

STAR OF COURAGE

Mr John Joseph LANIGAN,
P.O. Box 195,
EAST KEW VIC. 3102

On 19 January 1985 a man entered the premises of the Whitehorse Savings and Loan Co-operative Ltd at Box Hill, produced a gun and demanded that a bag be filled with money. The General Manager, Mr Lanigan, advised the tellers to do so and then activated the alarms. The offender then left the building. After reassuring his staff Mr Lanigan chased him for some twenty yards to his car, which was parked with the door open and the engine running, and then ran at him knocking him onto the front seat. A violent struggle ensued during which the offender attempted to shoot Mr Lanigan in the stomach but he was able to force the gun away from himself and direct it at the offender's chest. During the struggle Mr Lanigan succeeded in grabbing the gun and the money and throwing them to the floor. He was then joined by two of his staff members and with their assistance restrained the offender until the police arrived.

By his actions Mr Lanigan displayed conspicuous courage.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr William Joseph BAILEY,
4 Bucknel Circuit,
ISABELLA PLAINS A.C.T. 2905

On 22 May 1986 Mr Bailey saw two men acting suspiciously in the carpark at the Curtin shops. A short time later he saw one of the men, now wearing a balaclava, running from the shopping centre. Mr Bailey chased him and while trying to restrain him, received a number of blows to the head. The offender's accomplice then fired several shots from a .22 rifle and Mr Bailey was forced at gunpoint to release the man. The offenders then fled to their car with one of them pointing the rifle at him and firing two shots but Mr Bailey placed himself at further risk by staying to take the car's registration number.

By his actions Mr Bailey displayed considerable bravery.

Major Arthur William COWAN,
Office of the Chief of the General Staff,
Russell Offices,
CANBERRA A.C.T. 2600

On 3 May 1986 Major Cowan was driving past Chuculba Crescent, Giralang, when he saw smoke coming from the rear of a house. He scaled the fence and found smoke coming from the roof and a bright orange glow within. He and a neighbour broke in and assisted the residents to leave. Taking a hose he re-entered the house and sprayed water in the kitchen where the fire was coming from a wall oven. After the ceiling caved in he heard a child cry for help. He could not see through the thick smoke but followed the voice, walking over hot coals, to find a boy in a room at the back of the house. Although suffering then from the effects of the smoke Major Cowan grabbed him and carried him to safety.

By his actions Major Cowan displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Raymond Arthur CREASER,
8 Wall Street,
MOOROOKA QLD 4105

On 14 March 1985 Mr Creaser was inside his shop at Ekibin when his son called to him. Going outside, he saw a man running across to the houses opposite waving a shotgun. After ringing the police Mr Creaser pursued the offender in his car. Then, picking up a piece of wood, he chased him on foot and struck him with it. As the offender attempted to climb over a fence, he threatened Mr Creaser with his shotgun before he ran away. Mr Creaser returned to his car and, with another man, continued the pursuit. He again left his car and chased the offender into the grounds of a house but he escaped. Hearing a shotgun blast Mr Creaser and his companion resumed the search when the offender emerged from behind a rubbish bin, pointed the shotgun at the passenger side window and forced them out. After the offender had driven away he flagged down a police car and informed them of what had happened.

By his actions Mr Creaser displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Howard Charles DAVIS,
3 Chowilla Court,
CRAIGMORE S.A. 5114

On the night of 26 February 1986 one of the crew of HMAS "AWARE" while attempting to board the ship at Kingscote lost his footing and fell between the ship and the wharf. Mr Davis, who was standing on the wharf, saw him fall, called for help and dived into the water. Guided by the lights from the ship he found the then unconscious man and supported him while swimming four to five metres to the jetty. As the ship surged against the jetty he held on to one of the cross members with one hand and continued to support the man with the other. When a buoy and later a body harness was thrown from the ship he was unable to secure them because of the rough water but eventually, with assistance, put the harness around the man and he was hauled on board.

By his actions Mr Davis displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Aircraftsman Sidney Peter FERRARA,
Base Squadron,
RAAF Base,
AMBERLEY QLD 4305

As Aircraftsman Ferrara was driving along Wentworth Street, Leichhardt, on 1 August 1985, he saw flames and thick black smoke coming from a house and heard an explosion. He ran towards the house and was told that there were two children in the bedroom. He smashed a bedroom window but could not enter because of the heat. He then got in by the back door, crawled towards the children calling to them, but was driven back by the smoke and flames. As he came out of the house the Fire Brigade arrived and by this time the fire had spread throughout the house. Aircraftsman Ferrara helped place a ladder at the bedroom window and went up to take a girl from one of the firemen inside. He then commenced artificial resuscitation and as the windows blew out, with assistance, moved her away and then continued treating her until he placed her in the ambulance.

