

**STAR OF COURAGE**

(Posthumous Award)

**MR MATTHEW ANDREW EAMES**, Late of 37 Brook Street, Elleker WA 6330

(Next-of-Kin: Mrs Thelma and Mr Cyril EAMES  
[parents])

On the afternoon of 1 February 1993 Mr Eames gave his life attempting to save a youth from drowning at Salmon Holes, near Albany. Mr Eames and the youth were fishing from rocks when his companion fell into the sea and despite their combined efforts was unable to climb ashore. Seeing his companion weakening Mr Eames, although aware of the dangers of the strong current and treacherous seas in this locality, accepted the risks and dived in. For some time he was able to support the youth and made progress towards bringing him to safety until they were both overcome by the conditions and carried out to sea.

By his actions in giving his own life in an attempt to save his companion Mr Eames displayed conspicuous courage.

**BRAVERY MEDAL**

**MR KEITH ARNOLD ACREMAN, MC**, 470 Webster Road, Chermside Qld 4032

On the afternoon of 31 July 1993 Mr Acreman prevented possible serious injury to the public by restraining an armed bank robber at Stafford Heights. Mr Acreman was a customer at the bank when the robbery attempt was made. Seeing the man's attention diverted while he supervised a teller loading cash into a bag, Mr Acreman grabbed the firearm and grappled with the offender. Although injured during the ensuing vigorous struggle, Mr Acreman maintained the engagement until another customer joined the encounter. Together they restrained the robber and prevented injury to other customers or members of the bank staff.

By his actions Mr Acreman displayed considerable bravery.

**Mr PETER JOHN ADAMS**, 442 Milne Road, Redwood Park SA 5097

During the lunch break at Banksia Park High School on 31 March 1993 Mr Adams endeavoured to secure the safety of students and staff from a disturbed youth armed with a semi-automatic rifle. Mr Adams, a senior teacher at the school, tried without success to reason with the emotionally distressed youth. Although being warned and threatened he maintained contact with the youth until a deterioration in the situation required more direct action. Despite the obvious danger, two shots having now been fired, Mr Adams rushed the youth and tried without success to disarm him. Although injured in the attempt Mr Adams evacuated students from adjacent areas and assisted in clearing other areas before seeking treatment for his injuries. The youth was later disarmed by police after locking himself in a class room.

By his actions Mr Adams displayed considerable bravery.

**BRAVERY MEDAL**

**MR JOHN PETER BAGNARA**, 13 Kennerley Street, Curtin ACT 2605

On the afternoon of 24 May 1993 John Bagnara, then aged 16 years, went to the aid of a youth in difficulties in a flooded storm-water drain near Phillip. John noticed that his young friend, who had entered the drain to recover a ball, was unable to climb out of the drain and was being carried away by the force of the water. Realising that there was no time to go for help, John jumped into the fast flowing water and supported the youth as they were swept downstream. After a number of attempts he found a place where he could throw his young friend up the side of the concrete channel, clear of the force of the water. John Bagnara was then carried a further distance before finding an opportunity to pull himself to safety.

By his actions John Bagnara displayed considerable bravery.

**MR MARK JOHN BUTLER**, 129 Samford Road, Enoggera Qld 4051

On the afternoon of 31 July 1993 Mr Butler prevented possible serious injury to the public by assisting in the restraint of an armed bank robber at Stafford Heights. Mr Butler was a customer at the bank when the robbery attempt was made. Seeing another customer grappling with the robber for possession of the weapon, Mr Butler joined the affray. Following a struggle, in the course of which control of the firearm twice changed hands, the two men succeeded in restraining the robber. Their actions removed the threat of injury to other customers and members of the bank staff.

By his actions Mr Butler displayed considerable bravery.

**CONSTABLE FIRST CLASS MARK BRADEN CARTER**, Tasmania Police.

On the afternoon of 4 January 1992 at Beaconsfield Constable First Class Carter lead a party in an endeavour to rescue an unconscious man trapped in an abandoned mine tunnel off Flowery Gully. The endangered man had been weakened by carbon dioxide and was unable to climb over a three metre mound of rubble. He now lay unconscious on the closed side of the tunnel in the contaminated atmosphere. Taking a party of three volunteers, Constable Carter made his way through darkness and foul air 60 metres along the tunnel, where he climbed the mound and located the man. Working in a confined and irregular space they maintained their efforts to remove the man until they were driven out by the effects of carbon dioxide. Constable Carter later joined a party wearing breathing apparatus and removed the body of the victim.

