

**ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY  
OF  
NEW SOUTH WALES**

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**Instituted 25<sup>th</sup> July 1877**

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**Patron**

HER EXCELLENCY PROFESSOR MARIE BASHIR AC CVO  
GOVERNOR OF NEW SOUTH WALES

**President**

The Honourable Sir LAURENCE STREET AC KCMG QC

**Chairman**

Major General The Honourable Justice C.R. HOEBEN AM RFD

**Vice Chairman**

Rear Admiral A.L. HUNT AO RAN (Retd)

**Honorary Treasurer**

Mr A.F. BATLEY AM FCA

**Councillors**

Mr R.J.HEIN AM	1998
Ms C.J. HEWSON	1999
Commissioner G. MULLINS AFSM	2002
Rear Admiral The Honourable A. ROWLANDS AO RFD QC RANR (Retd)	2004
Assistant Commissioner R. MAY APM	2004
Ms K. MILLWOOD	2004
Mr J. TREVILLIAN	2005
Superintendent M. WILLIS ASM	2006
Commissioner A.P. SCIPIONE APM	2008

**Honorary Secretary**

Major R.H. MILLBANK MA (Retd)  
Assistant Secretary – Ms N. SMITH

**Office of the Society**

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G.P.O. Box 61, SYDNEY 2001  
Telephone (02) 9265 2773  
[www.braveryaward.org](http://www.braveryaward.org)

### **Trustees**

The Honourable Sir LAURENCE STREET AC KCMG QC  
Rear Admiral A.L. HUNT AO RAN (Retd)

### **Honorary Auditor**

Mr D. McGRANE

### **Honorary Solicitor**

Mr A.J. McMINN

### **Honorary Publicity Officer**

Mr S.J. DOYLE

### **Bankers**

National Australia Bank

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1877 - 1921	Mr F. H. DANGAR
1922 - 1930	Mr A. F. ROBINSON
1931	No President
1932 - 1958	Mr W. A. MACKAY
1959 - 1966	Lieutenant General Sir JOHN NORTHCOTT KCMG KCVO CB KStJ
1967	No President
1968 - 1984	His Honour Justice Sir ADRIAN CURLEWIS CVO CBE
1985 - 1989	Sir NEVILLE PIXLEY MBE GCStJ VRD
1990 - 1999	Air Marshal Sir JAMES ROWLAND AC KBE DFC AFC KSt J

### **Past Chairmen**

1888 - 1910	Mr J. H. STOREY
1911 - 1937	Captain S. G. GREEN OBE
1938 - 1951	Commander F.W. HIXSON OBE VD
1952 - 1953	Captain J. C. REID
1954 - 1964	Lieutenant Colonel J. SHARP MBE
1965 - 1975	Mr R. A. FENWICK
1975 - 1984	Sir NEVILLE PIXLEY MBE GCStJ VRD
1985 - 1987	Mr G. A. ARCHER
1988 - 1990	Major General R. J. SHARP AO RFD ED
1991- 1993	Mr A.D.M. GRAHAM AM APM
1994 - 1996	Major General G. L. MAITLAND AO OBE RFD ED
1997 - 1998	Mr R. W. EATON OBE
1998 - 2000	Major General G. L. MAITLAND AO OBE RFD ED
2001-2003	Vice Admiral I.D. MAC DOUGALL AC AFSM RAN (Retd)
2004-2006	Rear Admiral A.L. HUNT AO RAN (Retd)

Photo 0248

*Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, Governor of New South Wales  
with Major General The Hon. Justice C.R. Hoeben AM RFD and  
Mr Oguz (Alex) Taskun SC, Stanhope Gold Medal 2006*

Photo 0089-3

*Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, Governor of New South Wales  
with Leading Senior Constable Paul Nancekivell, Constable Alison Molyneux  
and Senior Constable Kelly Thomas, awarded Bronze Medals at the 2007 Annual Awards*

Photo 0194

*Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO, Governor of New South Wales  
with Senior Constable Timothy Brown, Senior Constable Bradley Muddle,  
Constable Christopher Fowler and Mr Douglas Finucane, awarded Bronze Medals  
at the 2007 Annual Awards*

*Photo's courtesy Rob Tuckwell Photography*

**ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY  
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NEW SOUTH WALES**

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**ANNUAL REPORT YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2008**

The Council of the Society is pleased to provide the following Annual Report.

**PATRON**

The Society is most grateful for the Vice-Regal patronage it is accorded by Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir AC CVO Governor of New South Wales. Her continuing interest and support are greatly appreciated.

**PRESIDENT**

The Society is most grateful for the continuing interest and involvement of its President, The Honourable Sir Laurence Street AC KCMG QC

**THE 2007 PRESENTATION OF AWARDS**

The Society was honoured to have the awards presented by Her Excellency The Governor at Government House on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2007. The warm hospitality extended by Her Excellency and Sir Nicholas Shehadie following the ceremony was greatly appreciated by the recipients and guests present.

The awards comprised 4 Silver Medals, 39 Bronze Medals, 20 Certificates of Merit, and 5 Letters of Commendation.

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

The Society's 130th Annual General Meeting was conducted on Monday 10th December 2007, when Councillors and Office Bearers were elected for the ensuing twelve months.

**FINANCE**

The Society's Balance Sheet as at 30 June 2008 and its Income and Expenditure Account for the year then ended have been audited and appear at the back of this publication.

**DONORS**

The financial position was only achieved through the generosity of those donors who are listed later herein. The New South Wales Government is a long time annual helper, whilst NRMA Insurance also provides significant support.

## **2007 – 2008 AWARDS**

The awards described in this booklet comprise 4 Silver Medals, 25 Bronze Medals and 21 Certificates of Merit. In addition, the Society issued 11 Letters of Commendation. To all recipients, the Society conveys the thanks, admiration and congratulations of the people of New South Wales.

### **KINDRED SOCIETIES**

A happy working relationship exists with the Royal Humane Society in London, Royal Humane Society of Australasia in Melbourne and Royal Humane Society of New Zealand, to which bodies, together with other kindred organisations, the Society offers warm greetings.