By his actions Aircraftsman Ferrara displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Robert Paul GOURLAY,
23 Russell Road,
CLAREMONT TAS. 7011

On 7 January 1986 Mr Gourlay, when driving with his father past a block of units at Chigwell, noticed that one was on fire. They stopped, ran across the highway and up the steps to the front door. Mr Gourlay forced the door open to find the unit filled with smoke and the flames confined to one side of it. Observing that a man sheltering behind some furniture in the unit was not attempting to leave, Mr Gourlay dragged him out to the front verandah. The unit then exploded, Mr Gourlay half jumped and was half blown over the verandah railing and the man he had rescued was engulfed in a rush of flames from the unit. Mr Gourlay then seized a hose but was unable to save him.

By his actions Mr Gourlay displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Kevin Richard HAWKINS, (Deceased)
1352A Creek Road,
CARINA QLD 4152

Next of Kin - Wife
Mrs E.Hawkins,
1352A Creek Road,
CARINA QLD 4152

On 31 March 1986 Mr Hawkins, aged 51, and his family were camping at Wooyung Beach when three of the children were caught in a rip in the surf. Mr Hawkins, although suffering from a serious heart condition, entered the water in an attempt to go to their assistance. He was seen treading water about eighty metres off shore, calling out and pointing to his son who was not far away. He then collapsed and died.

By his actions Mr Hawkins displayed considerable bravery, thereby losing his life.

Mr John Joseph MALOUF,
24 Linton Street,
KANGAROO POINT QLD 4169

On 15 March 1986 a car burst into flames after a collision on the South-East Freeway. Mr Malouf ran from his car with a companion and tried to open the passenger doors. He saw a hand outstretched through the partly-opened nearside rear door and pulled a woman passenger out dragging her 20 metres along the road to safety. He returned, and as he attempted to re-enter the blazing car, his arm caught alight. The interior was then engulfed in flames and he was forced back. Another person temporarily quelled the flames with a small fire extinguisher and Mr Malouf then unfastened the driver's seat belt and pulled him to safety.

By his actions Mr Malouf displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Anthony John RODD,
223 Mooroodu Road,
THORNESIDE QLD 4158

On 31 March 1986 three children, including two of Mr Rodd's children, were caught in a rip in the surf at Wooyung Beach. With his father-in-law Mr Rodd entered the water and on separate occasions brought two of the children back to the shore. As he attempted to use a heavy tube to rescue the third child it was swept away by the heavy surf. Then noticing his father-in-law floating face down in the waves eighty metres from the shore, he swam out, brought him into shallower water and assisted in giving artificial resuscitation. Although exhausted, when he heard a call for help he swam out once more and guided the remaining child back to the shore.

By his actions Mr Rodd displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Simon John WALSH,
35 Powerscourt Street,
MAFFRA VIC. 3860

On 14 June 1985 the ferry "KARINGAL" sank off Marlo. Its crew of seven boarded an inflatable life raft. A strong south westerly wind was blowing and the occasional rain squalls restricted visibility. Mr Walsh, an assistant crewman of an "ESSO" rescue helicopter, volunteered to enter the water, board the raft and assist the survivors into the sling for winch retrieval. As the swell was too high for him to be winched in to the raft he jumped into the icy, rough water, assisted one of the crew, who had jumped overboard, back into the raft and climbed aboard himself. He organized the winching of the survivors one at a time into the helicopter before he himself was recovered.

By his actions Mr Walsh displayed considerable bravery.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Robert Graham ANDERSON,
P.O. Box 1113,
TENNANT CREEK N.T. 5760

On 7 April 1979 Mr Anderson saw a crowd of people gathered in Hannan Street, Kalgoorlie, where a car was on fire. Going to the passenger side of the car he saw a child's hand pressed against the windscreen. He rushed to open the passenger door, but was driven back by flames. Trying to grab hold of the child again he lost his grip when the skin peeled off her arm. He reached in once more, pulled her out through the window and placed her on the footpath before returning to ensure that there were no other passengers remaining in the car.

By his actions Mr Anderson displayed commendable courage.