By his actions Constable First Class Carter displayed considerable bravery.

**FIRST CLASS CUSTODIAL CORRECTIONAL OFFICER RAYMOND MICHAEL COKER** (Deceased)  
Late of 8 Allowrie Street, Stafford Qld 4053

(Next-of-Kin: Mrs Anne COKER [wife])

On the morning of 12 June 1992 at Brisbane, Officer Coker undertook the pursuit of an escaped prisoner with a known history of violence with firearms. The escapee was armed with a replica hand gun which Officer Coker and his colleagues believed at the time to be a snub-nosed pistol. During a vigorous pursuit on foot through corridors and open streets the escapee made repeated threats to shoot, pointing the gun at the following Custodial Officers. Despite what he perceived to be considerable danger to himself Officer Coker maintained the pursuit until the offender boarded a bus and threatened the driver. After twice demanding that the escapee drop his gun Officer Coker, believing the life of the driver and the safety of the passengers was in extreme jeopardy, fired his gun disabling the offender.

By his actions First Class Custodial Correctional Officer Coker displayed considerable bravery.

**BRAVERY MEDAL**

**MR RICHARD ANDREW FAIRMAN**, 6 Gilmore Street, West Wollongong NSW 2500

On the afternoon of 14 July 1993 at Mount Keira, Mr Fairman entered a burning house to rescue an unconscious woman trapped in a fire. He was passing the house when he became aware that it was burning, and was informed that a woman was inside. Immediately responding to the situation, Mr Fairman crawled into the house through thick smoke and considerable heat to search for the occupant. After locating the woman who was unconscious, Mr Fairman endeavoured to pull her free but was unable to do so. The woman was alight from the waist up, so he then attempted to quell the flames. After being driven outside by the conditions Mr Fairman re-entered the house with a garden hose and continued his attempt to save the victim until the arrival of the Fire Brigade units.

By his actions Mr Fairman displayed considerable bravery.

**MR MICHAEL FREDERICK FOORD**, 29 Phalaris Lane, Bundalong Vic 3730

On the night of 20 June 1991 Mr Foord placed himself at risk to rescue a man in danger of drowning in the Murray River at Bundalong. The man had fallen from a punt which capsized well out in the river, and weighed down with boots and waders was in serious difficulties. Hearing his calls for help Mr Foord immediately entered the water to give assistance. In the darkness of a moonless night Mr Foord swam 80 metres through the icy and fast flowing river to reach the man, then, although seriously distressed, made the more hazardous return journey towing the man to shore.

By his actions Mr Foord displayed considerable bravery.

**MR STEVEN JOHN GRANT**, C/- Cleary, Hoare, Hart and Grant  
1/145 Eagle Street, Brisbane Qld 4000

On the morning of 21 September 1993 Mr Grant prevented possible death or serious injury to hostages by overpowering an armed man during a siege at Brisbane. Mr Grant was one of several hostages who had been held in office premises since the previous afternoon by a mentally disturbed man armed with a sawn-off rifle. Early in the siege Mr Grant had been struck on the head by the gunman and had spent a tense night at virtual gun point. Mr Grant's concern for the safety of his fellow hostages increased as the armed man became more agitated, and the prospect of an irrational shooting spree became likely. Catching the offender in a distracted moment Mr Grant seized the opportunity and at great personal risk, rushed him. During the ensuing struggle Mr Grant suffered further injuries but persevered until, with the assistance of other hostages, the offender was disarmed and restrained.

By his actions Mr Grant displayed considerable bravery.

**MR JAMES PETER HOWIESON**, RMB 329 Sebbes Road, Forest Grove WA 6286

On the afternoon of 24 April 1993 Mr Howieson placed himself at risk to rescue a woman from dangerous seas at Conto's Beach. The endangered woman had been washed from Merchant Rock in rough conditions and was unable to swim back to shore. On hearing a call for assistance on his CB radio, Mr Howieson, although some kilometres from the scene, immediately drove to Merchant Rock with a wet suit and surf board. After paddling out a distance of about 300 metres he located the exhausted woman, placed her on his board and pushed further out to sea where the water was calmer. He remained with the woman for about 20 minutes until the Margaret River Sea Search and Rescue vessel was able to reach them and transport her to safety.

By his actions Mr Howieson displayed considerable bravery.