### **APPRECIATION**

For the past 131 years the Society has been awarding medals and certificates for acts of outstanding bravery. However, the work of the Society depends on the generous support of many organisations and individuals. Our annual investiture is facilitated by the Office of the Governor and Her Excellency's Official Secretary, Mr Brian L. Davies provides outstanding assistance to this vice regal occasion. The New South Wales Fire Brigades provides the Society with our office and meeting room. The NSW Police Force, NSW Fire Brigades and Ambulance Service of NSW remain major contributors to investigating and reporting upon cases presented for consideration by the Council. The quality of the Society's Bravery Certificates is the work of NSW Maritime, which has generously prepared them for many years.

We are most grateful for the financial assistance from a number of generous donors mentioned in this report.

The ongoing business is in the hands of the Honorary Secretary Roland Millbank who is very ably supported by Assistant Secretary Nina Smith. I acknowledge the professional contributions provided by our outgoing Honorary Treasurer, Mr Alan Batley, the Honorary Solicitor, the Honorary Publicity Officer, Honorary Auditor, and welcome the new Honorary Treasurer, Mr Edgar Temple.

Heroism is, for most of us, a difficult concept. We are dealing with ordinary persons who, with some disregard for their own life, come to the aid of others. They have not taken these steps for recognition or reward, but out of their concern for fellow human beings. It is a humbling experience for those of us contemplating these acts. While it is true that not all acts of heroism come to the attention of the Royal Humane Society, we do attempt to seek out as many brave acts as possible.

I wish to thank our Patron, the President, my fellow Councillors and those who assist in supporting roles for the dedication they bring to fulfilling the Society's objectives.

**Major General The Hon. Justice  
C.R. HOEBEN, AM RFD  
Chairman**

### **BACKGROUND TO THE SOCIETY**

The Society was established as a result of the loss of the 351- ton paddle steamer s.s. Yarra and its 17 man crew in a south-east gale on 15<sup>th</sup> July, 1877, while attempting to re - enter Newcastle Harbour.

Four days later, a public meeting of citizens, under the chairmanship of the Reverend Dr Lang, at the Royal Exchange, Pitt Street, Sydney, decided to form the Society "for the relief of the widows, orphans and others dependent upon men lost in the marine service of our coast, or elsewhere, such relief to be distributed at the discretion of the committee".

The Society was instituted on 25<sup>th</sup> July, 1877, and its first meeting, under the presidency of Mr F. H. Dangar, was held on Friday, 27<sup>th</sup> July, 1877. Subscriptions had by then exceeded two thousand pounds.

The Society was formed as the National Shipwreck Relief Society of New South Wales. In 1902, His Majesty, King Edward VII gave permission for the Society to be known as the Royal Shipwreck Relief and Humane Society of New South Wales.

In 1968, Her Majesty The Queen approved the change of name to the Royal Humane Society of New South Wales in common with all British Commonwealth Nations.

## OBJECTIVES

The original objectives of the Society were:-

1. to afford relief to widows, orphans and other dependents of seamen who lost their lives or were injured in shipwreck;
2. to assist crews of vessels wrecked in New South Wales waters; and
3. to grant medals or rewards for bravery in saving human life.

The necessity for the first and second objectives ceased when it was considered they were adequately covered by legal provisions. Pensions ceased to be paid in the late 1960s. In recent years, however, the Society has noted cases in which the utilisation of provisions enabling financial grants in selected circumstances could have been a desirable course. Discussions have taken place with the Australian Bravery Association which has such provisions in their constitution.

The Society, of course, has maintained its third objective which was widened to include acts of bravery in attempting to save human life.

## ONE HUNDRED YEARS AGO

From the files of the Royal Humane Society of New South Wales 100 years ago

Extracted from the Thirty First Annual Report of 1908

### **Edward Butler: Awarded a Silver Medal and a Certificate of Merit**

On the night of 25<sup>th</sup> June 1908 while handling cargo on the SS St Louis at Federal Wharf, Sydney a wharf labourer John West fell in to the harbour between the wharf and the vessel. The cargo hook was at once lowered in the hope that the man would catch hold of it, but, seeing he did not do so Edward Butler, without hesitation dived in fully dressed, and at great risk eventually found John West, who could not swim, under the wharf and succeeded in getting him to the surface, when both were hauled on to the wharf, West being in a state of collapse and Butler very much exhausted.

## HOW THE SOCIETY FUNCTIONS

Today, the management of the affairs of the Society is vested in a Council consisting of a Patron, a President, a Chairman, and Vice-Chairman, an Honorary Secretary, an Honorary Treasurer, (Publicity Officer, Auditor and Solicitor) and Councillors.

Cases of reported bravery are investigated by the New South Wales Police, and copies of the reports are distributed to Officers and Councillors of the Society in advance of all meetings, to enable consideration to be given to them before discussion. Voting at meetings determines the granting of awards.

The Society is supported by a subsidy from the New South Wales Government, supplemented by donations from organisations, corporations and citizens.

## THE SOCIETY'S AWARDS

The Society's awards are the Galleghan Award, Silver Medal, Bronze Medal, Certificate of Merit, Letter of Commendation and the Sir Neville Pixley Book Award.

With the permission of the New South Wales Government, the obverse of the medals includes part of the Arms of the State of New South Wales, surrounded by the name of the Society. The reverse of the

medal exhibits a Civic Wreath, which was the Roman reward for saving life, with the words, "Awarded to.....for Bravery". The name of each medal winner and the date of the act of bravery is engraved on the reverse of the medal. The medal is also numbered on its edge to indicate the consecutive number of the award by the Society.

The ribbon for all medals is light blue with a strip of dark blue on either side.

The Certificate of Merit is a scroll bearing the Arms of the State of New South Wales. It is inscribed with the recipient's name and signed by the President, Chairman and Secretary.

