



Australian Government

IT'S AN HONOUR

Australia Celebrating Australians

Star of Courage

The Star of Courage is awarded for acts of conspicuous courage in circumstances of great peril.

It is the second highest Australian Bravery Decoration.

About the award

Australian Bravery Decorations date from the establishment of the Australian honours system in February 1975. The Group Bravery Citation was added in 1990.

The decorations recognise acts of bravery by members of the community. They selflessly put themselves in jeopardy to protect the lives or property of others.

There are four levels of awards for individuals:

- Cross of Valour (CV)
- Star of Courage (SC)
- Bravery Medal (BM)
- Commendation for Brave Conduct

There is also the Group Bravery Citation, an award for a group of people involved in a single incident.

How it is awarded

Anyone may nominate any other person for a bravery decoration. The nomination may be for a brave act by an Australian citizen in Australia or overseas.

A citizen of another country carrying out a brave act in the interest of Australia may also be nominated.

Australian Bravery Decorations may be made posthumously.

Nominations are considered by the Australian Bravery Decorations Council, which makes recommendations to the Governor-General. The Council also recommends the level of awards.

There is no set timeframe for announcing bravery awards. Generally there are two each year in April and August.

Past recipient story

The first Star of Courage was awarded to Terry Heydon Gleeson in 1976. He attempted to rescue a badly burnt man who had been painting the interior of a tidal marker when an explosion occurred.



The Star of Courage is a silver, ribbed star with seven points ensigned with the Crown of St Edward

Medal design

The Star of Courage is a silver, ribbed star with seven points ensigned with the Crown of St Edward. The obverse has the shield and crest of the Commonwealth Coat of Arms surmounted by a Federation Star. A suspender bar is engraved with the words For Courage.

Medal ribbon

The ribbon is blood-red with a central magenta band.

Fast facts

POST NOMINAL:

SC

INTRODUCED INTO THE AUSTRALIAN HONOURS SYSTEM:

1975

AUSTRALIAN BRAVERY DECORATION NOMINATIONS:

For more information on making a nomination contact:

Honours Secretariat
Government House
Canberra, ACT 2600
Ph: 1800 552 275

More information

IT'S AN HONOUR WEBSITE: www.itsanhonour.gov.au