**BRAVERY MEDAL**

**MR DEAN McDERMOTT**, 10 Bellambi Place, Glenning Valley NSW 2261

On the afternoon of 20 March 1993 Mr McDermott attempted to rescue the pilot and a passenger trapped in a burning helicopter at Tuggerah. He was travelling on a nearby road when he became aware of the situation. Immediately going to offer assistance, Mr McDermott found an unconscious man trapped in the burning wreckage of the helicopter. He reached in and tried unsuccessfully to lift the man free but was driven back by the heat. Covering his head with his shirt he continued his efforts until the trapped man was engulfed in flames. Despite the intense heat and the danger of imminent explosion from the helicopter's fuel tanks Mr McDermott, with the assistance of another man, endeavoured to free the pilot who was under the wreckage. The two rescuers continued their attempt until driven off by the spreading fire. Shortly afterwards the helicopter was completely destroyed by fire.

By his actions Mr McDermott displayed considerable bravery.

**MR KIMBALL GRAHAM MONROE**, 11 Tarling Street, Sunnybank Hills Qld 4109

On the morning of 12 June 1992 Mr Monroe, a Brisbane bus driver, protected members of the public from possible danger by ignoring the threats of an escaped prisoner. Mr Monroe was engaged in normal omnibus operations with passengers alighting at a city stop when the escapee, running ahead of Custodial Correction Officers, boarded the bus through the rear door and made his way forward to the driver. Grasping Mr Monroe, with an arm across his throat, and holding a replica pistol to his head, the escapee ordered Mr Monroe to immediately drive on. Quickly assessing the situation, Mr Monroe weighed the threat to himself against the risk to public safety and ignored the fugitive's demands. While the escapee's flight was delayed by Mr Monroe the pursuing Officers were able to close in and disable the offender.

By his actions Mr Monroe displayed considerable bravery.

**MR GAVIN FERGUS MURRAY**, 64 Oxley Drive, Mittagong NSW 2575

On the afternoon of 4 January 1992 at Beaconsfield Mr Murray participated in the attempted rescue of an unconscious man trapped in an abandoned mine tunnel off Flowery Gully. Mr Murray was driving past the area when he was flagged down and asked for assistance. The endangered man had been weakened by carbon dioxide and was unable to climb over a three metre mound of rubble. He now lay unconscious on the closed side of the tunnel in the contaminated atmosphere. Mr Murray twice entered the mine but retreated because of the lack of light. Returning to the entrance for the second time Mr Murray was met by a Police officer and two other volunteers. With the aid of torches they made their way 60 metres along the tunnel and located the man. Mr Murray and the other volunteers maintained their efforts to remove the man until they were driven out by the effects of carbon dioxide. The body of the victim was subsequently recovered by a party wearing breathing apparatus.

By his actions Mr Murray displayed considerable bravery.

**MR JACK GILLES OTS**, 2 Stansbury Street, West Moonah Tas 7009

On the afternoon of 6 June 1988 at Moonah Mr Ots jeopardised his own safety to rescue a workmate from inside a petrol tanker. Mr Ots' workmate had climbed down inside the tanker to perform a minor task and succumbed to the petrol fumes in the confined space. On locating the victim, Mr Ots, although aware of the dangerous nature of the situation, jumped into the tanker and hauled him towards the hatchway. Forced by the effects of the fumes to leave the tanker, Mr Ots recovered sufficiently in the fresh air to drop down into the tanker for a second time and moved his fellow worker into a position where he could be hauled to safety.

By his actions Mr Ots displayed considerable bravery.

## BRAVERY MEDAL

### **CONSTABLE FIRST CLASS DARREN CAMPBELL ROY, New South Wales Police Service**

On the afternoon of 21 July 1993 Constable First Class Roy placed himself at risk to prevent a suicide attempt from the cliff at The Skillion, Terrigal. A distressed woman had climbed through the safety rail and made her way to a narrow ledge over a sheer drop of 60 metres to the open sea. After a physically and psychologically demanding climb seven metres down the cliff face Constable Roy reached the woman just as she pushed herself over the edge. Constable Roy was able to grab the woman and pull her upper body back onto the ledge. In a desperate struggle on the narrow and crumbling ledge, Constable Roy was able to restrain, but not subdue the woman, and it was at considerable risk to his own safety that he maintained his preventative actions until help arrived.

By his actions Constable First Class Roy displayed considerable bravery.

### COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

#### **MR MARK EDWARD AKERS, 32 Rupert Street, Blackalls Park NSW 2283**

On the morning of 13 July 1993 Mr Akers placed himself at risk to rescue an injured man trapped in a burning car at Hexham. Mr Akers was the driver of one of five vehicles involved in a multiple collision when he became aware that a man suffering from head injuries was trapped in a crushed and burning car. Disregarding his own initial shock from the collision Mr Akers ran immediately to give assistance. Despite the danger of imminent explosion from the car Mr Akers and other rescuers forcibly removed the driver's door from the car and lifted the injured man from the blazing wreckage. Shortly after both vehicles were completely engulfed in flames.

For his actions Mr Akers is commended for brave conduct.

#### **MR MITCHELL JOSEPH BENNETTS, 21 Baileys Lane, Kurrajong Hills NSW 2758**

On the afternoon of 18 May 1993 Mr Bennetts placed himself at risk when he assisted an injured driver from a burning motor vehicle at Castle Hill. Mr Bennetts was crossing a car park when an explosion drew his attention to a burning car. Mr Bennetts ran to help the driver who was trapped in the car as a result of the doors buckling in the explosion caused by a leaking gas cylinder. Despite the flames and knowing of the presence of the gas cylinder on the floor of the car, Mr Bennetts pulled the driver through the shattered window and led him to an area of safety.

For his actions Mr Bennetts is commended for brave conduct.

#### **MR IAN GORDON BREMNER, 146 Salter Street, Gracetown WA 6284**

On the afternoon of 24 April 1993 at Conto's Beach Mr Bremner, a member of the Margaret River Sea Search and Rescue Group, participated in a hazardous search for a boy swept from Merchant Rock and in bringing his mother to safety. The pair had been separated by the prevailing rough seas and the mother picked up by a surf board rider. In extremely difficult conditions Mr Bremner and the other crew members manoeuvred to take the woman aboard and transport her to shore. Mr Bremner put to sea again to search for her missing son. Despite frequent engine stoppages caused by sea weed and numerous capsizes Mr Bremner and his fellow crew members continued looking for the boy until darkness forced them to abandon the search.

For his actions Mr Bremner is commended for brave conduct.

### COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

**MR DARREN BROWN**, 1 Melbourne Road, Salisbury Heights SA 5109

In the early hours of the morning of 26 September 1993 at Pooraka Mr Brown prevented an armed robbery, exposing himself to possible harm in the protection of his employer's property. Mr Brown, a console operator in a service station, was alone in the sales area when two men, one armed with a knife, demanded money. Regardless of the obvious threat to his own safety, Mr Brown instead pressed a concealed alarm button. Then, arming himself with an axe handle, he advanced on the robbers. Faced with the prospect of possible detention by Mr Brown and subsequent arrest the offenders abandoned the robbery attempt and left the premises.

For his actions Mr Brown is commended for brave conduct.

**MR BLAIR LESLIE CHAMBERS**, 6 Nicole Place, Watanoddi Via Wyong NSW 2259

On the afternoon of 20 March 1993 Mr Chambers participated in the attempted rescue of a passenger trapped in a burning helicopter at Tuggerah. Mr Chambers was working some distance from the crash site when he became aware of the situation. He ran immediately across several paddocks to reach the burning aircraft. Despite intense heat and the danger of imminent explosion from the helicopter's fuel tanks Mr Chambers worked with another rescuer in an attempt to free the unconscious pilot trapped under the wreckage. Mr Chambers continued his efforts under these dangerous conditions until driven off by the spreading fire. Shortly afterwards the helicopter was completely destroyed by fire.

For his actions Mr Chambers is commended for brave conduct.

**MR LARRY WILLIAM GILBERT**, 4/31 Grantson Street, Windsor Qld 4030

On the afternoon of 24 June 1993 Mr Gilbert, a Security Attendant at the Queensland Art Gallery, diverted a possible serious risk to the safety of members of the public and to the works of art exhibited at the Gallery. A male person, intoxicated and in a highly emotional condition, was destroying property with a mattock in the Queensland Art Gallery when he was observed by Mr Gilbert. Mr Gilbert stopped and waited until the individual had passed him, then moved in quickly and took hold of the mattock. During a violent struggle in which he was injured Mr Gilbert succeeded in wrestling the mattock from the offender. The person was later arrested without harm to the public or further property damage.

For his actions Mr Gilbert is commended for brave conduct.

