

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Mr Wesley Robert ANDERSON, Sutton Forest NSW 2577

On the morning of 1 June 2015, Mr Wesley Anderson went to the assistance of a man who was trapped following a heavy vehicle accident on the Hume Highway near Sutton Forrest in New South Wales.

At about 10.30am Mr Anderson was at home when he heard the sound of an accident near his home in Sutton Forest. Two heavy vehicles travelling north had collided near the Sally's Corner exit on the Hume Highway. Mr Anderson immediately went to the scene to investigate.

Mr Anderson noticed a B-Double semi-trailer had rolled over and come to rest on its side in a ditch. He quickly went to the truck and could hear the driver, who was trapped in the cab, calling for help. He climbed up onto the damaged vehicle and reached the cabin.

The trapped driver told him that the batteries of the semi-trailer needed to be disconnected to prevent an explosion or fire. The driver had just refuelled the truck, however due to the position of the vehicle, and the state of damage it had sustained, Mr Anderson was unable to locate the batteries.

Despite the threat of danger from the vehicle igniting or exploding, Mr Anderson reached into the cabin and told the trapped driver to grab hold of his hand. He held onto the man's hand and spoke to him to keep him calm and awake as the driver drifted in and out of consciousness.

Mr Anderson kept hold of the driver's hand during the two and a half hours rescue crews took to free the man from the damaged cabin.

For his actions, Mr Anderson is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Mr Brian Lawrence BARROW, Port Macquarie NSW 2444
Mr Errol Jay CORR, Port Macquarie NSW 2444

At noon on 10 March 2017, Mr Brian Barrow and Mr Errol Corr rescued a woman caught in rough seas at Shelly Beach near Port Macquarie in New South Wales.

Mr Barrow and Mr Corr were at Shelly Beach when they were alerted to a woman in difficulty in the channel between the rock barriers at the beach. The woman was struggling in the water and had sustained injuries from being tossed against the rocks as she attempted to swim across the rip.

Mr Corr instructed Mr Barrow to head onto the rocks from where he could observe the situation. Mr Corr then entered the surging water. Using the rip to carry him out towards the struggling woman, he could see that she was being pummelled by the waves and that her head was going underwater. He managed to reach the woman, pulling her up and placing her onto her side and assisting her to float. The pair began to swim across the rip to the other side of the beach but its force pulled them further out in the water.

Without concern for his own safety Mr Barrow, who had observed the pair from the rocks, entered the treacherous water and made his way out to Mr Corr and the injured woman. After approximately 20 minutes being tossed around in the water the two men were able to get the injured woman to the safety of the beach.

For their actions, Mr Barrow and Mr Corr are commended for brave conduct.

Mr Nicolas Desire BOMPAS, Torquay Vic 3228

On the 4th of January 2013, Mr Nicolas Bompas rescued a woman from a burning vehicle at Geelong in Victoria.

Mr Bompas and his family were travelling along the Surf Coast Highway near Geelong, when he witnessed a collision involving a 4WD and a van on the roundabout in front of him.

He immediately stopped his vehicle and rushed towards the 4WD that had skidded for a few metres and flipped onto its side.

On reaching the overturned vehicle he was aware of oil leaking from the 4WD and it was smoking. Despite the personal risk, he climbed onto the top of the car to assist the young female driver inside.

He was able to remove her seatbelt and after several attempts lifted her out of the car and onto the ground. Moments later the car exploded.

For his actions, Mr Bompas is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Mr Barry Stephen BONNING, Tingira Heights NSW 2290
The Late Mr John William NISSEN, Late of Belmont NSW 2280
Mr James William STRINGFELLOW, Caves Beach NSW 2281

In the evening of 10 February 2013, Messrs Barry Bonning, James Stringfellow and the late John Nissen went to the rescue of a vessel in distress off Bird Island in New South Wales.

The weather conditions on the evening were severe with strong winds and rough seas. The troubled vessel, '*South Pacific*', with three people on board, had sought shelter on the side of Bird Island. The boat was taking on water and its bilge pumps were unable to keep up. The Westpac Rescue Helicopter was called in and winched one person off the boat due to the dangerous conditions.

At approximately 7:00pm Marine Rescue Volunteers Bonning, Stringfellow and Nissen took Lake Macquarie Marine Rescue Vessel 21 and headed towards Bird Island. After locating the stricken vessel they began to transfer the replacement pump equipment, however as it was deemed too dangerous to raft alongside the boat, the rescuers used ropes to get the equipment on-board.

Both vessels then began to return to the safety of Lake Macquarie with Marine Rescue Vessel 21 guiding the way. A short time later the men noticed the stricken vessel was slowing and dropping behind. They received information that the vessel was now having engine difficulties and required a tow.

