



Royal Humane Society
of New South Wales

Annual Report 2020/21



Founded 1877



PATRON IN CHIEF

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II



PATRON

Her Excellency The Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC
Governor of New South Wales

PRESIDENT

Mr Donald McDonald AC

CHAIR

Colonel Alexander (Fred) Dangar (Ret'd)

VICE CHAIR

Mr David Turner

HONORARY SECRETARY AND PUBLIC OFFICER

Mr Peter Stathis AFSM

HONORARY TREASURER

Mr Chris Honey

COUNCILLORS

Major General The Honourable Justice Clifton Hoeben AM RFD (Ret'd)

Mrs Beatrice Gray

Ms Di Truss

Commissioner Michael Fuller APM, NSW Police Force

Commissioner Paul Baxter QSO, Fire and Rescue NSW

Commissioner Dominic Morgan ASM, NSW Ambulance

Commissioner Rob Rogers AFSM, NSW Rural Fire Service

Commissioner Carlene York APM, NSW State Emergency Service

HONORARY PUBLICITY OFFICER

Major John Hoban (Ret'd)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Mr Michael Delman

LIFE GOVERNORS

Major General Raymond Sharp AO RFD ED (Ret)

Mr Alan Batley AM

Mr Stewart Doyle

Rear Admiral The Honourable Alwynne Rowlands AO RFD QC RANR (Ret'd)

Rear Admiral Anthony Hunt AO RAN (Ret'd)

LIFE MEMBERS

Mr Robert May APM

Major Roland Millbank MA MPhil JP (Ret'd)

HONORARY SOLICITORS

Mr G Reinhardt
Norton Rose Fulbright, Australia

AUDITOR

Mr Mark O'Connor BCom CA CIA
Partner, Cutcher & Neale

BANKERS

National Australia Bank

WEBMASTER

Mr James Hanney

PAST PRESIDENTS

1877 - 1921 Mr F. H. Dangar
1922 - 1930 Mr A F. Robinson
1932 - 1938 Mr W. A. MacKay
1959 - 1966 Lieutenant General Sir John Northcott KCMG KCVO CB KStJ
1968 - 1984 His Honour Sir Adrian Curlewis CVO CBE
1985 - 1989 Sir Neville Pixley MBE GCStJ VRD
1990 - 1999 Air Marshal Sir James Rowland AC KBE DFC AFC KStJ
2001 - 2014 The Honourable Sir Laurence Street AC KCMG QC

PAST CHAIR

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 L.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 (Ret'd)
2001 - 2003 Vice Admiral I.D. Mac Dougall AC AFSM RAN (Ret'd)
2004 - 2006 Rear Admiral AL. Hunt AO RAN (Ret'd)
2007 - 2009 Major General The Honourable Justice C.R. Hoebe AM RFD
2010 - 2012 Rear Admiral AL. Hunt AO RAN (Ret'd)
2013 - 2015 Mr R. Hein AM
2015 - 2017 Rear Admiral The Honourable A Rowlands AO RFD QC RANR (Ret'd)
2017 - 2020 Mrs B. Gray

OFFICE OF THE SOCIETY

Level 3 City of Sydney Fire Station
213 Castlereagh Street, SYDNEY NSW 2000
PO. Box A830, SYDNEY SOUTH, NSW 1232
Telephone (02) 9265 2773
www.braveryaward.org

ROYAL HUMANE SOCIETY OF NEW SOUTH WALES Incorporated

Instituted 25th July 1877

ABN Number: 68 581 296 689

Founded in 1877 to recognise human bravery when saving or endeavouring to save life.

144th ANNUAL REPORT for the YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

CHAIR

Colonel Dangar



The Council of the Society is pleased to provide the 2020-2021 Annual Report.

The Society appreciates the enthusiastic involvement of our President Mr Donald McDonald AC in our activities and we are very grateful for the support he has provided during this year.

AWARDS

The Awards for 2020-2021, described later in this Annual Report. Comprise the Galleghan Award, 1 Gold Medal, 12 Silver Medals, 20 Bronze Medals, 0 Pixley Award, 1 Certificate of Merit and 3 Letters of Commendation.

Her Excellency The Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC Governor of New South Wales normally presents the Awards at an Investiture Ceremony at Government House Sydney, however due to COVID-19 Pandemic restrictions it was necessary to postpone the 2020 Investiture Ceremony to March 2021.