**MISS KATHERINE LOUISE GRECH**, 32 Pollywoodside Drive, Altona Bay Vic 3028

At Altona Bay on the afternoon of 24 July 1993 Miss Grech undertook a difficult and demanding search to save an injured motor cyclist. Miss Grech was walking her dog in an area of abandoned salt mines when she heard faint calls for help. Immediately responding, she searched for an hour in flooded pot-hole country in deteriorating conditions and fading light. After locating the motor cyclist, who was immobilised by a broken leg and in further danger from exposure, Miss Grech made a two kilometre journey through difficult terrain and under more adverse conditions than before to get help. Despite suffering from hypothermia and having an asthma attack, she continued her rescue efforts by directing a four-wheel drive vehicle back to the injured man.

For her actions Miss Grech is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

**MR STEVEN JOHN HALL, PO Box 348, Merimbula NSW 2548**

On the afternoon of 13 June 1993 Mr Hall rescued an injured youth who had been swept off rocks at Tura Beach and carried out to sea. Mr Hall, who lives a short distance from the beach, was asked by young companions of the endangered youth to provide assistance. Despite choppy seas on a heavy swell Mr Hall donned a wet suit and paddled a windsurfer approximately 200 metres from Tura Head to the now seriously endangered youth. After placing him on the windsurfer Mr Hall made a difficult journey against the tide until, close to the shore, the effects of the heavy swell breaking against the rocks created a further hazard. After a period of difficult manoeuvring Mr Hall was able to take a line from some rock fishermen and, with their assistance, bring the youth to safety.

For his actions Mr Hall is commended for brave conduct.

**MR ROBERT LESLIE HARRISON, 14 Eleanor Street, Footscray Vic 3011**

On the morning of 22 June 1993 Mr Harrison rescued two children and two women from a burning house at Maidstone. Mr Harrison was driving past the house when he noticed two young children pressed against the front windows of a smoke filled room. Going immediately to their aid, Mr Harrison was unable to gain access by the front door but after some difficulty gained entry at the rear of the dwelling. By now the fire had intensified and despite the risks Mr Harrison made a dangerous and difficult journey through the smoke and heat to reach the endangered children. Taking one child under each arm Mr Harrison returned through the burning house, rousing the adult occupants and leading them to safety.

For his actions Mr Harrison is commended for brave conduct.

**MR CRAIG JOHN HEAZLEWOOD, RDF 19/C Loop Road, Exeter Tas 7275**

On the afternoon of 4 January 1992 at Beaconsfield Mr Heazlewood participated in the attempted rescue of an unconscious man trapped in an abandoned mine tunnel off Flowery Gully. The endangered man had been weakened by carbon dioxide in a tunnel, and was unable to climb over a three metre mound of rubble. He now lay unconscious on the closed side of the tunnel in the contaminated atmosphere. As a member of a party of four volunteers Mr Heazlewood made his way through darkness and foul air 60 metres along the tunnel where they located the trapped man behind the mound. Working in a confined and irregular space they maintained their efforts to remove the man to safety until they were driven out by the effects of carbon dioxide. The body of the victim was subsequently recovered by a party wearing breathing apparatus.

For his actions Mr Heazlewood is commended for brave conduct.

**MR ALAN JOSEPH IOPPOLO, 25 Forrest Street, Margaret River WA 6285**

On the afternoon of 24 April 1993 at Conto's Beach Mr Ioppolo, a member of the Margaret River Sea Search and Rescue Group, participated in a hazardous search for a boy swept from Merchant Rock and in bringing his mother to safety. The pair had been separated by the prevailing rough seas and the mother picked up by a surf board rider. In extremely difficult conditions Mr Ioppolo and the other crew members manoeuvred to take the woman aboard and transport her to shore. Mr Ioppolo put to sea again to search for her missing son. Despite frequent engine stoppages caused by sea weed and numerous capsizes Mr Ioppolo and his fellow crew members continued looking for the boy until darkness forced them to abandon the search.

For his actions Mr Ioppolo is commended for brave conduct.

**COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT**

**MR AARON JOHN LEDDEN, 9 Wallis Street, Port Macquarie NSW 2444**

Early in the afternoon of 2 July 1993 Aaron Ledden, then aged 16, rescued a man trapped in the cabin of an overturned boat at the Hastings River bar off Port Macquarie. Aaron, who was riding his surf board in the vicinity at the time, immediately went to render assistance when he saw the boat capsize. In conditions made difficult by heavy waves striking the vessel and the snagging hazards of loose equipment Aaron, made two dives under the boat before he was able to free the trapped fisherman. Bringing him to the surface Aaron gave him support and reassurance until the arrival of a rescue boat.

For his actions Aaron Ledden is commended for brave conduct.