### **WEARING OF MEDALS AND RIBBONS**

Recipients of Medals are entitled to wear the medal or ribbon (as appropriate) on the right breast. When only the ribbon is worn, a silver or bronze star emblem is worn centrally on the ribbon to denote the class of medal awarded to the wearer. Such wearing is officially authorized for the members of all uniformed services.

The Society does not provide duplicate medals. Lost or stolen medals may be replaced only to the recipient after an appropriate investigation.

Miniature medals are available for purchase from the Society.

### **STANHOPE GOLD MEDAL**

The Stanhope Gold Medal, an award of the Royal Humane Society, was instituted in 1873 as the English Society's highest award for bravery each year.

In 1962, all kindred Commonwealth Societies were invited to nominate each year their best cases for adjudication for this award.

Since that time, nominations by the Royal Humane Society of New South Wales have been successful on nine occasions:

1963	Frederick John KNIGHT
1965	Lieutenant Barry J. CAMPBELL RAA
1980	Bruce Wallace McPHERSON
1982	Dulcie KALMS
1992	Rodney Stephen PETERS
1994	Aaron John LEDDEN
1996	Senior Constable Ian Maurice BOUGHTON
2001	Dr Richard MORRIS
	Ambulance Paramedic Christopher WILKINSON
	Ambulance Paramedic Paul FEATHERSTONE
2006	Oguz (Alex) TASKUN SC

## THE GALLEGHAN AWARD

The Galleghan Award was instituted in 1996, and recognises what the Society considers to have been the most outstanding act of bravery in the year.

It is designated by a bar reading "Galleghan Award" affixed to the ribbon of the medal award.

The award is named after Brigadier Sir Frederick Galleghan DSO OBE ISO ED who was the Society's Secretary from 1958 until his death in 1971.

Sir Frederick was twice wounded in the Great War, and was awarded the Distinguished Service Order in the Second World War for his leadership and gallantry when commanding the 2/30<sup>th</sup> Australian Infantry Battalion at the battle of Gemas in Malaya.

This year it is awarded jointly to Paul Kernick and Matthew U'Brien.

### 2007-2008

#### AWARDS

Recipient	Case No.	Recipient	Case No.
APPLETON, Matthew	12	McGEE, Anthony	2
ARMSTRONG, Trevor	18	McLAUGHLIN, Michael	6
ATKINSON, Paul	17	McPHERSON, Jamie	28
BOYD, Brett	27	MOUNCE-STEPHENS, Phillip	44
BRENTON, Ian	22	MOY, Michael	48
CASKEY, Susanne	42	NUGENT, Damian	34
CHILLEMI, Michael	39	O'CONNOR, Brendan	1
CLEARY, Vanessa	10	O'CONNOR, Patrick	29
DAY, Nicholas	41	PATTIE, Glenn	35
GEOFFRIES, Michael	20	PICKWORTH, Timothy	21
GORDON, Andrew	19	POCOCK, Andrew	14
GRANT, Alan	38	RILEY, Elwin	30
HABGOOD, Scott	33	ROBINSON, Wayne	24
HOLLOWAY, Amanda	26	RYAN, John	9
JADRIC, Stephen	11	SCAMBARY, Mark	13
JIMENEZ, Alex	23	SINGH, Alexander	49
JOHNSTON, Michael	3	SMITH, John	31
KERNICK, Paul	47	SMITH, Renee	15
KING-GEE, Natasha	4	TAYLOR, Justin	5
KOKOTOVICH, Nikolas	25	THOMPSON, James	50
LAFO, Filia	36	U'BRIEN, Matthew	46
LEO, Jason	45	WARNER, Jason	32
MANNION, Nicholas	43	WEST, Trent	40
MEANEY, Craig	37	WHELAN, Rowan	8
McDONALD, Stephen	16	WHITEMAN, Bevan	7

2007- 2008

**MEDALS AND CERTIFICATES OF MERIT WERE AWARDED IN RECOGNITION OF THE FOLLOWING BRAVE DEEDS**

**1. BRONZE MEDAL**

*Brendan O'Connor, Menai*

**2. CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

*Anthony McGee, St Marys*

*for their actions at the scene of a motor vehicle accident and fire at Kirrawee, NSW 2232*

On 4 January 2005 a motor vehicle collided with a power pole on the Princes Highway Kirrawee resulting in the vehicle erupting into flames and the driver being trapped in the wreckage. A tanker driver, Mr McGee and a motorist, Mr O'Connor, went to the assistance of the trapped driver. Mr McGee used the load of rusty hydrant water (1500 litres) he was carrying to set up a hose and used the water to extinguish flames coming from the crashed vehicle.

Mr O'Connor, along with two other men, climbed into the wreck to try and pull the driver free. This was not possible due to the driver's legs being caught under the dashboard. Police officers arrived and continued to extinguish flames on the vehicle using the tanker hose and fire extinguishers. Meanwhile Mr O'Connor obtained a breathing mask from a nearby business and placed it over the driver's mouth in a bid to help him avoid breathing in smoke and fumes until he was released.

**3. BRONZE MEDAL**

*Michael Brett Johnston, Kiama*

**4. CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

*Natasha Fay King-Gee, Kiama*

*for their efforts in the rescue of two women from the surf at Bombo Beach, Kiama, NSW 2533*

Driving home along a coastal road at Kiama at about 12.50pm on 5 February 2005 Mr Johnston noticed a large rip at the southern end of Bombo Beach. A person on a surfboard appeared to be caught in the rip and another person was swimming out. Uneasy about the situation after reaching home Mr Johnston then ran 600 metres to the beach.

Two female swimmers were caught in the rip. The women were about 100 metres from shore when Mr Johnston entered the water. Both women were on the surfboard, however one was much weaker than the other. Mr Johnston tried to help them to paddle in a southerly direction but the current kept pulling them back. Eventually he paddled north where they reached the sandbar and the lifeguards arrived in a rescue boat and took the women on board. He then paddled the surfboard into shore and checked on the two women who were being treated by ambulance officers.