Mr Richard BANKS,
11 Treulter Road,
WISTOW S.A. 5271

On 21 March 1986 Mr Banks was on duty at the Shell service station, Hope Valley, when a masked offender entered, and pointing a single barrel shotgun at his head, demanded money. Mr Banks grabbed the shotgun and pushed the offender's hand from the trigger. He then pulled the trigger himself and found the gun to be unloaded. A further struggle followed including a struggle for possession of the shotgun in the doorway. Mr Banks then managed to gain control and the offender fled.

By his actions Mr Banks displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Gordon Kenneth BANNING,
52 Badenoch Crescent,
EVATT A.C.T. 2617

On 25 September 1985 a station wagon burst into flames after being struck by a panel van at Mitchell. Mr Banning, a passenger in a passing truck ran to a station wagon which was engulfed in flames. He kicked the driver's side window, which he broke on the second attempt, and then assisted in lifting the driver out of the burning car.

By his actions Mr Banning displayed commendable courage.

District Officer Ross Read BELL,
3 Hellyer Street,
WYNNUM QLD 4178

On 11 July 1986 two workmen were overcome by exhaust gas in a tunnel at Hemmant. Station Officer Bell, and another fireman, went down to rescue them. They descended into a caisson enclosed shaft to a depth of 16 metres and entered the concrete tunnel. With visibility restricted, they proceeded for 120 metres and found the men unconscious and lying in 120 millimetres of water. In cramped conditions they had to drag the patients over the slippery concrete to the base of the shaft before oxygen could be administered. In so doing Station Officer Bell dislodged his face mask thus placing himself at risk but he continued the rescue.

By his actions Station Officer Bell displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Ambulance Officer Kenneth Douglas BROWN,
97 Martin Street,
BALLINA N.S.W. 2478

On 2 June 1985 a young woman was injured when she fell down a cliff face at Urbenville. Ambulance Officer Brown, when climbing down the cliff to assist her, slipped and fell 60 feet. In the fall he broke four ribs and punctured his lung. Unable to walk and in pain he crawled 60 to 80 feet to the girl to examine her injuries. He assisted her and continued to monitor her condition until she was lifted to the top of the cliff. Later he too was lifted up and taken to hospital for treatment.

By his actions Ambulance Officer Brown displayed commendable courage.

Mr Richard Raymond CREASER,
22 Sexton Street,
HIGHGATE HILL QLD 4101

On 14 March 1985 Mr Creaser was helping unload a truck at Ekibin when someone called out to stop a man running past. He was giving chase when the man in jumping a fence pointed a shotgun at him. Mr Creaser then dropped to the ground and the offender disappeared into a yard across the road. Continuing to search he heard a gun shot and was running towards the sound when his father arrived in his car. The offender re-appeared, pointed the shotgun at the car, and, after ordering the occupants to get out, drove away. Mr Creaser ran to stop a police car and inform them of what had happened.

By his actions Mr Creaser displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr David John CROWE,
40 Wrenfordsley Place,
LATHAM A.C.T. 2615

On 25 September 1985 a station wagon burst into flames after being struck by a panel van at Mitchell. Mr Crowe, a passenger in a passing truck, ran to the station wagon which was engulfed in flames. He kicked in the rear window on the driver's side, experiencing severe heat, fell backwards to the ground and was dragged away. When told that a child remained in the wagon he and a companion ran to the front door on the passenger's side but were driven back by the flames, heat and smoke.

By his actions Mr Crowe displayed commendable courage.

Miss Catherine Ann GERRY,
117 Hurdcotte Street,
ENOGGERA QLD 4051

On 15 March 1986 a car burst into flames after a collision on the South-East Freeway. Miss Gerry and a companion left the car in which they were travelling and ran to assist. By the time she reached the car her companion was pulling one of the passengers through the passenger rear side door. Although the car was on fire Miss Gerry tried to open the front door but she was driven back. Miss Gerry received burns to her hand in her attempt.

By her actions Miss Gerry displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Gregory Christopher GILPIN,
30 Ross Road,
QUEANBEYAN N.S.W. 2620

On 25 September 1985 a station wagon burst into flames after being struck by a panel van at Mitchell. Mr Gilpin, a passenger in a passing truck, ran to the station wagon which was engulfed in flames. He reached in through the driver's window, took hold of the driver under the arms, and unsuccessfully tried to pull her out. He then reached further in, and taking hold of her upper body and legs, lifted her out of the window, and carried her to safety.

By his actions Mr Gilpin displayed commendable courage.

