

STAR OF COURAGE

Mr Kevin Allan BENNETT,
24 Elliott Road,
TRIGG W.A. 6020

On 28 August 1986 a ten-year old boy on a school excursion was swept into the cold, raging waters of Rocky Pool, in the John Forest National Park. He became trapped against a large rock protruding from the water. Mr Bennett and another teacher attempted to rescue the boy by extending first a branch and then a sapling to him, but the water pressure prevented him raising his arms. Mr Bennett then jumped three metres across fast flowing water to the rock where the boy was wedged. He supported him and continually attempted to give him mouth-to-mouth resuscitation as he lapsed in and out of consciousness. Mr Bennett had been supporting the boy for about forty minutes and when police arrived was close to unconsciousness himself because of the low water temperature. A rope was placed around his waist and he was pulled from the water to the rock face. Despite Mr Bennett's efforts, and later those of the police, the boy died. Mr Bennett was later treated for shock, abrasions and exposure.

By his actions Mr Bennett displayed conspicuous courage.

Mr Phillip Anthony CRITCHLOW,
27 Lara Drive,
BUDERIM QLD 4556

On 11 May 1986 Mr Critchlow put to sea in his fishing boat the "ALBATROSS", along with two other boats, in answer to a distress call from a lone Bass Strait rower. Upon leaving port the sea conditions worsened with a 30-knot wind and swells of about 12 metres. When the three boats were about 17 nautical miles off Stanley, one of the boats was hit by a huge wave and overturned throwing two men into the water. A life buoy with line attached was thrown from the "ALBATROSS" to one of the men, but the other man, in attempting to swim back to the "ALBATROSS", was in obvious danger of drowning. Although Mr Critchlow was in danger of being swept away and lost sight of, he dived into the sea and swam 30 metres to a position where he had marked the man as being, but he had disappeared. After searching for him for some ten minutes to no avail the "ALBATROSS" drew close enough to enable a lifebuoy to be thrown to him. He was lifted from the water in an exhausted condition.

By his actions Mr Critchlow displayed conspicuous courage.

STAR OF COURAGE

Mr Francis Clarence RICHARDS,
7 Monoceros Street,
INALA QLD 4077

On 10 September 1985 a fire broke out in the bedroom of a house at Inala. When Mr Richards ran from his home next door to assist the flames were two metres high and the fire was burning furiously. He ran up the front steps, pushed a young girl outside and, taking a deep breath, returned to search for a handicapped boy who was still in a bedroom. He lost his way because of the thick smoke and once more left the house for air. He again entered, found the boy, wrapped him in a blanket, and carried him outside. As he left he became dizzy from smoke inhalation and fell hurting his knee and singeing his hair, arms and eyebrows.

By his actions Mr Richards displayed conspicuous courage.

Mr Stephen Robert SHIRTLIFF,
18 Hall Street,
OLD BAR N.S.W. 2430

On 10 July 1984 two cars collided on the Pacific Highway near the Maria River. One of the cars overturned down an embankment, collided with a tree and burst into flames. Mr Shirliff and a companion left the car in which they were travelling and ran down the bank. Seeing the driver wounded and trapped inside with flames around him Mr Shirliff tried unsuccessfully to smash the side window with a stick. He then succeeded in smashing the back window, removed some luggage and climbed in. The cabin was now filled with fog, caused by the spray from a fire extinguisher and was engulfed in flames. Forcing the front seat back Mr Shirliff dragged the unconscious driver out through the rear window and, with a companion, carried him up the bank to safety. By this time the car was destroyed by fire.

By his actions Mr Shirliff displayed conspicuous courage.

STAR OF COURAGE

Mr Craig Leslie YOUNG,
9 North Shore Road,
NORLANE VIC. 3214

On 25 December 1985 Mr Young, when returning home at 1.30 a.m., saw smoke coming from a house in Brooke Street, Norlane. Thinking the occupants might be trapped inside he broke in. With the roof collapsing and the house well ablaze he entered the lounge room and heard someone moaning. There being no visibility he crawled along the floor but was driven out by the smoke and heat. Returning he tripped over a semi-conscious man lying on the floor and dragged him half way to the door but again had to leave the house for air. Mr Young entered the house once more and dragged the man to the front door where he received assistance. Searching for other occupants Mr Young reached the front door but was again driven out by the flames. He ran to the back and went in again as the flames came through the ceiling and it began to collapse. Jumping outside he fell, spraining his left ankle. Unable to walk, he dragged himself over a fence where he was seated on the nature strip by a fireman and then suffered an epileptic fit.

