

BRAVERY MEDAL (BM)

Mrs Margaret (Peggy) ALEXANDER-KEW, 2/99 Mary Street, Como WA 6152

On the morning of 24 June 2013, Mrs Margaret Alexander-Kew attempted to rescue two women who were being attacked by a man armed with two hunting knives in Como, Western Australia.

Mrs Alexander-Kew was attending a hairdressing salon at Como in Perth when a man wielding two hunting knives entered the shop. The offender demanded to see his former partner who was at the rear of the salon. Unable to locate her he threw his step-daughter onto the ground and commenced stabbing her. When the woman heard her daughter calling for help she rushed to assist. On seeing her daughter lying on the floor wounded the woman threw herself over her to protect her and in turn was stabbed several times by the man. The offender dragged the woman off her daughter towards the front door. Mrs Alexander-Kew acted swiftly and, using a heavy chair, attempted to push the offender away from the victim. The offender dodged the chair and began attacking Mrs Alexander-Kew, punching her in the jaw and stabbing her before shoving her out of the way. She recovered and again attempted to keep the offender away from his former partner. Soon after the offender exited the salon. Disregarding her own injuries, Mrs Alexander-Kew locked the front door and dialled 000.

By her actions, Mrs Alexander-Kew displayed considerable bravery.

Sergeant Peter John ANDERSON-BARR, Queensland Police

On 18 June 1992, Sergeant (then Senior Constable) Peter Anderson-Barr and another police officer apprehended an offender armed with an explosive device at a government office in Mount Isa, Queensland.

The offender entered the foyer of the building in search of his estranged wife. Senior Constable Anderson-Barr and his colleague arrived at the office building and approached the offender who indicated he was in possession of a bomb. The officers saw that the man was carrying a nine volt battery in one hand and wires in the other. Senior Constable Anderson-Barr moved closer to the offender and attempted to persuade him to give him the battery but he refused to do so. He stated that the bomb was safe and placed the two wires in contact with the battery. Swiftly Senior Constable Anderson-Barr grabbed hold of the offender's right hand and attempted to pull it away from the battery. The other police officer caught the offender's left hand and pulled it away. A scuffle ensued with the offender resisting violently and attempting to bring his hands together. The officers forced the man onto the ground, pulled his hands behind his back and restrained him with handcuffs. When they searched the offender, they found a device containing four sticks of 'super-gel' explosives which was fitted with a detonator connected to two wires. Senior Constable Anderson-Barr, with the assistance of his colleague, removed the device and placed it away from the offender. They took the offender from the foyer and then conducted an evacuation of the building.

By his actions, Sergeant Anderson-Barr displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL (BM)

Mrs Anne Doreen CANTWELL, Abbotsford Vic 3067

On the morning of 9 May 1989, Mrs Anne Cantwell assisted in the rescue of several children who were being held captive by an armed man at a kindergarten in Victoria.

Mrs Cantwell was teaching her class when a man approached her, produced a pistol and pointed it close to her stomach. He also had a gym bag in his hand which contained a knife, petrol and other implements. He ordered Mrs Cantwell to gather the children together and move into the kitchen at the back of the kindergarten. Mrs Cantwell managed to briefly alert her kindergarten assistant and one of the children's mothers, who were volunteering that day, of the offender's demands. As the children were being moved into the kitchen the offender began waving his pistol around causing the children to become very distressed. He then ordered Mrs Cantwell to move from the kitchen and remain in the main area of the kindergarten. Believing the children to be at great risk, and while the offender was distracted; Mrs Cantwell left the two women with the children and seized the opportunity to run to a nearby presbytery where she telephoned the police. She returned to the car park next to the kindergarten and comforted the fifteen children that the two other adults had managed to extricate from the kitchen. The offender then forced the remaining four children into a small toilet area before also locking himself inside and nailing the door shut. Armed with a container of petrol he poured fuel over the children and held matches as he threatened to set them alight. Mrs Cantwell assisted the police in the identification of the gunman who held the four children hostage for seven hours before finally giving himself up.

By her actions, Mrs Cantwell displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Nicholas Hugh COSTELLO, St Kilda East Vic 3183

On the afternoon of 9 March 2013, Mr Nicholas Costello rescued a boy caught in a rip at St George River Beach near Lorne, Victoria.