Mr Nissen manoeuvred the rescue boat close to the floundering vessel but was severely hampered by the dangerous sea and winds. Despite the danger, and after several attempts, a tow rope was secured and, with waves coming over the gun-whales, the boats slowly resumed their journey. Mr Stringfellow remained at the back of the rescue boat ready to cut the tow rope had the troubled vessel begun to sink.

Soon after a NSW Water Police boat arrived and escorted the vessels over the Swansea Bar and into Pelican Wharf at Lake Macquarie.

For their actions, Mr Barry Bonning, Mr James Stringfellow and the late Mr John Nissen are commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Dr David Robert BROWN, ACT

Mr Grant James WOODBRIDGE, Kambah ACT 2902

In the afternoon of 2 January 2013 Dr David Brown and Mr Grant Woodbridge and were involved in rescuing a man trapped in a burning car in Kambah in the Australian Capital Territory.

Mr Woodbridge was driving along Sulwood Drive in Kambah when a stolen Ford sped through a give way sign and crashed into a Holden Commodore. The driver of the stolen Ford then abandoned the vehicle and ran away from the scene.

Mr Woodbridge stopped his car and quickly headed towards the site of the collision as other vehicles also stopped. Grass had caught fire around the Holden Commodore and he could see that the driver had sustained leg injuries and was trapped. Despite the threat of the grass fire he reached in and unlocked the door. He undid the man's seatbelt and tried various methods in an attempt to free him but was unable to get him out of the vehicle.

Another passer by supplied Mr Woodbridge with a fire extinguisher and he emptied the canister into the engine bay but the flames persisted. With the danger still present he then went to his car and retrieved two doonas with which he attempted to smother the flames.

At this time Dr Brown arrived on the scene. Disregarding the danger from the fire he stayed with the trapped driver and supported his neck. The fire brigade arrived and extinguished the flames and evacuated the injured driver from the car.

For their actions, Dr David Brown and Mr Grant Woodbridge are commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Mr Ceirin Damien BYRNE, Torquay Vic 3228

On the morning of 18 April 2016, Mr Ceirin Byrne rescued a person from a home unit that was on fire at Jan Juc in Victoria.

Mr Byrne and his partner were asleep in their home unit when they became aware of a fire in the unit next door. Knowing that the elderly male occupant was at home Mr Byrne quickly went outside to investigate and discovered the unit was ablaze. His partner immediately called triple 0.

Mr Byrne approached the open front door which was blocked by a couch, which was well alight as was the doorframe. He called out to the occupant to ascertain his location and then ran to the rear of the unit when he heard the occupant was in the bathroom, where he had sought refuge.

The back door was locked and, despite Mr Byrne's repeated attempts, he was unable to break it down. He yelled to the occupant to stay in the bathroom before running back to his own unit and locating a wood splitter which he then used to break down the locked door and enter the burning unit.

He located the occupant and, despite intense heat and windows shattering around them, he led the elderly man outside. The man collapsed on the grass and was cared for by Mr Byrne's partner until emergency services arrived and took him to hospital.

Mr Byrne's own unit then caught alight and both units were destroyed by the fire.

For his actions, Mr Byrne is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Plain Clothes Senior Constable Jeremy Michael CARTER,
Queensland Police Service
Senior Constable Daniel Thomas FYSH, Queensland Police Service

On the afternoon of 13 June 2013, Plain Clothes Senior Constable (then Constable) Jeremy Carter and Senior Constable Daniel Fysh went to the assistance of a man in difficulty in the Barron River near Cairns in Queensland.

Shortly after 2:45pm a man jumped from the Barron River Bridge into the water and began to struggle in the tidal river, known to be inhabited by crocodiles.

Senior Constable Fysh responded to the incident and when he arrived at the scene he could see the man panicking in the water. As Senior Constable Fysh prepared to enter the river the man went underwater on three occasions. After removing his gun belt Senior Constable Fysh entered the water and swam half way across the river to reach the struggling man.

At this point Constable Carter arrived and, despite the danger, immediately entered the water and swam out to where his colleague and the struggling man were. Working together the two officers managed to get the man to shore, and out of the water where they remained with him until emergency services arrived.

For their actions, Plain Clothes Senior Constable Carter and Senior Constable Fysh are commended for brave conduct.

Mr Domenic Paul CHIMIRRI, Brunswick Vic 3057

On the afternoon of 6 August 2016, Mr Dominic Chimirri evacuated a person from a burning house in Brunswick in Victoria.