Ms King-Gee initially went to the aid of her friend, who had been in the water for about 40 minutes, when she noticed she was distressed. She swam about 100-150 metres and found her friend to be exhausted and continually slipping off the surfboard. Ms King-Gee held onto her friend for about 10 minutes before Mr Johnston came to their rescue.

**5. BRONZE MEDAL**

*Firefighter Justin Paul Taylor, NSW Fire Brigades*

*for his actions during a motor boat fire on Lake Conjola, NSW 2539*

At about 1.00 pm on 1 January 2005 Mr Taylor and his family were on board his motor boat on Lake Conjola. The vessel had an inboard motor petrol engine that had just been refuelled. On board the vessel were five adults and four children. After travelling along the lake a short distance the motor stalled. While attempting to re-start the engine an explosion occurred setting fire to Mr Taylor's left arm. All persons were wearing life jackets and the adults threw the children overboard before jumping overboard themselves. However one boy was missed and still on board obscured by the dense smoke. Mr Taylor climbed back on board and rescued the child.

Once ashore and despite being severely burnt, Mr Taylor assisted with the treatment of the other members of his family until two ambulance units arrived from Ulladulla.

The children were airlifted to Westmead Children's Hospital whilst the adults were airlifted to Concord Hospital. The fibreglass vessel was burnt below the waterline.

**6. BRONZE MEDAL**

*Michael Leslie McLaughlin, Gilgandra*

**7.8. CERTIFICATES OF MERIT**

*Bevan John Whiteman, Gilgandra*

*Rowan Whelan, Gilgandra*

*for their actions at the scene of a house fire at Gilgandra, NSW 2827*

On the night of 25 March 2005 a woman set fire to the bedroom of her home in Gilgandra with the intention of committing suicide. Michael McLaughlin, Geoffrey Rutherford and Bevan Whiteman, all neighbours of the woman, rushed to the scene of the fire. Initially Mr McLaughlin used a fire extinguisher while Mr Rutherford used a garden hose aimed through the bedroom window. However neither proved successful as the fire had taken a strong hold in the bedroom. Mr McLaughlin attempted to gain entry by kicking in the front door. When this proved impossible he forced open a sliding door in another part of the house but after entering a short distance in the building he was forced to exit due to the smoke and heat. Returning to the front door Mr McLaughlin used a torch to smash a pane of glass allowing access to the door lock. Although receiving severe lacerations to his arm and bleeding quite profusely he re-entered the house and called out to the occupant before being once again forced to retreat.

Mr Whiteman and Mr Whelan assisted Mr McLaughlin in gaining entry via the front door and turning off the gas supply. Both Mr Whiteman and Mr Whelan entered the house briefly but were forced back by the heat and smoke. When the NSW Fire Brigades arrived soon after and took control of the situation the woman was found to be deceased in the bedroom.

Mr Geoffrey Rutherford has received the Society's Letter of Commendation for his actions during this incident.

**9. SILVER MEDAL**

*John Robert Ryan, Houston USA*

**10.11. BRONZE MEDALS**

*Vanessa Cleary, Camden*

*Stephen Paul Jadric, Camden*

**12.13.**

**14.15. CERTIFICATES OF MERIT**

*Inspector Matthew Gerard Appleton, NSW Police Force*

*Snr Constable Mark Andrew Scambary, NSW Police Force*

*Snr Constable Andrew Phillip Pocock, NSW Police Force*

*Probationary Constable Renee Shauna Smith, NSW Police Force*

*for their actions at the scene of a light aircraft crash and fire at  
Camden, NSW 2570*

Shortly after 9.30am on 7 February 2003 a twin engine aircraft crashed into a paddock near Camden airport and burst into flames. The pilot in control of the aircraft Mr John Ryan, although seriously injured, managed to extract the pilot in command of the aircraft, Mr Leslie Morris, out of the burning aircraft.

Ms Cleary and Mr Jadric from a nearby property went to the flaming wreckage and assisted Mr Ryan to remove the critically injured, still burning, Mr Morris from immediate danger.

The first police on the scene were Inspector Appleton and Probationary Constable Smith, shortly followed by Senior Constables Scambary and Pocock. They were faced with an imminent threat of an unexploded fuel tank in an accident scene almost ringed by fire.

Inspector Appleton and Senior Constable Scambary carried the critically burnt Mr Morris to the police vehicle that Senior Constable Pocock had driven as close as possible to the crash site. After extinguishing flames on Mr Morris's body they drove him to hospital where he died the next day. Probationary Constable Smith assisted the seriously injured Mr Ryan from the scene of the accident until the ambulance service arrived. Mr Ryan was discharged from Royal North Shore Hospital after treatment for a number of skin graft operations.

**16. BRONZE MEDAL**

*Stephen James McDonald, Tara QLD*

**17.18. CERTIFICATES OF MERIT**

*Paul Atkinson, Calala*

*Trevor Ian Armstrong, North Mackay QLD*

*for their actions at the scene of a multiple motor vehicle accident and fire on the  
Newell Highway at Gil Gil Creek near Moree, NSW 2400*

At about 4 pm on 6 May 2005 a fully laden B-Double heavy vehicle collided into the rear of three vehicles that had stopped at roadwork traffic signals on the Newell Highway north of Moree. The impact of the crash left an unconscious pregnant woman trapped in one of the vehicles. In another crashed vehicle Mr Brian Stallworthy managed to drag his wife from the wreckage.

Arriving at the scene in his truck, Mr McDonald organised the rescue of the trapped, unconscious pregnant woman. Using Mr Scott Barnes, a council vehicle driver, to spray the vehicle with his fire extinguisher, Mr McDonald hooked up a metal chain to the council vehicle enabling the jammed door to be wrenched open. While Mr Barnes continued to use the fire extinguisher, Mr McDonald, Mr Lyndon Dunn and Mr Armstrong were then able to remove the unconscious woman from the wreckage before the arrival of the ambulance service.

Prior to the extraction of the unconscious woman the driver of one of the vehicles, Mr Armstrong, helped by another motorist, Mr Atkinson, rescued two small children from the rear of the burning vehicle.