Mr Costello was swimming in the shallows when he was alerted by other beach goers that there were people in trouble in the water. Mr Costello saw a small boy struggling in a rip about 150 metres offshore. Without hesitation, and with no flotation aids, he immediately began to swim out through the increasingly unpredictable surf to help the boy. Mr Costello grabbed the near unconscious boy, who was in imminent danger of drowning, and managed to keep his head out of the water, despite the rough conditions and physical exhaustion. He then attempted to swim back to shore. At this time he was joined by a police officer with a surfboard on which the boy was placed, and they began to head towards the beach. Despite being dumped by the pounding surf they reached the safety of the beach. After receiving CPR the boy was able to be revived.

By his actions, Mr Costello displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL (BM)

Mr Michael Olaf DOLL, Mount Gambier SA 5290

On the evening of 7 September 2012, Mr Michael Doll assisted in the rescue of two people from a burning vehicle which had lost control and slammed passenger-side into a tree at Mount Gambier, South Australia.

Mr Doll was travelling along the Jubilee Highway at Mount Gambier when he saw a vehicle, driven by a friend, lose control and slam into a tree. He pulled his vehicle to the side of the road and, together with his passenger, ran to the wrecked car. They noticed that there was a fire burning underneath the front of the car. His passenger managed to open the driver's door, reach inside, unbuckle the seatbelt, and assist the driver outside to safety. On attempting to free the second trapped person, the men realised that the seatbelt was jammed. As flames began to lap at the windscreen and the distressed passenger screamed for help, Mr Doll entered the cabin, whilst the other man went to check on the fire. He saw that the passenger's seat was leaning towards the centre console, preventing it from being released. He pushed at the seat and pulled the console towards him until he was able to get his hand onto the seatbelt release mechanism and undo it. Mr Doll then assisted the passenger to free his left leg and pulled him out of the burning vehicle. Mr Doll dragged the passenger outside and, assisted by the other man, moved the injured passenger to safety before the vehicle was completely engulfed by fire.

By his actions, Mr Doll displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Graham George DRAGE, 7 Asquith Avenue, Warracknabeal Vic 3393

In the early afternoon of 29 October 2012, Mr Graham Drage, together with a fellow pilot and an airstrip caretaker, rescued two people from a burning aircraft at Barnadown, Victoria.

Mr Drage and another pilot had just landed their light aircraft at a private airstrip when they became aware that another light plane had crashed nearby. The Cessna aircraft, with three people on board, had collided with power lines and came to rest inverted before it immediately burst into flames. Mr Drage and his fellow pilot ran to the stricken aircraft and saw it was becoming engulfed in flames, with thick black smoke coming from the cabin. They met the airstrip caretaker who was deploying a fire extinguisher onto the burning wreckage. With the flames quickly spreading, and the extinguisher having minimal effect, the caretaker smashed a window with the assistance of the fellow pilot. They then assisted the rear seat passenger outside of the wreckage and dragged him to safety. Mr Drage and the fellow pilot then went to the other side of the aircraft where they saw that the pilot was hanging upside down. Despite the flames now licking around the man, Mr Drage reached inside and undid the seat belt buckle. They grabbed the man and pulled him outside to safety. Sadly, a front seat passenger, who was unresponsive and unable to be removed from the wreckage, perished in the fire.

By his actions, Mr Drage displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL (BM)

The late Ms Jicenta-Leigh FULLERTON, Quorn SA 5433

In the late evening of 5 December 2012, Ms Jicinta-Leigh Fullerton went to the assistance of a teenage girl who had been stabbed at Quorn, South Australia.

Ms Fullerton was driving along Groves Road at Quorn when she came upon a State Emergency Services vehicle. The vehicle was parked on the side of the road about a hundred metres from her home and a young man, who she knew, was standing next to the vehicle. Ms Fullerton pulled over to ask him what he was doing there when she saw a young woman in the front seat who had been seriously injured. Ms Fullerton challenged the man to explain what he had done. Without concern for her own safety, she bravely and selflessly got out of her vehicle and went to assist the woman. She opened the door, noticed blood in the vehicle, and shook the semi-conscious woman. Ms Fullerton again questioned the man and demanded he immediately take the injured woman to hospital. As she turned to further assist the young woman, the man grabbed hold of a hatchet and hit her in the head. She fell to the ground with the offender then repeatedly striking her. Sadly, Ms Fullerton died at the scene.