Mr Chimirri was driving along Davies Street when he saw smoke billowing from the gutters of a house. He pulled his car over and called triple 0.

After making the call he quickly proceeded to the front door of the burning home, calling out several times to see if anyone was inside. As the front door was ajar he could hear that there was someone in the house.

Despite a smoke layer being visible in the home he went inside and began to search the rooms calling out for occupants. On reaching the rear of the house he saw flames coming from the sides of a heater in the room, and an elderly woman afraid to walk around the burning heater.

Mr Chimirri escorted the elderly woman past the heater before she pulled away from him, entered the kitchen, sat down and refused to leave the house. Realising that she was Italian, he spoke to her in Italian and convinced her to leave the burning home and he then helped her outside and to safety.

Shortly after firefighters arrived and by this point fire was already in the roof space and the home was filled with smoke. The house was destroyed by the fire.

For his actions, Mr Chimirri is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Ms Marion Faye DALZIEL, Vic

In the early hours of 29 November 1970, Ms Marion Dalziel, then aged 15 years, attempted to evacuate an injured man from a burning vehicle after an accident in Pakenham East in Victoria.

At around 12:40am Ms Dalziel was travelling home with another family along Bald Hills Road when the vehicle they were in was involved in a head-on collision. After the collision, the engine of the vehicle Ms Dalziel was in caught alight.

When the vehicle came to rest, Ms Dalziel managed to exit the rear seat before leaning back inside to assist her friend out of the vehicle. With two adults still seated in the front, she saw flames coming from under the bonnet and attempted to get the male driver out of the car, but despite her attempts she was unable to open the damaged driver's door.

As others arrived on the scene, Ms Dalziel quickly went to a nearby residence and attempted to call emergency services. The injured male driver managed to exit the vehicle but unfortunately the female passenger died at the scene.

For her actions, Ms Dalziel is commended for brave conduct.

Master Samuel Thomas EDMENDS, Wendouree Vic 3355

On the morning of 30 August 2015, Master Samuel Thomas went to the assistance of a woman during a physical assault at Wendouree in Victoria.

Samuel, aged 11 years at the time, was at his family home in Wendouree when he heard raised voices coming from the bedroom of his parents.

He quickly entered the room and saw his father sitting on top of his mother, pinning her to the bed with his knees and he had his arms on her chest. He was also applying pressure to her neck in an attempt to choke her.

Samuel immediately went to his mother's aid and tried to get his father to release his grip on his mother but the man shoved him away from the bed and continued the assault. His mother then yelled at him to call the police. Samuel ran from the room and called triple 0.

A short time later, after a further assault on the woman by the offender, police arrived at the scene.

For his actions, Master Thomas is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Mr Jason Peter EMENY, Harristown Qld 4350

On the morning of 19 May 2017, Mr Jason Emeny went to the assistance of two people after a motor vehicle accident near Georgetown in Queensland.

Mr Emeny was travelling approximately 40kms east of Georgetown when he witnessed the car and caravan travelling in front of him hit a large pothole, leave the highway, and roll down an embankment.

He quickly stopped his own vehicle, called emergency services, and then went to the embankment. He could see smoke coming from the engine bay of the overturned vehicle as he approached.

He immediately returned to his own car and grabbed a fire extinguisher. Despite the warnings of other witnesses about the danger of the fire, he ran down the embankment towards the rolled car and caravan.

With the presence of smoke and possible flames inside the car, he emptied the fire extinguisher in the direction of the engine bay and was able to douse the fire.

Mr Emeny then assisted the two occupants out of the vehicle and helped them to the road.

For his actions, Mr Emeny is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Fletcher William ERICSON, Bundaberg East Qld 4670
Senior Constable Michael John GRAY, Queensland Police Service

On the afternoon of 18 October 2016, Mr Fletcher Ericson and Senior Constable (then Constable) Michael Gray went to the rescue of two swimmers in difficulty at Elliott Heads Beach, near Bundaberg in Queensland.

At approximately 1pm Constable Gray, who was off-duty at the time, witnessed two distressed swimmers about 100m from the shore at Elliott Heads Beach. Realising they were in difficulty, and being dragged further out to sea with the quickly moving tide, he immediately entered the choppy water and swam towards them.

Constable Gray attempted to communicate with the swimmers, who were in a panicked state, with one swimmer intermittently falling below the water. At this point another man also entered the water and began to swim in the direction of the struggling pair.

Mr Ericson arrived at the scene and without concern for his own safety he also entered the treacherous water and swam out to the struggling pair. On reaching them he saw that the male was barely conscious and in need of medical attention.