By his actions Mr Young displayed conspicuous courage.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Darren Stephen ASHCROFT,
13 Forest Street,
YARRA GLEN VIC. 3775

On 24 January 1986 Mr Ashcroft was at the Chirnside Park shopping centre when he heard the sound of a gun shot and a woman's screams. He saw a woman fall to the ground ten to twelve metres from him and a man, holding something in his hand, walking and then running away. Mr Ashcroft chased him and as the man turned around he ran behind and placed him in a bear hug. Finding that the object in the man's right hand was a gun he held on to him and at the same time disarmed him.

By his actions Mr Ashcroft displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Robert William BELGRADE,
32 Karrawirra Avenue,
ROSTREVOR S.A. 5073

On 24 December 1985 an offender armed with a knife stabbed three people in front of a hotel in Rundle Street, Adelaide. Mr Belgrade and a companion chased him as he ran towards Rundle Mall. As they ran after him, the offender was turning and threatening them with the knife, but they persisted in the chase and eventually caught him. When Mr Belgrade attempted to disarm the offender he lashed out at him with the knife and cut his left index finger. The offender was forced to the ground and Mr Belgrade held him by the hair and twisted his right arm up behind his back as a result of which the offender dropped the knife. He was subsequently handcuffed.

By his actions Mr Belgrade displayed considerable bravery in preventing the escape of a dangerous offender among the Christmas shopping crowds.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Ernest Alfred BOTFIELD,
138 Phillips Street,
IRON KNOB S.A. 5601

On 29 December 1986 a fire broke out in a house at Phillips Street, Iron Knob. When Mr Bottfield, a next door neighbour, reached the front of the house fierce flames were gushing forth. He ran to the back of the house, pulled the awning off the window and kicked it in. He hosed a jacket down and putting it on and covering his face with a hat went in through the back door. Unable to see through the smoke he felt his way into the bedroom and heard a man groaning. Mr Bottfield picked him up and carried him, following the voice of a neighbour to assist him in finding his way to the door. By the time he came out of the house his jacket had caught alight.

By his actions Mr Bottfield displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Geoffrey Roland BUNKER,
38 Mandalong Road,
MOSMAN N.S.W. 2088

On 14 August 1985 Mr Bunker was on duty at the BP Parkview Service Station, Balgowlah, when he observed that a woman, who had been filling her car with petrol, was enveloped in flames and the rear section of the car itself was well alight. Mr Bunker ran out to find fire where the nozzle had fallen and around the base of the pump. He threw a bucket of water over the woman, pushed her to the ground and rolled her around. Running back to the garage he took a sheet, soaked it in water and wrapped it around her and then soaked a pair of overalls and placed them over her. When the flames were finally extinguished he went to assist in putting out the fire in the car.

By his actions in attempting to save the woman's life, Mr Bunker displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Constable Neil William John CAMPBELL,
New South Wales Police Force

On 2 September 1985, while climbing a cliff at Burrewarra Point, a woman slipped, struck rocks below and was swept out to sea. When Constable Campbell arrived at the scene he was informed that the woman seemed to be attempting to swim. He then borrowed a surfboard, descended the cliff, and guided by hand signals from a man at the top, he paddled 500 metres through extremely rough seas to assist her. He found the woman bleeding profusely from head wounds and attempted to resuscitate her until it became apparent that she was dead. With no rescue craft in sight Constable Campbell placed the woman's body across the front of the surfboard and paddled for 35 minutes to reach the base of the cliff.

By his actions Constable Campbell displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Brenton CLARKE,
23 Braemore Terrace,
CAMPBELLTOWN S.A. 5074

On the night of 1 January 1987 a fire broke out in a house at Campbelltown. Mr Clarke, who was living next door, heard a woman screaming and, going outside, he saw smoke coming from the house across the street. When he was told that a young boy remained inside he, together with a friend, went to the back door. On finding the door locked they broke it down with a lawnmower. Dense smoke poured out and drove Mr Clarke back while his friend crawled inside. Recovering from the smoke, Mr Clarke ran in to the house but unable to see, stumbled over his friend and the boy. He then helped them both outside.

