

## **Group Bravery Citation**

**Mr Mitchell John Bennetts**, Mermaid Waters QLD 4217

**Mr Bennett Lea Gardiner**, NSW

**Mr Gonzalo Alejandro Herrera**, Liberty Grove NSW 2138

**Mr Jamie Ingram**, NSW

**Mr Jase Shore**, SA

The recipients are recognised with the award of the Group Bravery Citation for their actions in intervening and apprehending a man armed with a knife in Sydney, NSW on 13 August 2019.

At approximately 2pm, a man was in Sydney CBD when he saw another man wearing a balaclava armed with a large knife attempting to stab passers-by. He grabbed a chair from a café and chased the offender down the street and confronted him with the chair. The offender jumped onto the bonnet of a car in the middle of an intersection.

The offender then came into view of firefighters who were near the scene. A firefighter stopped the fire truck, got out, and yelled at the offender multiple times to put the knife down. Other firefighters also got out of the truck, and one of them asked bystanders if anyone was hurt and another armed himself with a halligan tool. A bystander took a crowbar from the truck and pursued the offender.

Two other firefighters joined the pursuit of the offender. The offender yelled at them to kill him. The offender then ran up a street and the firefighters and civilians gave chase.

A member of the public confronted the offender with a chair and gave chase. Another firefighter armed himself with an axe and sledgehammer and went up the street to find his colleagues.

Another member of the public also armed himself with a chair and chased the offender. Firefighters and members of the public continued to chase the offender as he ran through the city. The offender continued to yell at them to kill him and stated that he had a bomb.

Three bystanders also gave chase. A member of the public shoved the offender from behind, knocking him to the ground, and the knife out of his hand. Several people attempted to stop the offender, using objects including a chair and milk crate to pin down his head and shoulders. More bystanders approached the scene and assisted until police arrived.