When the rescuers reached the swimmers they linked arms with them and began making their way to shore where emergency services were waiting. The swimmers were transported to Bundaberg hospital and both recovered from their ordeal.

For their actions, Mr Ericson and Senior Constable Gray are commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Mrs Helen Louise EVANS, Mudgeeraba Qld 4213
Mr Gerard John WOODWARD, London United Kingdom

On the afternoon of 9 March 1991, Mrs Helen Evans (then Ms Gibney) and Mr Gerard Woodward went to the rescue of three young boys who were caught in a rip at Surf Beach in New South Wales.

Ms Gibney and Mr Woodward were at Surf Beach when they observed three boys (between the ages of 6-12 years) playing in knee deep water. After a short period of time the boys had drifted into deeper water and then they were suddenly caught in a rip and taken out to sea.

Ms Gibney and Mr Woodward attempted to alert other beachgoers before swimming out towards the boys. They also got caught in the rip and were carried towards the boys as one of the boys was taken further out to sea.

Initially Mr Woodward reached and held onto the bigger boy before handing him to Ms Gibney. He then swam towards the smaller boy. Ms Gibney struggled with the bigger boy who was panicking and pushed her under the water numerous times.

Despite being battered by the waves Ms Gibney managed to get the boy onto his back and they made their way towards the rocks where she pushed him out of the water.

Meanwhile, Mr Woodward reached the smaller boy who grabbed him around the neck and they swam towards the rocks where Ms Gibney and the other boy were located. As they were climbing onto the rocks they were hit by a wave and sucked back out. Still holding the smaller boy, Mr Woodward swam for the rocks again and was able to climb out with the boy. Mr Woodward desperately called to bystanders that one child was still missing.

Unfortunately the third boy didn't survive the incident.

For their actions, Mrs Evans and Mr Woodward are commended for brave conduct.

Mrs Maria Louise FELTON, Lower Southgate NSW 2460

On the morning of 30 October 2013, Ms Maria Felton rescued a young man following a motor vehicle accident in Sandgate in New South Wales.

Ms Felton was driving along Lawrence Road when she came upon the scene of a head-on collision between a car and a utility truck. A young female driver was trapped in the car, which had caught fire, and a young male driver was trapped in the utility truck.

Ms Felton feared that due to the close proximity of the vehicles, and the size of the flames now emanating from the car, that the utility was also in danger of catching alight. She immediately approached the utility and began to drag the young male driver from the vehicle. She persevered despite the young man being considerably bigger in size than her.

Another motorist stopped at the scene and urged her to get away from the vehicles as the burning car was about to explode. Ignoring his warnings of the danger, Ms Felton yelled at the other motorist to help her drag the young male from the utility. Together they managed to pull him out of the window. The burning vehicle then exploded.

For her actions, Ms Felton is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Mr Warren George FRANCIS, Loganholme Qld 4129
Inspector Robert James GRAHAM, Queensland Police Service

On the evening of 26 April 1993, Mr (then Senior Sergeant) Warren Francis and Inspector (then Constable) Robert Graham went to the assistance of a vessel in distress near Wide Bay in Queensland.

Queensland Water Police Officers, Senior Sergeant Francis and Constable Graham boarded police vessel *P.W.Cahill* at around 6.00pm and headed towards the Wide Bay Bar crossing to provide support to the Tin Can Bay Volunteer Coast Guard who had gone to assist a stricken cruiser that was in difficulty in treacherous seas.

On attempting to cross the Bar the Volunteer Coast Guard vessel had to turn back due to the dangerous conditions and after crew members had sustained injuries. Senior Sergeant Francis and Constable Graham commenced crossing the Bar in their vessel and encountered violent waves, wind and driving rain.

They located the stricken cruiser which they observed being knocked down on three occasions by the high seas before righting itself. Senior Sergeant Francis carefully navigated the police vessel close to the cruiser and Constable Graham transferred fuel to the stricken cruiser. They then escorted the cruiser to a less treacherous area where both vessels anchored for the night.

At first light a Tin Can Bay Volunteer Coast Guard boat arrived and assisted the cruiser and the police vessel to more protected water inside the Wide Bay Bar. During the rescue the police vessel was significantly damaged by the high waves and winds and Senior Sergeant Francis and constable Graham sustained broken bones and other injuries.

For their actions, Mr Francis and Inspector Graham are commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Senior Sergeant Shaun Rodney FURNISS, Northern Territory Police Force
Senior Constable Cameron John MOSLEY, Queensland Police Service

On 13 February 1993, Senior Sergeant (then Acting Senior Constable) Shaun Furniss and Senior Constable (then Constable) Cameron Mosley assisted a woman during an attack at the Western Arrente community of Ntaria (Hermannsburg), in the Northern Territory.