By his actions Mr Clarke displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Edward Dennis COSTELLO,
Wanbi General Store
Post Office,
WANBI S.A. 5310

On 20 June 1986 a leaking gas cylinder had filled the cellar of the hotel at Wanbi with carbon dioxide gas. The publican had collapsed in the cellar but it was first thought that he had suffered a heart attack. Shortly after, however, two of the men who had gone to his aid also collapsed. Mr Costello, a refrigeration mechanic, was called to the hotel and identified the leak as carbon dioxide gas for the kegs. After the gas was turned off he opened the outside cellar doors to allow more air to enter. Holding his breath he, together with a companion, went down and pulled the three men to the foot of the stairs. Although he had to keep going up for fresh air he returned until each of them had been lifted to safety.

By his actions Mr Costello displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Gordon Stewart DAVIS, 162 Dudley Street, GOROKAN N.S.W. 2263	(Deceased)	(Next-of-kin Mrs C.M. DAVIS, 162 Dudley Street, GOROKAN NSW 2263)
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On 30 March 1985 Mr Davis was recovering from an eye operation in the Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick, when a nurse, in a nearby room, was stabbed by an offender armed with a sheath knife. Hearing the woman screaming he got out of bed to go to her assistance. He found the offender holding the point of the knife against the woman's throat. Mr Davis dragged him out into the corridor where the offender threatened to kill him and lunged at him with the knife several times. Stepping aside on each occasion, Mr Davis then grabbed hold of the offender by his clothing, seized him in a headlock and, grabbing his right wrist, tried unsuccessfully to shake the knife loose but the offender then eluded from his grip and, still carrying the knife, ran along the corridor and escaped down the stairs.

By his actions Mr Davis displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Simon Michael DENIC,
7/10 Brentwood Street,
MOORABBIN VIC. 3189

On 24 January 1986 Mr Denic was at the Chirnside Park shopping centre when he saw an offender armed with a gun. He heard the gun shot and saw a woman fall to the ground. As the offender moved away Mr Denic joined others in chasing him until he was caught in a dead end. When he turned to face his pursuers Mr Denic saw that the offender was holding a gun inside a handkerchief in his right hand. He attempted to kick it away but missed and struck him in the stomach. As Mr Denic's companion grabbed the gun, other bystanders took hold of the offender and led him away.

By his actions Mr Denic displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr John Kerr FRASER,
HALIDON S.A. 5309

On 20 June 1986 a leaking gas cylinder had filled the cellar of the hotel at Wanbi with carbon dioxide gas. The publican had collapsed in the cellar. Thinking that he had suffered a heart attack Mr Fraser was one of several other men who went to his assistance. He then left to arrange for ambulance assistance but, returning, found that two other men had collapsed also. When told that there was a gas leak he again left to locate the source and, thereafter unsuccessfully trying to move one of the men, he was affected by the fumes and went up for fresh air. He helped to open trapdoors and to place a fan below to disperse the gas and assisted in pulling one of the unconscious men out of the cellar.

By his actions Mr Fraser displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Brian Douglas FULLSTON,
15 Railway Terrace,
MINDARIE S.A. 5309

On 20 June 1986 a leaking gas cylinder had filled the cellar of the hotel at Wanbi with carbon dioxide gas. The publican had collapsed in the cellar. It was thought he had had a heart attack and Mr Fullston was among those who went to his aid. He left to arrange for ambulance assistance and, returning, found that two of these men had also collapsed. Mr Fullston himself was having difficulty breathing, and hearing a hissing noise, realised that gas was leaking. With a companion, he dragged the unconscious men to the foot of the stairs. Although going up for fresh air on several occasions he returned to assist with lifting each of the three men out of the cellar.

By his actions Mr Fullston displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERL MEDAL

Mr Brian Craig GEARD,
260 Main Road,
ZEEHAN TAS. 7469

On 1 December 1985 three men were thrown from a dinghy into the sea near Granville Harbour. Mr Geard, then driving along the shore, ran from his car and into the water. He swam fifty metres to a floating life jacket and, with it, continued on to the upturned boat. Swimming through a lot of kelp in the water he reached one of the men who could not swim and was frightened and weak. He put the life jacket on him and towed him for twenty or thirty minutes until they reached the shore. Although suffering from cramp in an arm and in both legs, he side-stroked his way out to attempt to rescue another man, who was floating face down in the water. He put a life jacket on him and unsuccessfully tried to revive him. During this time they had drifted out some hundred metres. Mr Geard was exhausted and could only push the man forward until they reached the shore, where bystanders then tried to resuscitate the man but without success.