Although remaining unconscious for a further two weeks, the woman's six weeks premature healthy baby was delivered by caesarean operation later at the hospital.

Mr Lyndon Dunn, Mr Robert Beattie, Mr Scott Barnes and Mr Brian Stallworthy received Letters of Commendation for their actions during this incident.

**19.20. BRONZE MEDALS**

*Andrew Robert Gordon, Port Macquarie*

*Michael Matthew Geoffries, Hervey Bay, QLD*

**21. CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

*Timothy Pickworth, Blue Haven*

*for their actions during the attempted rescue of a surf board rider at Port Macquarie, NSW 2444*

At about 3 pm on 19 April 2005 near the mouth of the Hastings River, Port Macquarie, the leg rope of a surfer became entangled in the rocks trapping him in the strong currents and rough seas. The first rescue attempt was by Mr Pickworth but he was beaten back by the strong currents. Mr Geoffries, who had run to the beach, took over Mr Pickworth's surfboard and also attempted unsuccessfully to reach the distressed man. Lifeguard Mr Gordon on a rescue board undertook the third rescue attempt but again the strong currents thwarted his effort. At this point the now unconscious man was dislodged and washed down the river. For a short time Mr Gordon was able to reach and hold the unconscious man but again the rough seas drove them apart. A nearby fishing boat approached and with the assistance of Mr Geoffries the man was taken aboard. After realising no-one aboard the fishing vessel could administer CPR Mr Geoffries swam back to the boat and worked for about 10 minutes on the unconscious man until they reached ambulance personnel at the boat ramp. Unfortunately the man did not survive.

**22. CERTIFICATE OF MERIT**

*Ambulance Officer Ian Brenton, Ambulance Service of NSW*

*for his actions disarming and controlling a violent patient at Rosebery, NSW 2018*

Responding to backup ambulance officers attending an agitated hypoglycaemic elderly male at Rosebery on 2 March 2005 Ambulance Officer Brenton observed the man pick up a kitchen knife. Officer Brenton successfully disarmed the man but in doing so was punched in the head resulting in swelling to his face and ear. The elderly male was eventually subdued and medication administered.

**23.24.  
25.26. BRONZE MEDALS**

*Alex Jimenez, Hoxton Park*

*Senior Constable Wayne Robinson, NSW Police Force*

*Constable Nikolas Kokotovich, NSW Police Force*

*Constable Amanda Holloway, NSW Police Force*

*for their actions at the scene of a house fire at Bossley Park, NSW 2176*

Arriving at a house fire at Bossley Park at about 11.55pm on 21 April 2005 Senior Constable Robinson, Constable Kokotovich and Constable Holloway were advised a 14 year old boy was inside. In a separate response Mr Jimenez had arrived at the fire where he was told about the trapped boy. Gaining access to the house by smashing a window, Mr Jimenez eventually located the unconscious

boy under a bed. Senior Constable Robinson had also managed to enter the burning building. Meeting up with Mr Jimenez they then carried the boy to a window of the building. In a concurrent action Constables Kokotovich and Holloway had also entered the burning house searching for the boy. Constables Kokotovich and Holloway assisted Senior Constable Robinson and Mr Jimenez to remove the boy from the burning building to safety.

**27.28.29. CERTIFICATES OF MERIT**

*Sergeant Brett George Boyd, NSW Police Force*

*Constable Jamie Lee McPherson, NSW Police Force*

*Patrick O'Connor, Ballina*

*for their actions in the rescue of a man from the surf at Shelley Beach, Ballina, NSW 2478*

On 3 July 2005 at about 3.40pm a man entered the sea at Shelley Beach, Ballina, with the intention of committing suicide. Arriving at the beach Sergeant Boyd and Constable Jamie McPherson, after discarding equipment and boots entered the water accompanied by an IRB crewmember Mr O'Connor. Following a struggle in the water Sergeant Boyd, Constable McPherson and Mr O'Connor managed to restrain the man and bring him ashore.

**30. BRONZE MEDAL**

*Elwin Lawrence Riley, Mudgee*

*for his actions at the scene of a caravan fire at Burrendong Dam, Mudgee, NSW 2850*

At about 7.30pm on 13 September 2005 a caravan at Cudegong River Caravan Park, Mudgee, caught on fire severely burning the occupant. Mr Riley, a resident of the park went to the scene and despite the flames and heat managed to drag the man from the burning van. Another resident, Mr Shane Morris then arrived at the fire and assisted Mr Riley to drag the man onto a lawn.

While Mr Riley drove off to raise the alarm another site resident, Mr Shane Amidy, fearing a possible gas explosion assisted Mr Morris to move the injured man further away from the burning caravan. Mr Amidy then tried to extinguish the flames on the man's body using wet blankets until the arrival of the ambulance.

Mr Shane Morris and Mr Shane Amidy received Letters of Commendation for their actions during this incident.

**31.32.33. BRONZE MEDALS**

*Constable John Robert Smith, NSW Police Force*

*Senior Firefighter Jason Warner, NSW Fire Brigades*

*Senior Firefighter Scott Habgood, NSW Fire Brigades*

*for their actions during a house fire at Dubbo, NSW 2830*

At about 7.40pm on 15 December 2004 emergency services were called to a house fire at Dubbo where 3 children were trapped inside. Constable Smith entered the building on two occasions but due to smoke and heat was unable to locate the children. Senior Firefighters Warner and Habgood entered the burning building through the front of the house and conducted a search using a thermal imaging camera. Senior Firefighters Warner and Habgood had to progress through the lounge room full of furniture all alight, and negotiate through the collapsed air conditioning ducting with a tangle of red hot

wire. After searching the entire house they located and removed the children from the building where colleagues immediately commenced CPR.

Prior to the arrival of emergency services Mr Vincent Walford, Mr Eric Dixon and Mr Richard Cubby had broken down a deadlocked laundry door of the burning house and released a woman trapped inside.

Messrs Walford, Dixon and Cubby received Letters of Commendation for their actions.