Senior Constable Furniss and Constable Mosley were assessing a non-responsive man after a disturbance of approximately 40 people, armed with various weapons, surrounded them in a threatening manner.

At this time, a female came running down the road in their direction. She was yelling for help as the group indicated that she was responsible for injuring the non-responsive man. The officers saw a man raise a pocket knife above his head and stab the female.

Constable Mosley grabbed the female and Acting Senior Constable Furniss was able to put her behind the driver's door of their vehicle and shield her with his body. Constable Mosley went towards the offending male, restraining him as the pocket knife fell to the ground. He then collected the knife and came back to the police vehicle as Acting Senior Constable Furniss ushered the female into the rear seat.

The group remained aggressive as the officers yelled instructions for the deceased man to be driven to the local health clinic. The officers re-entered the police vehicle and proceeded to the clinic. Upon arrival they noticed a large group of armed people looking to avenge the male's death. Sensing the danger, Constable Mosley decided to stay at the clinic and offer assistance, whilst Acting Senior Constable Furniss drove the injured female to the police station.

Acting Senior Constable Furniss left the female at the locked police station and returned to the clinic. On his way he was confronted by an angry group of males who ran towards his vehicle with weapons raised. He quickly turned his car around and returned to the police station. He, and another officer who had arrived, discovered that the female had escaped and could not be found.

After a short time, the officers returned to the clinic in separate vehicles. During this trip, Acting Senior Constable Furniss was stopped and threatened by a male armed with a steel bar and a rock. The other officer drove his car in between Acting Senior Constable Furniss and the man. Both officers got out of their vehicles, assured the man that they were trying to look after everyone involved, and continued to the clinic.

On arriving at the clinic a group of about sixty people had now congregated and continued to act in an aggressive manner. The crowd dispersed after the deceased man was transported to Alice Springs.

Acting Senior Constable Furniss and Constable Mosley remained at the clinic assisting health workers who were dealing with a number of people coming in with stab wounds and other injuries caused by the violence that followed the murder.

For their actions, Senior Sergeant Furniss and Senior Constable Mosley are commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Mr Nicholas GAUDIO, Prospect NSW 2148

On the morning of 7 November 2017, Mr Nicholas Gaudio attempted to rescue a man from a burning vehicle at Coolongolook in New South Wales.

Mr Gaudio was driving along the Pacific Highway when he was flagged down by a man at the scene of a one vehicle accident. A car had left the highway and crashed down an embankment landing on its passenger side and a fire had started in the engine bay. A man was trapped in the vehicle.

Mr Gaudio and another man approached the crashed car and tried to roll it back onto its tyres. By this stage flames were coming out of the vehicle.

Mr Gaudio then managed to get the boot of the vehicle open but, on seeing the flames inside the car, urged the other man not to enter. Despite the warnings the other man squeezed himself between the seat and towards the injured driver. The inside of the car was alight and the flames and smoke were becoming more intense, forcing the man to retreat from the car.

Meanwhile Mr Gaudio had quickly obtained a tool from his car and used it to smash the rear passenger window. He and the other man then attempted to remove the injured driver, to no avail. Flames then engulfed the car. Unfortunately the injured driver did not survive the incident.

For his actions, Mr Gaudio is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Troy Ronald GLOVER, Gunn NT 0832

On the afternoon of 3 October 2013, Mr Troy Glover assisted in the rescue of a woman from a capsized houseboat on the Mary River in the Northern Territory.

Mr Glover was aboard one of two houseboats that had been hired by a group of friends when the vessels were struck by a freak thunderstorm event. Within seconds one of the houseboats completely capsized throwing people into the water and trapping others inside.

One woman began to drift away from the houseboats in crocodile infested waters. She was on top of the water lying face down. Another male jumped into a small fishing boat and raced towards the woman. He positioned the fishing boat alongside the woman, reached over the side and turned her over. Unable to haul her into the boat he held her body against the side of the boat and began resuscitation procedures. Another man also swam over to assist.

Mr Glover, realising the seriousness of the situation and despite the danger posed by crocodiles, quickly entered the water and swam over to the small boat to assist. Together with the other two men, they were able to lift the woman into the boat where she was given further resuscitation.

Mr Glover was then dropped back at the houseboats to assist people there whilst the other two men took the woman to a boat ramp and waited for emergency services to arrive. Unfortunately the woman didn't survive the incident.

For his actions, Mr Glover is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Miss Rebecca Alana HUGHES, ACT

On the afternoon of 17 January 2016, Miss Rebecca Hughes went to the rescue of a young girl swept from rocks at Merry Beach in New South Wales.