By his actions Mr Geard displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Neville Frederick GOUGH,
151 Princes Highway,
NAROOMA N.S.W. 2546

On 1 January 1985 a fishing boat capsized in heavy surf on the Narooma bar. Mr Gough ran along the breakwater wall, climbed down and dived into the water. With a nine-foot swell running and a strong outgoing tide, Mr Gough swam out through the bar entrance to the upturned boat. He found one man floating face down and a second man with his head partly above water and moaning slightly. Knowing that he could not support both men Mr Gough picked up a life jacket floating nearby, put it on the second man and, instructing him to hang on to it, put his arm around him and swam him towards the shore. When they were thirty metres from the beach a rescue boat picked up the man; Mr Gough then swam round the breakwater to the next beach. In his rescue attempt he swam about 500 metres through extremely dangerous seas.

By his actions Mr Gough displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Peter Robert GRIGSON,
20 Hardaker Street,
EDEN HILL W.A. 6054

On 18 June 1986 a woman attempted to commit suicide from the roof of a 16 storey building in St George's Terrace, Perth. She had climbed over the ledge and a man and a woman were holding her by her wrists in an attempt to save her. Mr Grigson and two companions heard their cries for help and ran to their assistance. Mr Grigson climbed up and, reaching down until half his own body length was over the ledge, he grabbed the struggling woman by the waist, and assisted by his companions, pulled her back to safety.

By his actions Mr Grigson displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Neil Richard JACKA,
Section 91,
Hundred of Bandon,
COPEVILLE S.A. 5308

On 20 June 1986 a leaking gas cylinder had filled the cellar of the hotel at Wanbi with carbon dioxide gas. The publican had collapsed in the cellar. Thinking that he had had a heart attack two men who had gone to his aid called for help. Mr Jacka and two companions went down to assist them. Leaving to open the keg trap door to enable the injured men to be brought out, he was told that there was gas in the cellar. He turned it off and then assisted in lifting the unconscious men from the cellar.

By his actions Mr Jacka displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Constable Paul William KOSOVICH,
Western Australia Police Force

On 28 August 1986 a ten-year old boy on a school excursion was swept into the cold, raging waters of Rocky Pool in the John Forest National Park. When Constable Kosovich arrived, he found the boy, supported by his teacher, trapped against a rock at the top of a ten metre waterfall over which a tremendous amount of water was flowing. He helped to set out ropes and, with a rope secured around his waist, climbed down the rock face and entered the rapids. He reached them with great difficulty and tied a rope around the teacher's chest to keep him above water. He could not release the boy as his legs were caught in a cleft of rock below the water surface and he judged him to be dead. He pulled the teacher free of the rock and dragged him through the water to the rock face where he was hoisted to safety. Constable Kosovich was also hoisted to safety and was later treated for a knee injury.

By his actions Constable Kosovich showed considerable bravery.

Senior Constable Anthony William LEWIS,
Australian Federal Police

On 22 November 1986 a young boy was in difficulties in an inflatable dinghy which had been swept over a weir in strong current in the Murrumbidgee River. The dinghy was trapped in turbulent water at the base of the weir about 35 metres from the river bank. Senior Constable Lewis, one of the members of the Australian Federal Police Search and Rescue Squad who had arrived, entered the flooded river for 8 - 10 metres before he was swept off his feet. Pulled from the water by a safety line he then moved upstream and attempted to go over the weir wall with the objective of falling on top of the boy. He was within three metres of the weir when he was suddenly forced towards the bank, swept over the wall and was dragged under the water by the pressure. He was pulled out unconscious; soon after the dinghy deflated and the boy disappeared. As a result of his endeavours Constable Lewis suffered from hypothermia, bruising and a fractured rib.

By his actions Senior Constable Lewis displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Senior Constable Gregory Malcolm McCOY,
Victoria Police Force

On 23 April 1986 Senior Constable McCoy, then off duty, was a passenger in a Glen Waverley bound train. He was asleep but was wakened by a woman screaming. Looking up he saw the woman attempting to pull a pram into the carriage. The pram was outside the carriage with its handle trapped in the automatic doors and was being dragged along the platform as the train accelerated. Constable McCoy pushed the pram out on to the platform and holding on to it to keep it upright jumped on to the platform. Still holding the pram he came to rest about one and a half metres from the steel fence at the end of the platform. Constable McCoy received fractures to the right shoulder blade and elbow, lacerations to the right forearm, shoulder and knee and a severely jarred neck.

By his actions Senior Constable McCoy displayed considerable bravery.

