaching the bank they, and another young girl, who was accompanied by the Security Officer, who was also carrying money to be deposited, were threatened by a man carrying a sawn off automatic rifle. The first mentioned girl dropped the bag she was carrying which the man quickly picked up and then fled. Although unarmed, Sergeant Elvin immediately gave chase, eventually caught the offender and commenced to struggle with him, during which he received a gun shot wound in the leg. Despite this, Sergeant Elvin continued to struggle with the armed man until other help arrived.

Sergeant Elvin displayed considerable bravery in pursuing and capturing an armed and dangerous man.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr James FRANCIS

91 Burwood Highway,  
EAST BURWOOD VIC. 3151

At approximately 3.00 p.m. on 21 February 1975 an armed hold-up occurred at the A.N.Z. bank in Gardiner, Victoria, adjacent to a shop which Mr Francis was visiting at the time. Upon learning of the robbery Mr Francis tackled one of the two armed men who had committed the crime as they were leaving the bank and attempting to make their getaway. The armed man knocked Mr Francis to one side and then shot him in the foot.

Mr Francis displayed considerable bravery in attempting to apprehend an armed and dangerous man.

Mr William Athol FREE  
Forresters Hotel,  
336 Riley Street,  
SURRY HILLS N.S.W. 2010

On 17 January 1981 at about 12.30 p.m. Mr Free was working in the Public Bar of his hotel when a man ran into the Bar being chased by another man close behind. The first man dropped to the floor and the second man started to hit him around the head. Mr Free on getting closer to the fracas saw that the second man was wielding a long bladed knife. He caught hold of the offender's arm, who kept saying he wanted to kill the man he had been chasing, and forced him away from him.

Mr Free displayed considerable bravery in tackling an armed and dangerous man.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Warren Phillip GABY-BROWN  
15 Dorothy Street,  
CROMER N.S.W. 2099

At about 8.50 p.m. on 2 October 1980 Mr Gaby-Brown was waiting for his family in the car park of the Warringah Mall, Brookvale, New South Wales, when he observed a Security Officer of the Mall chasing a man while at the same time requesting him to stop. Realising a robbery had been committed Mr Gaby-Brown also gave chase. When he was close to the offender, who was also being pursued by another person, shots were fired one of which was aimed in Mr Gaby-Brown's direction. Notwithstanding this Mr Gaby-Brown assisted the third person in finally restraining the armed man and holding him.

By his actions in such circumstances Mr Gaby-Brown displayed considerable bravery.

Leading Aircraftman Peter Michael GREEN  
Royal Australian Air Force

On 19 May 1981 Leading Aircraftman Green, aged 19, an armament fitter by trade, volunteered to act as a rescue crewman aboard a helicopter during a mission to assist in rescuing persons from a yacht which was drifting rudderless in extremely rough seas about 15 nautical miles east of North Stradbroke Island, Queensland. Upon arrival at the scene, the helicopter hovered as close as possible to the yacht. When one of the crew of the yacht jumped into the water Leading Aircraftman Green, notwithstanding the fact that he was untrained for such work and had been warned of the risks, agreed to be lowered by the helicopter's winch into the water. He quickly swam to the man and assisted him into the rescue sling. When both were being winched into the helicopter the hoist malfunctioned leaving both persons about 10 metres below the aircraft. After about 10 minutes they were lowered back into the water and then hoisted up individually.

By his actions Leading Aircraftman Green displayed considerable bravery in such hazardous circumstances.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Kevin Alister John GROVES  
Unit 4,  
12 Golf Avenue,  
MONA VALE N.S.W. 2103

On 2 October 1980 at about 8.50 p.m. Mr Groves was seated in a coffee shop in the Warringah Mall, Brookvale, New South Wales, when he witnessed an armed robbery at nearby bank premises. When the offender ran off Mr Groves proceeded through the back premises of the coffee shop and with another man gave chase. The offender when caught began firing, one of the shots wounding the other man who had begun to struggle with him. Despite the shots Mr Groves moved in, and with another person who had also arrived on the scene, assisted the wounded man in finally restraining and capturing the armed offender.

Mr Groves displayed considerable bravery in such circumstances.

Leading Seaman Donald Ian HUGHES  
Royal Australian Navy

On 14 December 1981 Leading Seaman Hughes was a member of H.M.A.S. TOBRUK which was at sea with a number of Naval Reserve Cadets on board. At about 4.15 p.m. Leading Seaman Hughes was advised that a Cadet was unconscious in a nearby toilet compartment. He and 2 others entered the compartment to find the Cadet in a cubicle in such a position as to prevent the door being opened. Leading Seaman Hughes left the compartment to raise the alarm and returned to find the 2 others apparently affected by noxious gases. He assisted them to safety and, then realising that the emergency crew member in wearing breathing apparatus would not be able to reach the unconscious Cadet, re-entered the toilet compartment, climbed over 2 cubicle partitions to reach him and, alone, manhandled him from the compartment. Despite Leading Seaman Hughes' effort the Cadet died.

By his actions Leading Seaman Hughes displayed considerable bravery in such circumstances.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Marc Andrew JONES  
30 Brownell Drive,  
BYRON BAY N.S.W. 2481

At about 12.40 p.m. on 7 March 1982 Mark Jones, aged 18, was surfboard riding at Byron Bay, New South Wales, with a group of others when a large shark savagely attacked one of the group a short distance away. Mark and Ian Kennedy immediately went to the assistance of their friend, who was bleeding profusely from his wounds, and, despite the ever present danger of a recurring attack, brought him to shore. Notwithstanding the prompt action of Mark and Ian Kennedy, their friend died from his injuries.