At about 5.30pm Miss Hughes, who was aged 14 years old at the time, and two friends were standing on the rocks at the southern end of Merry Beach. Miss Hughes and one of her friends were hit by a large wave and knocked off their feet.

At this point the other girl struck her head on the rocks and became unconscious before she and Miss Hughes were pulled into the heavy surf. The girls were sucked under the water and buffeted by the waves numerous times. Miss Hughes noticed that her friend was floating face down in the water. She instantly yelled to the girl on the rocks but was unable to be heard.

Despite the strong waves continuing to pull Miss Hughes down, she attempted to get her unresponsive friend onto her shoulders and out of the water. After several attempts, and being continually hit by the waves, Miss Hughes was able to push her friend up and onto the rocks. A bystander waited with Miss Hughes and the injured girl whilst help was summoned.

For her actions, Miss Hughes is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Mitchell Alan LANG, Ballina NSW 2478

Mr Kirk Ross TREASE, Uralba NSW 2477

In the early afternoon of 2 May 2015, Mr Mitchell Lang and Mr Kirk Trease rescued a father and son from the ocean at South Ballina in New South Wales.

Messrs Lang and Trease together with three friends were on the rock wall at South Ballina Beach when they became aware of a distressed man. The man yelled to them that his six year old son was out in the rough and choppy water.

Mr Trease quickly grabbed an 'Angel Ring' and ran towards the beach. He could see that the man had now entered the water in an attempt to locate his missing son. The father was approximately 100m from shore.

Without hesitation, he entered the dangerous surf and made his way towards the struggling man. He grabbed the man by his shirt and then both were washed up onto the rocks.

At this time Mr Lang entered the water and heard his friends shouting directions to the location of the young boy. Mr Lang swam for about 50-60 metres from the beach until he came upon a red jacket. He reached under the water and located the unresponsive boy, pulling him to the surface. He placed the boy's head on his shoulder and swam towards the rocks.

A few waves carried Mr Lang and the boy towards the rocks and on reaching them he passed the boy to Mr Trease who then, with the help of his friends, conveyed the boy to the top of the rock wall. Mr Trease and Mr Lang then commenced CPR on the boy until emergency services arrived. Unfortunately the young boy was unable to be revived.

For their actions, Mr Lang and Mr Trease are commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Mr John Rodney McLEOD, Mount Helen Vic 3350

On the morning of 15 June 2015, Mr John McLeod, a Country Fire Authority volunteer, rescued two people from a burning house at Mount Helen in Victoria.

At about 8am, Mr McLeod returned to his home and saw smoke billowing from his neighbour's two storey property. He immediately rushed to the property and saw his two neighbours sitting on the roof of the home. The male neighbour had managed to drag his barely conscious wife through a window and onto the roof.

Mr McLeod quickly obtained a ladder and attempted to climb up to the couple but was forced back by acrid smoke. He made a second attempt and eventually made it onto the roof where he assisted his neighbour to move the woman away from the smoke.

He then descended to the ground and retrieved a harness before returning to the house and again climbing up the ladder to the couple. With smoke now coming from the eaves and windows, Mr McLeod placed the harness on the woman and, with the assistance of two Ballarat City Firefighters who had arrived on the scene, lowered the woman from the roof to waiting paramedics. Both neighbours were taken to Ballarat Hospital and treated for smoke inhalation.

For his actions, Mr McLeod is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Robert James MANNING, Cranbourne Vic 3977

In the early afternoon of 5 June 2014, Mr Robert Manning rescued an unconscious diver off Leonards Island near Eden in New South Wales.

Mr Manning, an experienced free diver, and his friend, another experienced free diver, were conducting a scout for fish in the water off Leonards Island.

During a dive Mr Manning noticed his friend's float line in front of him. He followed the line down and saw the man lying on his back, not moving, 12 metres from the surface on the sea floor. Quickly rising to the surface to breathe, Mr Manning then swam back down to his friend. He undid the man's weight belt and immediately swam him to the surface.

Once on the surface he removed the man's face mask, finding him unresponsive. Despite being approximately 300 metres from their boat, Mr Manning immediately began CPR and swam the man towards the boat.

On reaching the boat he managed to drag the unconscious man aboard and continued to perform CPR. He quickly called triple 0 and then returned to administering CPR. Finally the man regained consciousness and began to breathe on his own.

A nearby fishing boat was called over and the crew provided assistance until emergency services arrived.