Miss Catherine Sally McLUNE,
1 Powell Street,
QUEENSTOWN TAS. 7467

On 21 January 1987 Miss Catherine McLune, aged 14, was a member of a group of "Venturers" then on a walking tour in the Dundas area. With two companions she set out for a day trip from Frazer Creek Hut and became lost. They spent a cold, wet night in a hollow log. The next day they moved east. On that day they unsuccessfully attempted to attract the attention of a searching helicopter but finally, with both companions injured and exhausted, they all spent the night in an uprooted tree. When the helicopter returned the following morning Miss McLune, to attract its attention, climbed a 30-foot, somewhat-rotten tree hanging over the gorge about one hundred feet from the bottom. In undertaking this risky procedure she successfully attracted the attention of both the helicopter and a search party.

By her actions Miss McLune displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr William Jesse PITTAWAY,
149 Errol Street,
NORTH MELBOURNE VIC. 3051

At 2.10 a.m. on 30 March 1986 Mr Pittaway, a security guard, apprehended a man in a car in the car park at the Royal Children's Hospital. When the offender attempted to escape, Mr Pittaway grabbed him and a struggle developed, during which the offender repeatedly stabbed him, using a knife with a five-inch blade. Unarmed himself Mr Pittaway was at first unaware that he had been wounded but, even after noticing that he was bleeding profusely, continued to punch the offender, knocking him almost unconscious. He then dragged him twenty feet to his portable transmitter and held on to him until help arrived. Mr Pittaway later underwent surgery for a stab wound to the heart and was treated for multiple stab wounds to the abdomen, groin and arm-pit.

By his actions Mr Pittaway displayed considerable bravery.

Sergeant Tony Glen WALDRON,
Northern Territory Police Force

On 14 June 1986 Sergeant Waldron and members of the Northern Territory Police Force were called to Springvale Homestead, Katherine. There they observed an offender, armed with a .22 semi-automatic rifle and a machette, walking towards a restaurant conducted at the homestead. Sergeant Waldron, himself armed with a hand gun, called on the offender to stop and to put down the rifle. He refused and walked straight at Sergeant Waldron pointing the rifle at him and threatening to shoot him. As the offender lowered the rifle Sergeant Waldron attempted to overpower him; in the struggle he was struck on the left side, the head and across the bridge of his nose. Then as the rifle was brought upwards by the offender, it struck Sergeant Waldron's arm discharging his hand gun into his left arm, causing him serious injury. The offender was then overpowered by the other police present who had moved forward when the struggle began.

By his actions Sergeant Waldron displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL

Mr Jody Christopher WINNING,
8 Whitelodge Road,
PARADISE S.A. 5075

On the night of 1 January 1987 a fire broke out in a house at Campbelltown. Mr Winning, when visiting a friend next door, heard a woman screaming and going outside he saw smoke coming from the house across the street. When he was told that a young boy remained inside he, together with a friend, went to the back door. On finding the door locked they broke it down with a lawnmower. Dense smoke poured out and, to avoid it, Mr Winning crawled into the house. He found the boy on the bedroom floor and was dragging him out when his friend stumbled over them but then helped him to carry the boy from the house. As a result of severe smoke inhalation Mr Winning received hospital treatment for three days.

By his actions Mr Winning displayed considerable bravery.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Peter Charles DORFLER,
17 Osman Street,
RAINWORTH QLD 4065

On 7 June 1986 an offender armed with a knife entered a shop at Ascot. As Mr Dorfler was entering the shop the offender lunged at the proprietress and stabbed her in the stomach. Mr Dorfler went to her assistance, and grabbed the offender by the wrist to prevent him using the knife again. As he forced him to the ground the offender dropped the knife and Mr Dorfler restrained him until the police arrived.

By his actions Mr Dorfler displayed commendable courage.

Mr John William GRUMMITT,
43 Birnam Street,
BEAUDESERT QLD 4285

On 14 January 1986 a car crashed in to an embankment, overturned and caught fire on the Mount Lindsay Highway at Veresdale. Mr Grummit ran 50 metres from his home and, seeing flames coming from the front of the car, ran back for a hose and a fire extinguisher. As he reached the car a man who was on fire crawled out. Using a fire extinguisher Mr Grummitt put out the flames that were on him. He then observed another man also trying to get out of the car which was then engulfed in flames. The man was burning and the heat was intense. At first Mr Grummit could only get close enough to grab his arm but then with assistance was able to free him and drag him to safety.