By her actions, Ms Fullerton displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Kurtis Terry GILLAN, NSW

On the afternoon of 30 November 2013, Mr Kurtis Gillan assisted in the rescue of his friend after he had been attacked by a large shark at Campbell's Beach, north of Coffs Harbour, New South Wales.

Mr Gillan and three friends had paddled about 200 metres off shore to a surf break when a three metre tiger shark came from below and attacked one of the group. The shark bit both of the boy's legs and began to thrash him around in the water. Without letting go of his board, the boy hit the shark with his fist causing the shark to release its grip. Seeing the shark attack, Mr Gillan, together with his two companions, immediately paddled over to their friend to help him, not knowing if the shark was still around and if it would recommence the attack. Determined not to leave their friend, and as the injured boy continued to lose a lot of blood and slip into unconsciousness, Mr Gillan and the other boys began to paddle towards the beach. Despite being buffeted by large waves they managed to return their friend to the shore. On reaching the beach the injured boy was by then unconscious. Mr Gillan checked for a pulse and then began CPR on him. Meanwhile the two other boys ran up to the roadway, stopped a passing motorist, and used a mobile phone to call 000. Sadly, ambulance personnel were unable to revive the young victim.

By his actions, Mr Gillan displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL (BM)

Senior Constable Mark Robert GRAY, Queensland Police

On the afternoon of 25 July 2013, Senior Constable Mark Gray assisted a colleague to rescue a woman who was intending to jump off the Story Bridge in Brisbane, Queensland.

After consideration and discussion with another police officer who was already at the scene, Senior Constable Gray and the second officer began to climb the bridge in pursuit of the woman. By this stage the woman had reached the top of one of the support structures of the bridge, 75 metres above the road base. The officers continued their climb and, on reaching the top, discovered that the woman had traversed to the second support structure, about 500 metres away. Despite serious safety issues, including the threat of wind shear, and without ropes or harnesses, Senior Constable Gray and the other police officer made their way to the woman, who was now positioned on the bridge. Once there, they began negotiations with the woman, who made several threats to jump. When she climbed over the last safety rail, Senior Constable Gray and the other police officer lunged at her, managing to grab hold of her arms. They dragged the woman back onto the bridge structure and escorted her down to the roadway where she was treated by ambulance officers.

By his actions, Senior Constable Gray displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Graeme Roy GUELF, PO Box 210, Junee NSW 2663

On the afternoon of 5 February 2007, Mr Graeme Guelfi, and several other motorists, were involved in the rescue of three people trapped in burning vehicles after a collision near Wagga Wagga, New South Wales.

Two vehicles had collided head-on while travelling on the Junee to Bomen road with both then catching alight. The driver of one of the vehicles was conscious but injured and trapped by the steering wheel, and her son, a passenger, was also injured and in shock. The young man was helped from the car and taken to safety. Disregarding the engine fire, Mr Guelfi saw that the trapped driver was having difficulty breathing. He tried to open the driver's door but it was jammed. Mr Guelfi entered the car and managed to lower the driver's seat to assist her with breathing. Another motorist entered the vehicle to comfort the driver until she was able to be rescued. At the same time some of those who had stopped to help were trying to put out the grass fire around the cars with small fire extinguishers. Mr Guelfi, together with an off duty police officer who had arrived on the scene, went to assist the driver in the second wrecked vehicle, which was also on fire. Mr Guelfi opened the driver's door, cut the seat belt off and the driver slumped to the road. After being unable to find a pulse, he helped move the driver away from the vehicles which were now engulfed by flames.

By his actions, Mr Guelfi displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL (BM)

Master Calyn John HOAD, Beenleigh Qld 4207

On the afternoon of 31 August 2013, Calyn Hoad, aged 7 years, rescued his brother from an oncoming vehicle at Springwood, Queensland.

Calyn's mother was attending to his sister in the ladies washroom after her dance class whilst he and his younger brother waited for them. When his mother was distracted, his brother ran out of the dance studio building and through the carpark. Calyn closely followed the boy who proceeded to run into traffic on busy Watland Street. Calyn immediately grabbed his brother's arm and pushed him back onto the footpath and out of the way of oncoming traffic. At this point a 4WD, which was unable to stop in such a short distance, hit Calyn causing severe injury.