Mr George Robert GRANT,
"Chitna"
Chitna Road,
GINGIN W.A. 6503

On 22 January 1986 Mr Grant was commanding a section of the Gingin West Volunteer Bushfire Brigade which was attempting to contain the spread of an extensive bushfire in the area. Becoming aware of a wind change Mr Grant ordered his section to leave but then noticed that one member who had not heard his directions was in danger of being engulfed by the fire. With the fire burning fiercely on both sides of the road he went to his assistance on a three-wheel motor cycle passing along the fire's front for a least 100 metres and brought him to safety.

By his actions Mr Grant displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Master Paul William KRIEHN,
36 Morrison Street,
SUNSHINE VIC. 3020

On 9 November 1985 Paul Kriehn, aged 12, was playing on a water slide near Kororoit Creek with his companions. Hearing some boys call for help Paul went to the swollen, fast-flowing creek where he found a boy holding on to a rock. He jumped into the water and pulled him out. One of his companions who had entered the water to assist another boy was himself in difficulties with the current and was holding on to a branch. Paul then climbed on to a tree to help him to the bank.

By his actions Paul Kriehn displayed commendable courage.

Senior Fireman Brian Peter LANDERS,
188 Collins Street,
KALGOORLIE W.A. 6430

On 18 May 1986 Senior Fireman Landers was attending a fire at a house in Kalgoorlie. The house was burning fiercely with smoke coming from the side and the roof. On learning that a man remained inside, without waiting to put on his breathing apparatus he immediately broke the front window and entered the smoke-filled bedroom. There he saw a man lying unconscious on the floor. He left briefly to breathe in fresh air and returned to drag the man, weighing 16 stone, to the window. He called for help and was assisted in carrying him outside where he proceeded to give him oxygen.

By his actions Senior Fireman Landers displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Master Benjamin Matthew LUINYS,
1101 South Pine Road,
EVERTON HILLS QLD 4053

On 22 February 1986 Benjamin Luinys, aged nine and his brother, aged 11, were swimming at their home at Everton Hills. He heard a splash and saw his brother lying on the bottom of the pool. The pool was red with blood. He dived in, although he had been forbidden to do so previously, picked him up and by doing tumble turns brought his brother to the surface. He held him around the neck with one arm and side stroked to the side of the pool, holding on while calling to his father for help. In the car on the way to the ambulance station he gave his brother first aid.

By his actions Benjamin Luinys displayed commendable courage.

Mr Gregory Russell McMILLAN,
55 Hannan Crescent,
AINSLIE A.C.T. 2601

On 25 September 1985 a station wagon burst into flames after being stuck by a panel van at Mitchell. Mr McMillan, a passenger in a passing truck, ran to the station wagon, which was engulfed in flames. He and a companion reached in through the rear window on the driver's side and lifted a small child from the wagon. Mr McMillan carried the child to the truck and wrapped it in a blanket. He then remained with the mother and child until the ambulance arrived.

By his actions Mr McMillan displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Fireman First Class 'A' Grade Graham Andrew MOORE,
293 Whitehill Road,
FLINDERS VIEW QLD 4305

On 1 August 1985 First Class Fireman Moore, with other Brigade Members, on attending a fire in a house at Leichhardt were told that three children were trapped inside. Fireman Moore climbed to the bedroom window. Unable to see for the smoke, he felt his way to two of the children and passed them to a companion who handed them out through the window. He searched the rest of the house, continually returning to the bedroom to be hosed down, and only left when all the children were accounted for. Fireman Moore suffered lacerations to both hands and his ears were burned.

By his actions Fireman Moore displayed commendable courage.

Mr Philip Desmond MORRIS,
Lot 10 Clarendon Road,
MS 454,
LOWOOD QLD 4311

On 18 August 1986 Mr Morris was driving along Downs Street, North Ipswich, when he noticed flames and thick black smoke coming from the top floor of a motel. He ran into the motel and upstairs in an attempt to rescue a resident but was overcome by thick smoke. Mr Morris used a small extinguisher and then with another man put the fire out with a larger one, taking it in turns to do so because it was difficult to remain for long near the seat of the fire. Later Mr Morris, an emphysema sufferer, was treated for the effects of smoke inhalation.

By his actions Mr Morris displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Dale Thomas MOXON,
23 Inverness Street,
EAST RESERVOIR VIC. 3073

On 22 August 1986 a fire broke out in the basement of a building at the Footscray College of Technical and Further Education. Mr Moxon was working in the basement area when he heard a loud explosion. He saw that a companion had been engulfed by flames from oxygen and acetylene tanks. Aware of the danger he was in Mr Moxon ran to him, grabbed him, threw him to the ground and extinguished his burning clothes with his own arms and body. He then saw papers burning nearby and kicked the cylinders to push them out of the way.