Regrettably, due to the COVID-19 restrictions in place at time of writing, it was again necessary to postpone 2021 Investiture Ceremony to 2022 when it is hoped all the current restrictions will be eased.

STANHOPE GOLD MEDAL (UNITED KINGDOM)

The Stanhope Medal is an international award given annually by the Royal Humane Society United Kingdom, for the most courageous and heroic rescue of the year.

Our Society was delighted to receive the news that the 2021 recipient of the Stanhope Gold Medal was the Society's nominee Mr Jamie Ingram who we congratulate on joining the List of distinguished recipients of the Award.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Society's 143rd Annual General Meeting was held on Monday 7 December 2020, when Councillors and Office Bearers were elected for twelve months.

RECOGNITION AS A NATIONALLY REGISTERED CHARITY

The Australian Charities and Not-for-Profits Commission (ACNC) was inaugurated in 2013 with a requirement that all charities within the Commonwealth must be registered with the Commission. The Society received recognition in 2013.

FINANCE

The Society's audited balance sheet as at 30 June 2021 and its income and expenditure account for the financial year ending 30 June 2021 appear at the back of this Annual Report.

DEDUCTIBLE GIFT RECIPIENT STATUS

During 2019 and 2020 significant work was undertaken by the Society and its Honorary Solicitors, Norton Rose, in preparing an application for the granting of Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status for the Society. This was instigated by the then Chair, Mrs Beatrice Gray. Deductible Gift Recipients (DGRs) are organizations which can receive donations that are tax deductible. If a donation is tax deductible, donors can deduct the amount of their donation from their taxable income when they lodge their tax return.

DGR status was granted to the Society in the Federal Budget dated 6 October 2020. As part of the approval process, Treasury required an update to the Society's Constitution to reflect the necessary oversight protocols to be implemented by the Society in conjunction with the granting of DGR status.

The proposed amendments to the Constitution were agreed by the Australian Tax Office (ATO) on behalf of Treasury, as well as by the Society's Executive Committee and Council members during 2020 and early 2021 and approval for the amendments was obtained at a Special General Meeting of Members held on 6 September 2021.

Work is now underway in conjunction with the Society's Honorary Solicitors to apply to NSW Fair Trading to register a change to the Constitution as well as to formally notify the ACNC of the updated Constitution.

APPRECIATION

The Royal Humane Society of New South Wales continues to operate with a limited budget. As such, I am grateful for the continued support of the Society's Councillors who gladly give of their time in an honorary capacity. The modest revenue derived from contributions is spent exclusively on the administrative costs of the Society's Charter "to recognise human bravery when saving or endeavouring to save Life".

The Society is most grateful for the Vice Regal Patronage it is accorded by Her Excellency The Honourable Margaret Beazley AC QC Governor of NSW. Our annual Investiture is facilitated by the Office of the Governor and Her Excellency's Official Secretary Colonel Michael Miller RFD who provides outstanding assistance to this Vice Regal occasion.

The New South Wales Government is a long-time annual and valued supporter of the Society.

Fire and Rescue NSW provides the Society with our office and meeting room as well as media support for the Investiture Ceremonies.

The NSW Police Force, Fire and Rescue NSW, and Ambulance Service of NSW remain major contributors to investigating and reporting upon cases presented to the Council.

We are most grateful for the financial assistance provided by the Premier of NSW, Minister of Police & Emergency Services, NSW Police Force, Fire and Rescue NSW, Police Association of NSW, NSW TPI Association, Employees of the NSW Fire Brigades Relief & Welfare Fund and Mr J.D.O. Burns.

Photographs are provided by Rob Tuckwell Photography, Official Photographer to the Governor of NSW.

There remains no shortage of heroes in the State of New South Wales. Ordinary people rising to meet extraordinary challenges bravely. Such actions deserve public recognition as part of the community's gratitude and encouragement for others to follow the same spirit when life is at risk and they can help.

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

I wish to acknowledge Ms Di Truss who retired from the Society in this reporting period, and thank her for her commitment and support of the Society during her tenure. In particular I thank Ms Truss for her tireless work in investigating and providing written reports on potential award recipients.