By his actions, Master Calyn Hoad displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Robert J T HORGAN, Doncaster Vic 3108

On the afternoon of 14 June 1997 Mr Robert Horgan rescued a man from a burning vehicle at Gordon Victoria.

Mr Horgan was at his property near Gordon when a woman informed him that a man was trapped inside a burning vehicle. Mr Horgan quickly gathered some tools before he and his teenage son headed to the crash site about 500 metres from their property. Despite some rain showers, the crashed vehicle had set some trees surrounding it alight. Mr Horgan, a former fireman, saw a man trapped in the driver's seat and a broken fuel line was feeding the fire in the car's engine bay. Mr Horgan and his son were initially unable to open any of the doors but, after a second attempt, they managed to prise open the rear passenger door. The cabin of the vehicle was fast filling with toxic smoke and the trapped driver was screaming for help. Without thinking of his own safety, Mr Horgan leaned inside the vehicle and grabbed hold of the man. With his son holding onto him for support, Mr Horgan managed to manoeuvre the driver in between the front seats and pull him out the rear passenger door and away to safety. Soon after the vehicle was engulfed by the flames.

By his actions, Mr Horgan displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL (BM)

Mr Lindsay Mathew ISAAC-DAVIES, 2/41 Owen Street, Port Macquarie NSW 2444

On the afternoon of 30 November 2013, Mr Lindsay Isaac-Davies assisted in the rescue of his friend after he had been attacked by a large shark at Campbell's Beach, north of Coffs Harbour, New South Wales.

Mr Isaac-Davies and three friends had paddled about 200 metres off shore to a surf break when a three metre tiger shark came from below and attacked one of the group. The shark bit both of the boy's legs and began to thrash him around in the water. Without letting go of his board, the boy hit the shark with his fist causing the shark to release its grip. On hearing his cries, Mr Isaac-Davies and his two companions immediately paddled over to their friend to help him, not knowing if the shark was still around and if it would recommence the attack. Determined not to leave their friend, and as the injured boy continued to lose a lot of blood and slip into unconsciousness, Mr Isaac-Davies and the other boys began to paddle towards the beach. Despite being buffeted by large waves they managed to return their friend to the shore. On reaching the beach the injured boy was by then unconscious and CPR was begun. Mr Isaac-Davies and his friend stopped a passing motorist and used a mobile phone to call 000. He then returned to the beach to help his friend. Sadly, ambulance personnel were unable to revive the young victim.

By his actions, Mr Isaac-Davies displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Tom Fairbridge KOCH-EMMERY, Qld

On the morning of 3 October 2007, Mr Tom Koch-Emmery and another cattle hand rescued a man from a burning helicopter after it had crashed on a property near Marlborough, Queensland.

Mr Koch-Emmery was on a motor bike helping to muster cattle on Tartrus Station when he heard the tail rotor of the helicopter that was yarding cattle strike the upper branches of a nearby tree. He quickly avoided the helicopter as it spun out of control before crashing violently and bursting into flames. Mr Koch-Emmery ran to the helicopter and saw the pilot was badly injured. He entered the cockpit and managed to free the man from his seatbelt and pull him out of the burning craft. Another employee arrived at the scene and he and Mr Koch-Emmery carried the pilot from the wreckage. They were only metres away when the entire helicopter exploded, propelling shrapnel and debris in all directions. The injured man was placed in the recovery position and his condition assessed before Mr Koch-Emmery headed to the homestead of the property to raise the alarm and summon medical assistance.

By his actions, Mr Koch-Emmery displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL (BM)

Mr Saliya Jimmy KULASEKERA, Perth WA 6000

On the morning of 15 June 2012, Mr Sarilya Kulasekera rescued a man who was being attacked by two dogs in Girrawheen, Western Australia.

Mr Kulasekera was at home looking after his young son when, on hearing two pit bull dogs barking and growling from the rear yard of the house next door, he went to investigate. When he looked over the fence he saw a man being savagely attacked by the two dogs, which had knocked him to the ground and were biting his legs. Mr Kulasekera threw some rocks at the dogs in an attempt to distract them from the victim, but to no avail. He quickly returned to his house and placed his son in his cot. Without thought for his own safety Mr Kulasekera entered the yard where the dogs were now biting and tearing at the victim. He again threw objects at the dogs to try to scare them off. One of the dogs then turned on Mr Kulasekera, biting his wrist and knocking him to the ground. He quickly regained his feet, grabbed a nearby stick and commenced hitting the dogs that were continuing to attack the victim. Both dogs then ran at Mr Kulasekera, biting him on the hands and causing him to fall over and cut his head. Both dogs then resumed their attack on the other man. Slightly dazed and fearful that the dogs were going to kill the victim, Mr Kulasekera managed to force the dogs to retreat before he dragged the man to safety at the rear of the house. Mr Kulasekera was later treated for dog bite injuries and the victim was taken to Royal Perth hospital with serious injuries.