**34.35. BRONZE MEDALS**

*Retained Firefighter Damian Nugent, NSW Fire Brigades*

*Retained Firefighter Glenn Pattie, NSW Fire Brigades*

*for their actions in the rescue of a 15 year old boy who was trapped in a collapsed sand hole at Tura Beach, NSW 2548*

On the morning of 18 September 2005 a group of youths dug a large hole approximately 3 metres deep and 3 metres wide in the sand at Tura Beach. The trench collapsed and a boy was trapped up to his waist. Emergency service officers and members of the public attempted without success to free the trapped boy. In a worsening situation caused by a huge storm ambulance officers had breathing apparatus on the boy's face fearing he could be buried alive.

Retained Firefighters Nugent and Pattie were face down in the hole removing sand from the boy's feet with partial collapses of sand occurring as each attempt was made to pull the boy free.

Despite the danger of eminent collapse the firefighters remained at their task until the boy was finally rescued nearly two hours after the initial sand collapse.

**36. BRONZE MEDAL**

*Filia Lafo, Lurnea*

*for the rescue of his younger brother from a garage fire in the backyard of their home at Lurnea, NSW 2170*

On 30 September 2005 a young boy, aged 2 years old became trapped in a garage fire at about 9.30am at his home in Lurnea. His elder brother Filia Lafo, 13 years old, ran from the house and despite the flames went into the burning garage and rescued the toddler. During the rescue Filia received superficial burns.

At the time of the rescue Filia's 16 year old sister was in her bedroom doing homework unaware of the garage fire and his mother was not at home.

**37. SILVER MEDAL**

*Craig Meaney, Bonnyrigg Heights*

**38.39.40. BRONZE MEDALS**

*Senior Constable Alan James Grant, NSW Police Force*

*Michael Chillemi, Townsville*

*Trent West, Berwick*

*for their actions in the rescue of persons trapped in a crashed motor vehicle on fire at Telegraph Point, NSW 2441*

A serious head on collision between two cars occurred on the Wilson River Bridge at Telegraph Point on 5 January 2005. The first car containing the driver, a woman passenger and three children immediately caught fire in the engine bay. In the second car the driver and his passenger were trapped, this vehicle then caught fire.

Four motorists at the scene of the accident, Mr Meaney, Senior Constable Grant (not on duty at that time), Mr Chillemi and Mr West went to the assistance of the victims .

In the first car Senior Constable Grant pulled the three children to safety. Mr Meaney went to the assistance of the trapped and badly injured woman until she was eventually freed and moved away from the vehicle. Meanwhile Mr Chillemi continually used fire extinguishers and liquid drinks on the fire to extinguish the flames. In the second car Mr West went to the assistance of the lady driver and with the help of some people removed her to a place of safety.

At the scene of the first car the driver remained trapped and injured with Senior Constable Grant shielding him from the flames while Mr Meaney, despite the flames and smoke cut the seat belt and got the injured driver onto the car door window ledge. With the fire getting fiercer and onlookers yelling for everyone to stand clear Mr Meaney stayed and his desperate calls for assistance encouraged Messrs West, Grant and Chillemi to finally pull the driver free minutes before the whole car burst into flames.

**41.42.43. CERTIFICATES OF MERIT**

*Nicholas Graham Day, Broken Hill*

*Susanne Avril Caskey, Broken Hill*

*Nicholas Peter Mannion, Broken Hill*

*for their actions at the scene of a helicopter crash and fire near Broken Hill, NSW 2880.*

At about 6.50pm on 6 October 2005 a 2 seater helicopter crashed in darkness about 200 metres west of Calindary Homestead approximately 270 km north east of Broken Hill. On impact the helicopter disintegrated and burst into flames however both the pilot and passenger had been thrown clear of the wreckage of the accident.

Mr Day and Ms Caskey immediately drove to the scene of the accident. Mr Mannion contacted Emergency Services from the homestead before gathering pillows and blankets and making his way to the crash site.

At the burning helicopter, pistol ammunition and other objects of the aircraft were exploding and the surrounding bush was alight. Ms Caskey located the injured passenger and stayed with him. Mr Mannion searched for the pilot and eventually found him entangled in the bush and very seriously injured. Mr Day returned to the homestead and using a front end loader cleared the site for access by emergency vehicles.

Despite all the assistance rendered the pilot died at the scene and the passenger later removed by the Royal Flying Doctor Service lost his right leg below the knee.

**44.45. BRONZE MEDALS**

*Leading Senior Constable Phillip John Mounce-Stephens,  
NSW Police Force*

*Firefighter Jason Leo, NSW Fire Brigades*

*for their actions in the rescue of two persons from floodwaters at Broken Hill, NSW 2880*

At about 9.30pm on 6 November 2005 flash flooding at Broken Hill left 2 people trapped inside their sedan vehicle in a fast moving torrent in a storm water channel.

After securing a line Senior Constable Mounce-Stephens and Firefighter Leo entered the swiftly flowing waters. Another firefighter stayed at a midway point between the car and the waters edge while Senior Constable Mounce-Stephens and Firefighter Leo successfully removed the occupants one-by-one to safety.

Almost immediately after the rescue the vehicle was swept away and had its roof crushed after colliding with a steel footbridge.

**46.47. SILVER MEDALS AND GALLEGHAN AWARDS**

*Senior Constable Matthew James U'Brien, NSW Police Force*

*Special Casualty Access Team(SCAT)  
Paramedic Paul Kernick, Ambulance Service of NSW*

*for their actions in the rescue of a man from a cliff face at  
Mt Wilson, NSW 2786*

At about 7am on 3 September 2005 a base jumper at Mount Wilson suffered an accident stranding him injured about 120 metres below the cliff face and about 130 metres above the cliff base. With the majority of the cliff face exposed rock, access to the injured man was extremely difficult.

The rescue helicopter was unable to perform a direct winch access. Due to this problem Senior Constable U'Brien and Paramedic Kernick had to abseil down to the injured man with medical and access equipment.