**MRS MYRA GAIL LENNOX, Arthur Highway, Dunalley Tas 7177**

At Dunalley on the afternoon of 8 November 1992 Mrs Lennox placed herself at risk in attempting to avert the suicide of a friend and neighbour. In a tense situation, in which the emotionally disturbed man had broken off negotiations with the Police and locked himself in his house, Mrs Lennox volunteered to speak with him. She entered the house, where she was in close proximity to the armed and highly unstable man, in an attempt to defuse the situation and prevent a tragedy. Although the situation deteriorated Mrs Lennox remained in this dangerous environment, persisting in her efforts, until the last possible moment.

For her actions Mrs Lennox is commended for brave conduct.

**MR MAXWELL JOHN RICHARDS, RSD 407, Frankford Tas 7275**

On the afternoon of 4 January 1992 at Beaconsfield Mr Richards participated in the attempted rescue of an unconscious man trapped in an abandoned mine tunnel off Flowery Gully. The endangered man had been weakened by carbon dioxide in a tunnel, and was unable to climb over a three metre mound of rubble. He now lay unconscious on the closed side of the tunnel in the contaminated atmosphere. As a member of a party of four volunteers Mr Richards made his way through darkness and foul air 60 metres along the tunnel where they located the trapped man behind the mound. Working in a confined and irregular space they maintained their efforts to remove the man to safety until they were driven out by the effects of carbon dioxide. The body of the victim was subsequently recovered by a party wearing breathing apparatus.

For his actions Mr Richards is commended for brave conduct.

**MR JOHN MICHEAL RUDLAND, Rathmines NSW 2283**

On the morning of 13 July 1993 Mr Rudland placed himself at risk to rescue an injured man trapped in a burning car at Hexham. Mr Rudland was the driver of one of five vehicles involved in a multiple collision when he became aware that a man suffering from head injuries was trapped in a crushed and burning car. Disregarding his own initial shock from the collision Mr Rudland ran immediately to give assistance. Despite the danger of imminent explosion from the car Mr Rudland and other rescuers forcibly removed the driver's door from the car and lifted the injured man from the blazing wreckage. Shortly after both vehicles were completely engulfed in flames.

For his actions Mr Rudland is commended for brave conduct.



COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT

**MR LEITH SINCLAIR, PO Box 139, Newdegate WA 6355**

On the night of 14 August 1993 Mr Sinclair apprehended and subdued an armed offender who had just robbed the Rex Hotel at Marlestone. Mr Sinclair was in the vicinity of the hotel when he heard shouts coming from the bottle department and saw a man running towards him. Disregarding his own safety Mr Sinclair tackled the man and brought him to the ground. The robber responded by striking Mr Sinclair several times with the butt of the sawn-off shotgun he was carrying. Mr Sinclair fought back and overpowered the man, and in spite of suffering deep cuts and abrasions held him until help arrived.

For his actions Mr Sinclair is commended for brave conduct.

**MR MARK ALEXANDER SVERDLOFF, 16 Burwood Close, Mackay Qld 4740**

On the morning of 24 October 1992 at Moranbah Mr Sverdloff went to the aid of a woman being attacked by an armed man, saving her from more serious injury and possibly death. Mr Sverdloff was a customer in a shop when he heard screams from the work room behind the counter. Pausing only to remove his spectacles Mr Sverdloff went to offer help and found a female staff member being stabbed by her estranged husband. Taking the assailant by the shoulders Mr Sverdloff drew the attack upon himself by leading the man away from his original victim. Mr Sverdloff subsequently accompanied the attacker to Moranbah Police Station, where he surrendered himself.

For his actions Mr Sverdloff is commended for brave conduct.

**MR MURRAY ARTHUR WRIGGLESWORTH, 19 Merchant Street, Margaret River WA 6285**

On the afternoon of 24 April 1993 at Conto's Beach Mr Wrigglesworth, a member of the Margaret River Sea Search and Rescue Group, participated in a hazardous search for a boy swept from Merchant Rock and in bringing his mother to safety. The pair had been separated by the prevailing rough seas and the mother picked up by a surf board rider. In extremely difficult conditions Mr Wrigglesworth and the other crew members manoeuvred to take the woman aboard and transport her to shore. Mr Wrigglesworth put to sea again to search for her missing son. Despite frequent engine stoppages caused by sea weed and numerous capsizes Mr Wrigglesworth and his fellow crew members continued looking for the boy until darkness forced them to abandon the search.

For his actions Mr Wrigglesworth is commended for brave conduct.