By his actions, Mr Kulasekera displayed considerable bravery.

Senior Constable Megan Leanne MAGARRY, Queensland Police

On the afternoon of 25 July 2013, Senior Constable Megan Magarry assisted a colleague to rescue a woman who was intending to jump off the Story Bridge in Brisbane, Queensland.

After consideration and discussion with another police officer who arrived at the scene, Senior Constable Magarry and the other officer began to climb the bridge in pursuit of the woman. By this stage the woman had reached the top of one of the support structures of the bridge, 75 metres above the road base. The officers continued their climb and, on reaching the top, discovered that the woman had traversed to the second support structure, about 500 metres away. Despite serious safety issues, including the threat of wind shear, and without ropes or harnesses, Senior Constable Magarry and the other officer made their way to the where the woman was now positioned on the bridge. Once there, they began negotiations with the woman, who made several threats to jump. When she climbed over the last safety rail, Senior Constable Magarry and the other police officer lunged at her, managing to grab hold of her arms. They dragged the woman back onto the bridge structure and escorted her down to the roadway where she was treated by ambulance officers.

By her actions, Senior Constable Magarry displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL (BM)

Mr Erin James MAHONY, Werribee Vic 3030

On the morning of 4 April 2011, Mr Erin Mahony apprehended a man who was assaulting a woman in East Perth, Western Australia.

Mr Mahony was walking along the footpath on Wellington Street when he saw a man, brandishing a long handled shovel, run across the street and attack a woman. The offender struck the woman forcefully on the side of the head. Fearing for the woman's safety, and without hesitation, Mr Mahony immediately ran to her assistance, yelling for the offender to stop. At this point the offender dropped the shovel and grabbed the dazed woman by the shoulders. Mr Mahony then noticed that the offender was holding a large meat cleaver and, with complete disregard for his own personal safety, he manoeuvred himself behind the offender and grabbed his arm which caused the offender to drop the meat cleaver. Mr Mahony then physically restrained the offender whilst another bystander moved the woman out of danger. Mr Mahony continued restraining the man until the police arrived.

By his actions, Mr Mahony displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Luke James PULFORD, Mount Gambier SA 5290

On the evening of 7 September 2012, Mr Luke Pulford assisted in the rescue of two people from a burning vehicle which had lost control and slam passenger-side into a tree at Mount Gambier, South Australia.

Mr Pulford was travelling along the Jubilee Highway at Mount Gambier when he saw a vehicle, driven by a friend, lose control and slam into a tree. Once the vehicle he was in was pulled to the side of the road, Mr Pulford together with the driver ran to the wrecked car. They noticed that there was a fire burning underneath the front of the car. Mr Pulford managed to open the driver's door, reach inside, unbuckle the seatbelt, and assist the driver outside to safety. On attempting to free the second trapped person, the men realised that the seatbelt was jammed. As flames began to lap at the windscreen and the distressed passenger screamed for help as he was unable to get out of the car, Mr Pulford went to check on the fire whilst the other man entered the cabin. Realising that the passenger's seat was leaning towards the centre console, preventing the seatbelt from being released, he pushed at the seat and pulled the console until he was able to reach the seatbelt release mechanism and undo the seatbelt. Once the trapped passenger was free, Mr Pulford, together with the other man, moved the injured passenger to safety before the vehicle was completely engulfed by fire.

By his actions, Mr Pulford displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL (BM)

The late Jordan Lucas RICE, Robina Qld 4226

On 10 January 2011, during a period of heavy rain, Jordan Rice was with his mother and younger brother when they were caught in fast rising floodwater in Toowoomba, causing their vehicle to stall.