Paramedic Kernick treated the injuries and placed the man in a spinal immobilisation splint. In a most difficult manoeuvre, after several attempts, Senior Constable U'Brien was able to assist the hovering helicopter crew to get a line and winch hook to Paramedic Kernick and the injured man. Despite considerable rotor wash, with the line controlled by Senior Constable U'Brien at the cliff face, both the injured man and Paramedic Kernick were winched to the helicopter and proceeded to Nepean Hospital, but not before Paramedic Kernick experienced difficulty entering the helicopter due to his position in the harness and the small door on the rescue helicopter.

Senior Constable U'Brien abseiled to the base of the cliff with the rescue equipment and was retrieved from the scene at 4.30pm that day.

**48.49.50. CERTIFICATES OF MERIT**

*Senior Constable Michael James Moy, NSW Police Force*

*Retained Firefighter Alexander Singh, NSW Fire Brigades*

*Ambulance Officer James Alexander Thompson, Ambulance Service of  
NSW*

*for their actions at the scene of a fire and explosion at a building in  
Tamworth, NSW 2340*

As a result of an explosion in a café in Tamworth at about 10pm on 14 November 2005, an elderly woman in a neighbouring property was trapped beneath a large portion of a collapsed wall.

Despite the nearby restraint fire , and the proximity of a large number of gas cylinders, Senior Constable Moy, Retained Firefighter Singh and Ambulance Officer Thompson worked together to effect a successful evacuation of the badly injured woman.

*During the year, the following awards were also made:*

**LETTERS OF COMMENDATION**

*Aaron Lindsay Picker, Crooked Corner \**

*Geoffrey George Rutherford, Gilgandra*

*Lyndon Barry Dunn, Elizabeth Downs SA*

*Robert Daniel Beattie, Parafield Gardens SA*

*Scott Michael Barnes, Boggabri*

*Brian William Stallworthy, Glasshouse Mountains QLD*

*Shane Leslie Morris, Mudgee*

*Shane Michael Amidy, Mudgee*

*Vincent Mark Walford, Moree*

*Eric Dixon, Bourke*

*Richard Cubby, Dubbo*

\* Aaron Picker, aged 13, was commended for brave conduct in assisting his father in a medical emergency on a property at Bigga, NSW 2583 on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2004.

**ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES**

**Balance Sheet - as at 30 June 2008**

	Note	2008 \$	2007 \$
Current Assets			
Cash assets	3	301,387	289,531
Inventories-Medals on hand		215	421
Accrued Income		2,610	1,777
 Total Assets		 304,212	 291,729
 Accumulated Funds	 4	 304,212	 291,729

**Income Statement - for the financial year ended 30 June 2008**

	Note	2008 \$	2007 \$
Revenue from Ordinary Activities			
Donations		11,840	5,280
Interest		18,265	15,456
Sale of Miniatures		70	-
		30,175	20,736
 Expenses from Ordinary Activities			
Annual Award Presentation		4,941	1,932
General Expenses		770	480
Honorarium	6	7,150	7,150
Insurance		159	159
Postage		703	488
Printing and Stationery		3,964	3,600
Rent		5	-
		17,692	13,809

Net Profit	12,483	6,927
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**Statement of Cash Flows – for the financial year ended 30 June 2008**

	Note	2008 \$	2007 \$
Cash Flows from Operating Activities			
Receipts from activities and donors		11,076	6,122
Interest received		18,265	15,456
Payments to suppliers and employees		(17,486)	(13,143)
Net cash (absorbed) provided by operating activities	9	11,855	8,435
Effect of rounding		1	
Cash at the beginning of the financial year		289,531	281,096
Cash at the end of the financial year		301,387	289,531

The accompanying notes form an integral part of this Statement of Cash Flows

**Notes to the Financial Statements – for the year ended 30 June 2008**

**Note 1. Summary of Accounting Policies**

**Financial reporting framework**

The financial statements have been prepared as a general purpose financial report which complies with the requirements of Australian Accounting Standards (including Australian Accounting Standards Board Interpretations) and other mandatory professional reporting requirements and the Charitable Fundraising Act.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historic cost convention and do not take account of changes in either the purchasing power of the dollar or in the prices of specific assets.

**Significant accounting policies**

Accounting policies are selected and applied in a manner which ensures that the resultant financial information satisfies the concepts of relevance and reliability, thereby ensuring that the substance of the underlying transactions and other events is reported. The accounting policies used are consistent with those adopted in the previous year.

The following significant accounting policies have been adopted in the preparation and presentation of the financial report.

**Income tax**

The Society has been endorsed as an income tax exempt charity entity under subdivision 50-B of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997.

The Society's Australian Business Number is 68 581 296 689.

**Note 2. Constitution of the Society**

The Society is an unincorporated body, founded on 25 July 1877.

All of the property of the Society is vested in the Trustees of the Society. Moneys may be invested in any investment authorised by the Trustee Act 1925-1942 of New South Wales or any amendment thereof.

Upon dissolution, assets and funds on hand may, after payment of all expenses and liabilities, be handed over to such registered or exempted charity or charities as a majority of the members present at a General Meeting may decide.

**Note 3. Cash Assets**

	<b>2008</b>	<b>2007</b>
	<b>\$</b>	<b>\$</b>
General Account		
Cash at bank	26,636	14,826
Cash on short term deposit at bank	274,531	274,531
Petty cash	220	174
<b>Total Cash Assets</b>	<b>301,387</b>	<b>289,531</b>

The cash on short term deposit at bank earns a fixed rate of interest, depending upon the period for which it is invested. In the year ended 30 June 2008, this rate ranged from 6.15% to 6.75% (2007 5.00% to 6.15%)

#### **Note 4. Accumulated Funds**

Accumulated Funds at the beginning of the financial year	291,729	284,802
Net profit	12,483	6,927
Accumulated Funds at the end of the financial year	304,212	291,729

#### **Note 5. Remuneration of Officers**

The members of Council and the Honorary Treasurer and Honorary Secretary are appointed on an honorary basis and do not receive remuneration either directly or indirectly.