By his actions Mr Moxon displayed commendable courage.

Mr Michael Glenn PATERSON,
Post Box 301,
COFFIN BAY S.A. 5607

On 16 August 1985, when on his way to work, Mr Patterson saw a house on fire in Flinders Avenue, Coffin Bay. He ran to the window, which had been smashed and smoke was billowing from it. When the smoke cleared he saw an elderly man sitting up in bed. He jumped into the room, carried and dragged the man 6 metres to the window, and, lifting him as high as he could to avoid the broken glass, passed him to another man waiting outside.

By his actions Mr Patterson displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Sub-Station Officer Nicholas Simon POWELL,
72 Kanangra Street,
REDBANK PLAINS QLD 4301

On 1 August 1985 Sub-Station Officer Powell with other Brigade Members attended a fire in a house at Leichhardt where they were told that three children were trapped inside. Feeling his way he entered the bedroom, which was full of heat and smoke and, as the children were passed to him by another fireman, he handed them out the window. He then pulled a hose reel into the room which had become dangerously hot and this enabled them to search for the remaining child. He left when all the children were accounted for and was later treated for lacerations.

By his actions Sub-Station Officer Powell displayed commendable courage.

Fireman First Class 'A' Grade Grahame Lindsay RAY,
127 Wondall Road,
WYNNUM QLD 4178

On 11 July 1986 two workmen were overcome by exhaust gas in a tunnel at Hemmant. Fireman First Class Ray, and another fireman, went down to rescue them. They descended into a caisson enclosed shaft to a depth of 16 metres and entered the concrete tunnel. With visibility restricted, they proceeded for 120 metres and found the men-unconscious and lying in 120 millimetres of water. In the cramped conditions they had to drag the patients over the slippery concrete to the base of the shaft before oxygen could be administered. In so doing Fireman Ray dislodged his face mask thus placing himself at risk but he continued the rescue.

By his actions Fireman Ray displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Stewart ROPE,
23 Cosker Street,
ANNERLEY QLD 4103

On 14 March 1985 Mr Rope heard the Post Mistress at Ekibin cry out in distress and saw a man, with a stocking over his head, putting a gun into his bag. He ran from the Post Office pursued by Mr Rope who was accompanied in the chase by another man. The offender ran in and out of the backyards of houses as Mr Rope joined the driver of a car to continue the pursuit. Hearing a shot gun blast, they searched and found the offender crouched behind a rubbish bin and he then forced them out of the car at gun point and drove off.

By his actions Mr Rope displayed commendable courage.

Flight Lieutenant James Alexander ROSS,
Base Squadron,
RAAF Base,
EAST SALE VIC 3852

Flight Lieutenant Ross was on duty at No.3 RAAF Hospital, Richmond, on 23 August 1986, when an emotionally disturbed airman, armed with a rifle confronted him in his office and demanded that he leave with him. Being aware that his patients and staff were in danger he did so. Placing his hands above his head he faced the airman and while talking to him grabbed the barrel of the rifle. They struggled and the rifle discharged and Flt Lt Ross continued to point it towards the ceiling. He was continually kicked and punched until others came to his assistance and the airman was finally restrained.

By his actions Flight Lieutenant Ross displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Mark Samuel THOMPSON,
P.O. Box 352,
BERRI S.A. 5343

On 24 September 1986 Mr Thompson, a customer in the ANZ Bank, Grenfell Street, Adelaide, saw a man acting suspiciously at the cash desk. Believing him to be armed, he took a camping knife from his pocket and threw his arm round his neck and held the knife to his throat. When a struggle began Mr Thompson threw the knife away and, after an exchange of punches, hit the offender with a metal stand to prevent his escape and with some assistance, held him down until the police arrived. In the struggle Mr Thompson received a sprained finger on his left hand and cuts and bruises on his shins and hands.

By his actions Mr Thompson displayed commendable courage.

Sergeant William Alex TODD,
Western Australian Police Force

On 21 May 1986 Sergeant Todd then off-duty was driving west on Mounts Bay Road, Perth, when he saw a car floating slowly down the Swan River. On being told that someone was inside he swam 30 - 40 metres in very cold water to the car. There he saw the driver lying across the front seat. Sergeant Todd eventually unlocked the left rear door, forcing it open against the pressure of the water, and helped the driver out. As he did so the car sank to a depth of 3 to 4 metres. Sergeant Todd swam alongside the driver encouraging him to swim and remain calm until they reached the river bank.

By his actions Sergeant Todd displayed commendable courage.