As the floodwaters rose, the conditions deteriorated and the vehicle began to submerge. Two men entered the fast flowing water to provide assistance, however, given the strong current, both encountered difficulties. Only one of the men reached the vehicle and had to be helped by the family in doing so. Showing great selflessness and presence of mind, Jordan put his brother first, which enabled the man to safely extract Blake from the vehicle and, with the help of the second man, take Blake to safety. In hazardous conditions, Jordan and his mother exited the vehicle and, as it began to move in the current, they managed to grab hold of a light pole. However, the current was too strong and they were swept away. Sadly, they were later found deceased.

By his actions, Jordan Rice displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Shayden Bray SCHRADER, 194 Granite Street, Port Macquarie NSW 2444

On the afternoon of 30 November 2013, Mr Shayden Schrader assisted in the rescue of his friend after he had been attacked by a large shark at Campbell's Beach, north of Coffs Harbour, New South Wales.

Mr Schrader and three friends had paddled about 200 metres off shore to a surf break when a three metre tiger shark came from below and attacked one of the group. The shark bit both of the boy's legs and began to thrash him around in the water. Without letting go of his board, the boy hit the shark with his fist causing the shark to release its grip. On hearing his cries, Mr Schrader and his two companions immediately paddled over to their friend to help him, not knowing if the shark was still around and if it would recommence the attack. Determined not to leave their friend, and as the injured boy continued to lose a lot of blood and slip into unconsciousness, Mr Schrader and the other boys began to paddle towards the beach. Despite being buffeted by large waves they managed to return their friend to the shore. On reaching the beach the injured boy was by then unconscious and CPR was begun. Mr Schrader and his friend stopped a passing motorist and used a mobile phone to call 000. He then returned to the beach to help his friend. Sadly, ambulance personnel were unable to revive the young victim.

By his actions, Mr Schrader displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL (BM)

Mr Rod SHEARER, Huntly Vic 3551

In the early afternoon of 29 October 2012, Mr Rod Shearer, together with two pilots, rescued two people from a burning aircraft at Barnadown, Victoria.

Mr Shearer, the airstrip caretaker, was standing at the edge of the runway when he observed a small plane land, taxi and stop near the hangar and two pilots disembark. He then noticed a Cessna aircraft with three people on board coming in to land. The plane collided with power lines and flipped over and hit the ground. It immediately burst into flames. Mr Shearer, together with the two pilots that had arrived in the previous aircraft, ran to the stricken plane to find it becoming engulfed in flames, with thick black smoke coming from the cabin. Mr Shearer ran to the hangar and grabbed a fire extinguisher which he deployed on the flames. Unfortunately the flames reignited once the extinguisher was empty. The other two men assisted the rear seat passenger and the pilot out of the wreckage and moved them to the safety of the hangar. Mr Shearer attempted to get the third occupant out by kicking in the windshield, but the flames were too intense for him to reach the man. Sadly, the third occupant, who was unable to be removed from the wreckage, perished in the fire.

By his actions, Mr Shearer displayed considerable bravery.

Mr Jeffrey Ryan SMYTH, 14/693 Malvern Road, Toorak Vic 3142

In the late evening of 16 December 2012, Mr Ryan Smyth assisted in the rescue of a man from a burning vehicle following a single-car collision on Malvern Road in Toorak, Victoria.

Mr Smyth was working on his computer at home when he heard the crash and raced outside to investigate. A vehicle had ploughed through a wooden fence and power pole before ramming into a brick fence, and caught alight. The vehicle had also brought down the overhead power lines, which were arcing on the road nearby. Mr Smyth ran to the burning vehicle where another man was trying to get the man out. When they were unable to open any of the car's doors, Mr Smyth managed to smash the front passenger window which allowed smoke to billow out. Assisted by the other man, Mr Smyth was able to grab the bloodied driver under the arms, pull him out, and move him away to safety. The men then returned to the car believing that another person was still inside. The vehicle was then engulfed in flames forcing them back. Fortunately, no other person was inside the vehicle.

By his actions, Mr Smyth displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL (BM)

Mr Tony STEPHENSEN, Quilpie Qld 4480

On the morning of 12 March 2013, Mr Tony Stephenson rescued a colleague from a burning aircraft at a cattle station near Thargomindah in south western Queensland.