#### **Note 6. Remuneration of Assistant to the Secretary**

An honorarium is paid to the Secretary's Assistant	7,150	7,150
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#### **Note 7. Remuneration of Auditor**

The Auditor is appointed on an honorary basis and does not receive remuneration either directly or indirectly.

#### **Note 8. Financial Instruments**

##### **Credit Risk**

Credit risk refers to the risk that a counterparty will default on its contractual obligations resulting in financial loss to the Society. The Society has adopted the policy of only dealing with creditworthy counterparties as appropriately credentialed as a means of mitigating the risk of losses from defaults. The carrying amount of financial assets and liabilities as shown on the face of the Balance Sheet represents the maximum credit risk to which the Society is exposed.

##### **Net fair value**

The carrying amount of the financial assets and liabilities as shown on the face of the Balance Sheet represents the net fair value of the financial assets and liabilities at the reporting date. All of these assets and liabilities are of such a nature that they are not readily traded.

#### **Note 9. Notes to the Statement of Cash Flows**

Reconciliation of Net cash (absorbed) provided by Operating Activities to Operating profit.

Operating Profit	12,483	6,927
Net cash provided by operating activities before changes in net assets and liabilities	12,483	6,927
Changes in net assets and liabilities (Increase) decrease in:		
Other current assets	(628)	1,508
<b>Net cash (absorbed) provided by Operating and Financing Activities</b>	<b>11,855</b>	<b>8,435</b>

### **COUNCILLOR'S DECLARATION**

In the Councillors' opinion:

1. the financial statements and notes:
  - (a) give a true and fair view of the financial position as at 30 June 2008 and performance, as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows, of the Society for the year then ended; and
  - (b) comply with Australian Accounting Standards;
2. there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Society will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable;
3. The income statement gives a true and fair view of all income and expenditure of the organisation with respect to fundraising appeals;
4. The balance sheet gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the organisation with respect to fundraising appeals;
5. The provisions of the Charitable Fundraising Act, the regulations under the Act and the conditions attached to the fundraising authority have been complied with by the organisation; and
6. The internal controls exercised by the organisation are appropriate and effective in accounting for all income received and applied by the organisation from any of its fundraising appeals.

Made in accordance with a resolution of the Council.

**The Hon. Justice C. R. HOEBEN, AM RFD**  
**Chairman**

**E.R. TEMPLE, FCA**  
**Honorary Treasurer**

**18 August 2008**

## **INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT**

**To the Royal Humane Society of New South Wales:**

### **Scope**

*The financial report and Councillors' responsibility*

The financial report comprises the balance sheet as at 30 June 2008, the income statement, statement of cash flows, and accompanying notes to the financial statements, and the Councillors' declaration for the year ended 30 June 2008 as set out herein.

The Councillors of the Royal Humane Society are responsible for the preparation and true and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with the Society's rules. This includes responsibility for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and internal controls designed to prevent and detect fraud and error, for the accounting policies and for the accounting estimates within the financial report.

*Audit approach*

We conducted an independent audit in order to express an opinion to the members of the Royal Humane Society of New South Wales. Our audit was conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards, in order to provide reasonable assurance that the financial report is free of material misstatement. The nature of an audit is influenced by such factors as the use of professional judgement, selective testing, and the inherent limitations of internal control and the availability of audit evidence which may be persuasive rather than conclusive.

Accordingly an audit cannot guarantee that all material misstatements have been detected.

We performed procedures to assess whether, in all material respects, the financial report presents fairly, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia, a view which is consistent with our understanding of the Royal Humane Society's financial position, and of its performance as represented by the results of its operations and cash flows.

We formed our audit opinion on the basis of these procedures which included:

- Examining, on a test basis, information to provide evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial report, and
- Assessing the appropriateness of the accounting policies and disclosures used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the directors.

While, when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, we considered the effectiveness of the Councillor's internal controls over financial reporting, our audit was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls.

### **Independence**

In conducting our audit, we followed applicable independence requirements of Australian professional ethical pronouncements.

### **Qualification**

Donations (including bequests) are a significant source of revenue for the Society. The Society has determined that it is impracticable to establish control over those donations prior to entry into its financial records. Accordingly, as the evidence available to us regarding revenue from this source was limited, our audit procedures with respect to such revenue activities had to be restricted to the amounts recorded in the financial records. We therefore are unable to express an opinion whether proceeds of donations the Society obtained are complete.

### **Qualified Audit opinion**

In our opinion, except for the effects on the financial report of such adjustments, if any, as might have been required had the limitation on our audit procedures referred to in the qualification paragraph not existed,

1. the financial report of the Royal Humane Society of New South Wales:
  - (a) gives a true and fair view of the Society's financial position as at 30 June 2008 and of its performance for the year ended on that date; and
  - (b) complies with Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory financial reporting requirements in Australia;
2. the financial report gives a true and fair view of the financial results of fundraising appeals for the financial year;
3. the financial report and associated records have been properly kept during the financial year in accordance with the provisions of the Charitable Fundraising Act 1991 and the regulations thereto; and

4. at the date of this report there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Royal Humane Society of New South Wales will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

**HLB MANN JUDD  
(NSW Partnership)  
Chartered Accountants**

**Sydney  
21 August 2008**

**David McGrane  
Partner**

**The Royal Humane Society of New South Wales  
gratefully acknowledges the continuing support  
of its major donors.**

**The New South Wales Government**

**N.R.M.A. Insurance**

**DONATIONS RECEIVED IN RESPECT OF  
THE YEAR ENDED  
30<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2008**

Premier's Department

NRMA

Mr J.D.O.Burns

Conglomerate Coins & Medals

K.J. & M.L. Mountain

Major General The Hon. Justice C.R. Hoeben

Rear Admiral A.L. Hunt

Commissioner G. Mullins

Mr A.F. Batley

Mr R.J. Hein

Mr S. J. Doyle

Rear Admiral The Hon. A.R.O. Rowlands

Assistant Commissioner R. May

Mr E.R. Temple

Maj R.H. Millbank