By their actions, Mark and his companion displayed considerable bravery in going to the aid of their friend in such hazardous circumstances.

Mr John KARP  
53 Reserve Road,  
BEAUMARIS VIC. 3193

At approximately 3.00 p.m. on 21 February 1975 an armed hold up occurred at the A.N.Z. bank in Gardiner, Victoria, adjacent to the shop occupied by Mr Karp. Upon learning of the robbery Mr Karp tackled one of the two armed men who had committed the crime as they were attempting to make their getaway. Despite the fact Mr Karp is a one legged man he subdued the offender and held him until further assistance arrived.

Mr Karp displayed considerable bravery in tackling and apprehending an armed and dangerous man.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Ian Mark KENNEDY  
15a Repton Road,  
EAST MALVERN VIC. 3145

At about 12.40 p.m. on 7 March 1982 Ian Kennedy, a young man, was surfboard riding at Byron Bay, New South Wales, with a group of others when a large shark savagely attacked one of the group a short distance away. Ian and Mark Jones immediately went to the assistance of their friend, who was bleeding profusely from his wounds, and, despite the ever present danger of a recurring attack, brought him to shore. Notwithstanding the prompt action of Ian and Mark Jones, their friend died from his injuries.

By their actions, Ian and his companion displayed considerable bravery in going to the aid of their friend in such hazardous circumstances.



COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Constable First Class Kevin Marian Gerard BANISTER  
New South Wales Police Force

On 13 January 1982 at about 9.05 p.m. police were called to The Gap, Watson's Bay, New South Wales, where a young woman was threatening to commit suicide by jumping into the rocky waters some 27 metres below. Constable Banister, although unable to use safety equipment because of the nature of the terrain, climbed along the cliff face in darkness out of sight of the woman and, when her attention was distracted, was able to grasp her from behind and hold her until other nearby police assisted in finally restraining the woman.

By his actions Constable Banister displayed commendable courage.

Mrs Suzanne CONNIFF  
4 Donna Court,  
SALISBURY S.A. 5108

On 26 May 1982 at about 10.00 a.m. a fire occurred in a house at Thirteenth Street, Renmark, South Australia. Mrs Conniff who was in a nearby caravan entered the house to ensure the safety of several small children and some animals. Upon returning outside she realised that one of the children was not in the group and re-entered the house. While searching she was overcome by the smoke and had to be assisted from the house.

By her actions Mrs Conniff displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Miss Sue-Ellen Kaye HASKEW  
94 Rogers Street,  
CARRINGTON N.S.W. 2294

On 2 May 1982 at about 3.00 p.m. Sue-Ellen Haskew, aged 12 years, was fishing with a number of other young children from the Stockton Ferry Wharf. A boy, aged 7 years, dropped his fishing line and in trying to retrieve it fell into the deep water. Sue-Ellen immediately jumped into the water and swam with him to the rocks at the edge of the water and, unaided, pushed the boy on to the top of the rocks out of danger.

Sue-Ellen displayed commendable courage in rescuing the young boy.

Mr Charles Arthur HEMS  
9 Charles Drive,  
Cardigan Village,  
BALLARAT VIC. 3350

On 18 February 1982 Mr Hems was working at the rear of a house in Bungaree, Victoria, when, at about 8.45 a.m., he detected smoke and fire in another section of the house. Upon hearing a child cry he entered the house and although blinded by the thick smoke made his way to where the child was lying. Being unable to return through the house because of the heat and smoke Mr Hems, after taking the child in his arms, found his way to a partly open window and brought her to safety outside.

Mr Hems displayed commendable courage in rescuing a young child in such circumstances.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Constable Brenton Wayne INGLIS  
South Australian Police Force

On 26 May 1982 at about 10.00 a.m. Constable Inglis attended the scene of a house fire at Thirteenth Street, Renmark, South Australia. In company with another police officer Constable Inglis twice entered the burning smoke filled house. On the first occasion a woman was brought to safety; on the second occasion a woman was located who was then able to make her own way to safety.

By his actions Constable Inglis displayed commendable courage.

Mr John Richard NIXON  
8 Quinlan Parade,  
MANLY VALE N.S.W. 2093

On 2 October 1980 at about 8.50 p.m., Mr Nixon, a Security Officer at the Warringah Mall, Brookvale, New South Wales, escorted a young girl from her place of employment in the Mall to nearby bank premises to deposit a large sum of money. When at the bank they, and another young girl also carrying a large sum of money and accompanied by a Sergeant of Police off duty, were threatened by a man carrying a sawn off automatic rifle. Mr Nixon managed to deposit the money carried by the young girl he was accompanying in the night safe, but the other young girl dropped the bag of money she was carrying which the armed man quickly picked up and ran off. Mr Nixon was himself armed but did not use his weapon for fear of wounding others. He chased the offender and assisted other persons, who had also joined in the pursuit and who had caught the man, to finally restrain him.

By his actions Mr Nixon displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

First Class Constable Lee TREBILCOCK  
South Australian Police Force

On 2 February 1982 at about 1.30 p.m. at Waterloo Bay, near Elliston, South Australia, a small fishing boat, containing Constable Trebilcock and three other persons, capsized. One of the occupants was a man of very heavy build weighing 22 stone (140 kilograms) and was a non swimmer. Constable Trebilcock attempted to support him, but he had become panic stricken making any rescue attempt most difficult. Nevertheless Constable Trebilcock continued his attempts to help the man and support him until he himself was exhausted. The man eventually drowned.

Constable Trebilcock showed commendable bravery in such tragic circumstances.