Mr Stephenson was mustering cattle on a motorbike when he saw the light aircraft, piloted by the station manager that was assisting with the cattle mustering, stall and crash. He immediately rode to the location and when he was almost at the scene noticed a ball of smoke and flame erupted into the air. After he reached the burning aircraft, Mr Stephenson saw that the wreckage and the surrounding bush area were well alight. He grabbed hold of the pilot, whose clothes were on fire, and rolled him over several times until the flames were extinguished. Mr Stephenson then moved him away from the fire area and arranged for emergency air medical treatment which arrived soon after. Sadly, as a result of severe burns the man passed away at Royal Adelaide Hospital the following day.

By his actions, Mr Stephenson displayed considerable bravery.

The late Mr Alan Kennedy TURKINGTON, Mudgeeraba Qld 4213

On the evening of 16 March 2011, Mr Alan Turkington went to the assistance of the occupants of a single vehicle accident on Springbrook Road, Mudgeeraba, Queensland.

Mr Turkington was walking along the footpath when he witnessed a single vehicle accident. A black sedan collided with a guard rail, rotated anti clockwise, and came to rest partially blocking the roadway. Damage sustained to the vehicle caused its lights to fail and made it difficult for oncoming traffic to see the accident due to the time of day and the colour of the car. Mr Turkington immediately went to assist the driver and two children, aged five and six years. He lifted the children to safety and as he was providing assistance to the driver, another sedan, the driver of which had not seen the damaged vehicle, braked suddenly and collided with the rear passenger side of the stationary sedan. The damaged car propelled forward, hitting both its driver and Mr Turkington, who was knocked to the ground, causing severe head, chest and abdominal injuries. Sadly, two days after the accident Mr Turkington passed away from his injuries.

By his actions, Mr Turkington displayed considerable bravery.

BRAVERY MEDAL (BM)

Mr Andrew Phillip WILLSMORE, 50 Fasham Street, Underbool Vic 3509

In the early afternoon of 29 October 2012, Mr Andrew Willsmore, together with a fellow pilot and an airstrip caretaker, rescued two people from a burning aircraft at Barnadown, Victoria.

Mr Willsmore and another pilot had just landed their light aircraft at a private airstrip when they became aware that another light plane had crashed nearby. The Cessna aircraft, with three people on board, had collided with power lines and came to rest inverted before it immediately burst into flames. Mr Willsmore and his fellow pilot ran to the stricken aircraft and saw it was becoming engulfed in flames, with thick black smoke coming from the cabin. They met the airstrip caretaker who was deploying a fire extinguisher onto the burning wreckage. With the flames quickly spreading, and the extinguisher having minimal effect, the caretaker smashed a window with the assistance of the fellow pilot. They then assisted the rear seat passenger outside of the wreckage and dragged him to safety. Mr Willsmore and the fellow pilot then went to the other side of the aircraft where they saw that the pilot was hanging upside down. Despite the flames now licking around the man, Mr Willsmore reached inside and undid the seat belt buckle. They grabbed the man and pulled him outside to safety. Sadly, a front seat passenger who was unresponsive, and unable to be removed from the wreckage, perished in the fire.

By his actions, Mr Willsmore displayed considerable bravery.

Senior Constable Thomas William WILSON, Queensland Police

On the morning of 18 June 1992, Senior Constable (then Constable) Thomas Wilson and another police officer apprehended an offender armed with an explosive device at a government office in Mount Isa, Queensland.

The offender entered the foyer of the building in search of his estranged wife. Constable Wilson and his colleague arrived at the office building and approached the offender who indicated he was in possession of a bomb. The officers saw that the man was carrying a nine volt battery in one hand and wires in the other. The offender was approached by Constable Wilson's colleague who attempted to persuade him to give him the battery but the man refused to do so. He stated that the bomb was safe and placed the two wires in contact with the battery. Swiftly Constable Wilson's colleague grabbed hold of the offender's right hand and attempted to pull it away from the battery. Constable Wilson immediately caught the offender's left hand and pulled it away. A scuffle ensued with the offender resisting violently and attempting to bring his hands together. The officers forced the man onto the ground, pulled his hands behind his back and restrained him with handcuffs. When they searched the offender, they found a device containing four sticks of 'super-gel' explosive which was fitted with a detonator connected to two wires. Constable Wilson, with the assistance of his colleague, removed the device and placed it away from the offender. They took the offender from the foyer and then conducted an evacuation of the building.

By his actions, Senior Constable Wilson displayed considerable bravery.