Finally, I thank and acknowledge Mrs Beatrice Gray for her time as our Chair. Mrs Gray was instrumental in the Society gaining DGR status as well as resolving several technical legal issues. Mrs Gray was also instrumental in expanding the donor base of the Society which has ensured its financial standing going forward. During her tenure as Chair, Mrs Gray ensured the Society operated with integrity and remained steadfast in upholding the Society's Charter and standards.

BACKGROUND TO THE SOCIETY

The Royal Humane Society of New South Wales was instituted on 25 July 1887. The Society was formed as the National Shipwreck Relief Society and held its first meeting at the Royal Exchange, Sydney on Friday 25 July 1887.

In 1902 His Majesty King Edward VII gave approval for the Society to be known as the Royal Shipwreck Relief and Humane Society of NSW.

In 1968 Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II approved the change of name to the Royal Humane Society of NSW in common with all Commonwealth Nations.

The Society was Incorporated on 26 February 2010.

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Society is to give public recognition to acts of bravery by bestowing awards on those who risk their own lives in saving or attempting to save the lives of others and by so doing promote brave and courageous acts in the community and benefit the public in general through encouragement of such acts.

HOW THE SOCIETY FUNCTIONS

The management of the affairs of the Society is vested in a Council consisting of a Patron, a President, a Chair, and Vice-Chair, Councillors, an Honorary Secretary/Public Officer, an Honorary Treasurer, Publicity Officer, Auditor, and Solicitor.

All nominated cases of reported bravery are investigated by the Society. Such investigations involve reports from the New South Wales Police Force and the Emergency Services. Copies of all reports are distributed to Officers and Councillors of the Society in advance of meetings to enable consideration to be given to them before discussion. Voting at meetings determines the granting of an award.

KINDRED SOCIETIES

A warm relationship continues with our kindred Royal Humane Societies in the Commonwealth of Nations.

THE SOCIETY'S AWARDS

The Society's Awards are the Galleghan Award, Gold Medal, Silver Medal, Bronze Medal, Certificate of Merit, Letter of Commendation, and the Sir Neville Pixley Award. The latter is a special award to recognise bravery by a young person in the performance of a humane act.

The Galleghan Award was instituted in 1996 and recognises the most outstanding act of bravery in the year.

The 2021 Galleghan Award was awarded to Mr Jamie Ingram.

The winner of the Galleghan Award is the New South Wales Society's nomination to the Royal Humane Society (United Kingdom) for consideration to receive the Stanhope Gold Medal.

THE GALLEGHAN AWARD



GOLD MEDAL



SILVER MEDAL



BRONZE MEDAL



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 gold, silver or bronze star emblem is worn centrally on the ribbon to denote the class of medal awarded to the wearer.

Members of the Australian Defence Force, Police, and Emergency Services who are the recipient of a Royal Humane Society Award are entitled to wear that award in accordance with their respective Service protocols.

STANHOPE GOLD MEDAL

The Stanhope Gold Medal, an award of the Royal Humane Society (United Kingdom), 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 submitted by the Royal Humane Society of New South Wales to the Royal Humane Society (United Kingdom) for the "Bravest of the Brave" award, the Stanhope Gold Medal, have been successful on ten occasions:

It is pleasing to report that the 2021 Stanhope Gold medal was awarded to Mr Jamie Ingram.

- 1963 Frederick John Knight
- 1965 Lieutenant Barry J Campbell RAA
- 1980 Bruce Wallace McPherson
- 1982 Dulcie Kalms
- 1992 Rodney Stephen Peters
- 1993 Aaron Ledden
- 1996 Constable Ian Maurice Boughton
- 2001 Dr Richard Morris
Ambulance Paramedic Christopher Wilkinson
Ambulance Paramedic Paul Featherstone
- 2008 Oguz (Alex) Taskun SC
- 2014 Andrew Cochran
- 2020 Nicola Gilio
- 2021 Jamie Ingram



MEDALS AWARDED IN RECOGNITION OF THE FOLLOWING BRAVE DEEDS ON 12 MARCH - 2021

CASE 2019/21

SILVER MEDAL

Mrs Sarah Wright

BRONZE MEDAL

Mrs Christine Mancer

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

Mrs Coco Binder

For their actions in rescuing a woman from a dog attack at Umina Beach on 20 June 2019.



CASE 2019/22

BRONZE MEDAL

Leading Senior Constable Ben Elder

For his actions in rescuing people from a fire in a block of home units on 29 June 2014.