For his actions, Mr Manning is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Sergeant Robert Peter MINNS APM, New South Wales Police Force

On the evening of 9 June 2002, Sergeant (then Leading Senior Constable) Robert Minns disarmed a violent offender who was holding a woman hostage at Engadine in New South Wales.

At approximately 9:30pm Leading Senior Constable Minns, together with other officers, attended a domestic violence incident at a home in Engadine. On arrival they encountered an armed offender who was holding a female hostage with a large kitchen knife. Despite negotiations, the known violent offender refused to release the woman.

Leading Senior Constable Minns approached and opened the home's door. He was confronted by the offender pointing the knife directly at him. The offender then stepped towards him and kicked the door shut.

Leading Senior Constable Minns again opened the door and as the offender attempted to kick the door shut for the second time, he shouldered the door back knocking the offender off balance. He quickly forced his way inside, however in doing so the door closed behind him preventing other officers from entering.

The offender then held the knife against the hostage's leg threatening to stab her. Leading Senior Constable Minns grabbed the offender's hand and jumped on top of him. A violent struggle ensued with the offender assaulting Leading Senior Constable Minns. The officer managed to remove the knife from the offender who continued to assault him.

At this time other officers managed to enter the dwelling and assist in detaining the offender.

For his actions, Sergeant Minns is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Captain Robert Brian MOOY NSW

On the morning of 28 September 1995, Captain Mooy (then Mr) assisted in the evacuation of a man from a burning vehicle at Notting Hill, London, United Kingdom.

On the morning of 28 September Mr Mooy heard the sound of a motor vehicle collision outside his apartment on Lansdowne Crescent, Notting Hill. He immediately left the apartment and went out to investigate.

Mr Mooy saw a plume of smoke billowing from a police landrover which had collided with a cement light pole. He saw that the vehicle was already on fire and ran toward it to assess the condition and number of those inside. He pushed through the crowd of onlookers calling for someone to call for help as he reached the vehicle which was now well alight.

As the flames increased Mr Mooy realised that there were people still in the car. He attempted to open the front doors but could not. Whilst constantly being forced back by flames, he then moved to the rear door and attempted to open it. Within seconds he was met by one of the Police Officers who had been thrown from the vehicle by the force of the initial explosion and, on realising that there was still one officer inside, Mr Mooy managed to open the door and enter the rear of the vehicle.

Despite the knowledge that the vehicle could explode at any moment, he managed to successfully help the remaining officer to escape the vehicle through the rear door.

For his actions Mr Mooy is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Michael NORRIS, Point Frederick NSW 2250

In the late evening of 7 October 2015, Mr Michael Norris attempted the rescue of a woman from a burning vehicle at Noraville in New South Wales.

Mr Michael Norris was travelling along Willfred Barrett Drive in Noraville when he noticed a flicker of light amongst the trees on the side of the road. He pulled over and went to investigate. He saw a small fire amongst the trees and called triple 0. He then realised a vehicle was imbedded in a tree.

He approached the vehicle and heard a woman groaning and saw her half hanging out of the driver's door, trapped between the pillar and door. Despite the large amount of smoke, he immediately went to the woman and attempted to remove her from the wreckage but was unable to free her.

Mr Norris went back to the roadway and flagged down a car. Mr Norris, with the assistance of the man from the car, attempted to rescue the woman from the burning vehicle but she was pinned inside.

Soon after the petrol tank started to pop and flames began to engulf the vehicle, forcing both men back. At that point the fire brigade arrived. Unfortunately the female driver did not survive the accident.

For his actions, Mr Norris is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Senior Constable Mitchell James PARKER, New South Wales Police Force

On the afternoon of 27 July 2015, Senior Constable Mitchell Parker rescued a man who had fallen into a dam at a property near Dungog in New South Wales.

Senior Constable Parker responded to a Dungog cattle property where a 65 year old man had fallen into a dam. The man was tending to a pump in the middle of the dam when he fell from his dinghy into the icy water.

When Senior Constable Parker arrived the air temperature was approximately 13 degrees and the water temperature was eight degrees. He saw the man in the dam looking exhausted as he struggled to cling to the upturned dinghy. Senior Constable Parker quickly removed his clothing, entered the freezing water and swam about thirty metres to the man. He saw that he was hypothermic, exhausted and struggling to breathe and speak.

Despite feeling extremely cold himself, Senior Constable Parker managed to swim the injured man back to shore. He then dragged him out of the water and gave the semi-conscious man first aid until paramedics arrived.

For his actions, Senior Constable Parker is commended for brave conduct.

Mr Reece Kym RAVLICH, Driver NT 0830

In the evening of 20 March 2012, Mr Reece Ravlich, a paramedic, was confronted by an armed offender at Nhulunbuy in the Northern Territory.