By his actions Mr Grummit displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Ronald Jeffrey HOBBS,
24 Duke Street,
BEULAH PARK S.A. 5067

On 24 December 1985 Mr Hobbs was at a hotel in Rundle Street, Adelaide, when a man was evicted by a woman employee because of his aggressive behaviour. On the footpath outside the offender appeared to punch the woman several times in the stomach. Mr Hobbs went to her assistance. In the ensuing struggle Mr Hobbs was struck on the left side of the chest. It was not until later that he became aware that the offender was armed with a knife and that he and the woman had been stabbed. He was later taken to hospital and treated for a wound to the upper left chest.

By his actions Mr Hobbs displayed commendable courage.

Master Ross Oscar JAMES,
5 Piper Street,
PORT PIRIE SOUTH S.A. 5540

On 9 November 1985 Ross James, aged 12, and a companion were riding their bikes near Kororoit Creek when they saw two boys in the water. One of the boys appeared to be in difficulties and the other was trying to keep him afloat. Running to the fast-flowing creek, Ross jumped in and swam after the boy in greatest difficulty. The boy floated 100 yards away in the strong current and then disappeared. Ross began to get into difficulties himself. Grabbing a branch of an overhanging tree he pulled himself out of the water and walked along beside the creek continuing to search unsuccessfully for the boy.

By his actions Ross James displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Constable Wayne Douglas JOHNSTON,
Queensland Police Force

On 14 January 1986 a car crashed into an embankment, overturned and caught fire on the Mount Lindsay Highway at Veresdale. When Constable Johnston arrived one of the occupants climbed from the car and collapsed in front of him. He pulled him to his feet, brushed his smouldering clothing from his shoulders and passed him to the care of bystanders. Constable Johnston went to the car which was then engulfed in flames and the surrounding grass was alight. He found another man with his legs through the windscreen and the upper part of his body burning and with assistance pulled him to safety.

By his actions Constable Johnston displayed commendable courage.

Mr Peter Charles LAWRENCE,
14 Turley Avenue,
BOMADERRY N.S.W. 2541

On 7 December 1985 a fire broke out in the children's creche at the Baptist Church, Nowra and flames and smoke were seen coming from the nursery. When told that there was a baby there Mr Lawrence seized a fire extinguisher and followed a companion through the dense smoke to the cot where the baby was lying. While his companion rushed outside with the baby Mr Lawrence played the extinguisher on the flames. He was forced to leave the nursery because of the intense heat and smoke but returned to attempt to extinguish the flames on three occasions.

By his actions Mr Lawrence displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Daniel Joseph O'FARRELL,
7 Cahill Street,
INNISFAIL QLD 4860

On 14 January 1986 a car crashed in to an embankment, overturned and caught fire on the Mount Lindsay Highway at Veresdale. Mr O'Farrell, driving along the highway, stopped and ran to the blazing car. He ran back to collect an eiderdown and, on returning, found that one of the occupants had climbed out with his shirt and hair on fire. The man then collapsed and Mr O'Farrell, with assistance, moved him away. He then went to the car which was engulfed in flames and the grass around it was alight. He found a second man, also on fire, trying to get out and assisted in pulling him to safety.

By his actions Mr O'Farrell displayed commendable courage.

Mr Mark Newton Cecil RUSSELL,
Lot 8, Norbury road,
UPPER BEACONSFIELD VIC. 3808

On 2 September 1985, while at Burrewarra Point, Mr Russell was informed of an accident. Running to the cliff edge he heard a girl calling for help from below. After comforting her he then climbed down 30 metres and across the face of the ravine to assist another girl lying unconscious. Covering her with his shirt he returned to the cliff top to inform police and ambulance officers of her whereabouts. He then returned to the first injured girl to tie a rope around her and himself so he could support her as they were hauled up the cliff face to safety.

By his actions Mr Russell displayed commendable courage.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

Mr Warren William WHITE,
28 Page Avenue,
NORTH NOWRA N.S.W. 2541

On 7 December 1985 a fire broke out in the children's creche at the Baptist Church, Nowra and flames and smoke were seen coming from the nursery. When told that there was a baby there, Mr White ran inside. The smoke was so dense that he ran to his car for a torch. Returning, together with a companion, he crawled into the room with his face close to the floor where his visibility was reduced to one metre. As he crawled alongside one of the cots he heard the baby cry. Mr White felt in the cot for the baby, picked it up and ran outside. Mr White suffered from heat exhaustion.

By his actions Mr White displayed commendable courage.