CASE 2019/23

BRONZE MEDAL

Senior Constable - Joel Apthorpe
Senior Constable - Hansell Pereira
Senior Constable - Ethan Tesoriero
Constable - Benjamin Cashmere

For the rescue of a person who had fallen on a railway line and was entrapped under a train at Warwick Farm on 28 June 2016.



CASE 2019/24

SILVER MEDAL

Mr Isah Makki
Sergeant Bruce Jarvis

BRONZE MEDAL

Senior Constable Joseph Zammit
Senior Constable Cameron Adams
Senior Constable Alexander Prins
Senior Constable Sean Smithers
Senior Constable Regan Burnett
Detective Senior Constable Joshua Murphy
Constable Dana Wasilenia
Former Inspector Rafic Ajaka

For their actions in the evacuation of the occupants of a burning unit block at Bexley on 5 August 2013.



CASE 2019/25

SILVER MEDAL

Constable Jarryd May
Leading Senior Constable Stewart Bailey

For their actions in rescuing an injured rock fisherman at Clovelly on 15 April 2017.



CASE 2019-26

SILVER MEDAL

Mr Russell Horne

For entering his neighbours house which was on fire and rescuing a woman prior to the Police and FRNSW arriving at Young on 19 August 2018.



CASE 2019/27

LETTER OF COMMENDATION

Mr Christopher Wright

For his action in rescuing a woman from her house which was on fire prior at Balgowlah on 17 April 2018.



CASE 2020/01

SILVER MEDAL

Senior Constable Sarah Ryan

BRONZE MEDAL

Senior Constable David Patterson

For their actions in rescuing a teenager at Chipping Norton Lake on 4 January 2012.



CASE 2020/03

GOLD MEDAL

Mr Nicola Gilio

BRONZE MEDAL

Mr Jeffrey Stack

For their actions in rescuing a young girl who had been sexually assaulted and in detaining the offender at Kogarah on 15 November 2018.



CASE 2020/03

GALLEGHAN AWARD

Mr Nicola Gilio

For his actions in rescuing a young girl who had been sexually assaulted and in detaining the offender at Kogarah on 15 November 2018.



CASE NO: 2020/04

BRONZE MEDAL

Senior Constable Steven Thorpe

For his actions in saving a woman from drowning in Lake Mulwala on 26 November 2017.



CASE NO 2020/05

SILVER MEDAL

Detective Senior Constable David Kerrsmith

For his actions in assisting with the rescue of two persons at Snapper Point on 24 January 2015.



CASE 2020/06

SILVER MEDAL

Firefighter Christopher Sherring

For his efforts in saving the lives of two persons and evacuating four other persons at risk in a house fire at Banora Point on 14 March 2019.



CASE 2020/08

SILVER MEDAL

Mr Bradley Johnston

For his actions in rescuing the driver of a vehicle from the Hawkesbury River on 27 June 2018.



CASE 2020/10

SILVER MEDAL

Mr Terry Townsend

For his efforts in attempting to save the life of a driver trapped in his burning vehicle after an accident at Corowa on 22 April 2018.



CASE 2020/11

BRONZE MEDAL

Mr Scott Targett

For his actions in rescuing a driver from a burning vehicle following a motor vehicle accident on the M1 Motorway near the Hawkesbury River on 17 August 2014.



CASE 2020/12

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Senior Constable Nathan Snow-Jones

For his efforts in the attempted rescue of a male at Ben Chifley Dam near Bathurst on 22 November 2014.



CASE 2020/14

BRONZE MEDAL

Senior Firefighter Eddie Vaysbakh

For his efforts in attempting to save the life of a neighbour in a house fire at Dover Heights on 3 September 2019.



CASE 2020/15

BRONZE MEDAL

Mr Kevin Dowd

For assisting a man from a burning vehicle at South Lismore on 28 September 2016.



Photos of the 2020 Investiture Held March 2021 at Government House, Sydney



SILVER MEDAL

Mr Bradley Johnston



SILVER MEDAL

Mr Isah Makki



BRONZE MEDAL

Mrs Christine Mancer



BRONZE MEDAL

Senior Constable Hansell Pereira



SILVER MEDAL

Firefighter Christopher Sherring



BRONZE MEDAL

Constable Dana Wasilenia



STANHOPE GOLD MEDAL, GALLEGHAN AWARD AND GOLD MEDAL

Mr Nicola Gilio

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



www.braveryaward.org