Mr Ravlich and his partner were called to assist a person with an injured foot at Nhulunbuy. The injured man was in the company of another male and two females.

As Mr Ravlich and his partner assessed the injured man, the second male tried to intervene and conduct his own treatment. He held onto the injured man and refused to let him go. After negotiations, the injured man was assisted into the ambulance and Mr Ravlich, who was near the ambulance's door, began attending to paperwork whilst his partner began treatment.

The second male then approached Mr Ravlich and attempted to enter the ambulance. Mr Ravlich placed his hands on the man's chest to prevent him from moving further. He informed the offender that he could not enter the ambulance and the man then moved a couple of steps away.

Without warning Mr Ravlich felt a hand on his right shoulder and turned to face the offender who was now armed with a knife. He saw the blade pointing up towards him and immediately slapped down on the offender's wrists. The offender dropped the knife which Mr Ravlich then kicked under the ambulance before pushing the offender away.

Mr Ravlich quickly entered the back of the ambulance and, after struggling with the door, managed to get it closed and stayed inside the vehicle with his colleague and the injured man until police arrived.

For his actions, Mr Ravlich is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Ms Cherylyn Suzanne RICHARDSON, Carrara Qld 4211

In the early morning of 17 November 2015, Ms Cherylyn Richardson assisted with the evacuation of residents from a burning accommodation centre at Ashmore in Queensland.

Ms Richardson was working at a supported accommodation complex in Ashmore when she heard a fire alarm activate. When all the alarms on the premises sounded she went to investigate.

Ms Richardson made her way to the east side of the complex where she could see flames flickering under the door of a unit and opened the door slightly. She immediately saw three metre high flames coming from a bedspread on the floor of the small room.

She ran back down a corridor to get the fire extinguisher, informed a colleague to call triple 0, and returned to the unit. Realising that the fire was taking hold, and with a duty of care for the 34 residents, she began to check other rooms for occupants. As soon as she knew the nearby units were empty she ran back to the other building to assist residents.

Despite the danger and smoke, Ms Richardson crawled down a passage towards the office to obtain the 'roll call' book. She checked other areas for occupants before making her way to the carpark and conducting a roll call, ensuring everyone had been evacuated. Soon after emergency services arrived.

For her actions, Ms Richardson is commended for brave conduct.

Ms Lee-Anne Shirley STALLAN, Darwin NT 0800

On the morning of 28 April 2015, Ms Leanne Stallan rescued a disabled man from a burning home unit in Rosebery in the Northern Territory.

Just before 8am a woman discovered that a fire had broken out in a bedroom of her home unit that was occupied by her disabled husband. She immediately called triple 0. She quickly went into the bedroom that was filling with acrid smoke and attempted to get her husband out of the room, but due to his size she was unable to remove him.

The woman then went to a neighbouring home unit and sought the assistance of Ms Stallan, with both women quickly returning to the unit. They entered the premises exposing themselves to rising temperatures and increased levels of acrid smoke from the fire.

Together they were able to put the man onto a hallway rug and, with considerable effort, drag him out of the burning building. They then administered first aid to him until ambulance officers arrived. Fire-fighters attended the scene and extinguished the fire.

For their actions, Ms Stallan is commended for brave conduct.

COMMENDATION FOR BRAVE CONDUCT (CBC)

Mr Peter Neil STEER, Qld

In the early morning of 6 November 2014, Mr Peter Steer was involved in the apprehension of an armed offender at Noosa Heads in Queensland.

At about 4.45am a domestic violence incident occurred at a residence in Noosa Heads. A male discharged a firearm causing head injuries to a female who required hospitalisation. The offender fled the scene on a motorcycle before flagging down a vehicle driven by Mr Steer.

In a distressed state the offender admitted the assault to Mr Steer, believing he had killed his partner. He surrendered his firearm to Mr Steer who placed it in his vehicle and then called triple 0.

Whilst waiting for police to arrive the offender opened the passenger door and retrieved the firearm from the car. He then pointed it directly at Mr Steer before commandeering his vehicle and driving off.

Soon after two police officers arrived on the scene and Mr Steer got into the police car and provided vital information to the officers about the offender as they pursued the stolen vehicle.

A few kilometres down the road the offender crashed the stolen vehicle into a 7,000 litre liquid gas tank at a local service station. A strong smell of gas permeated the air and the gas could also be heard venting from the damaged tank. Other officers then arrived at the scene. Despite the danger from the leaking gas an officer approached the offender and eventually convinced him to surrender.

For his actions, Mr Steer is commended for brave conduct.