

THE NEW ZEALAND BRAVERY MEDAL (N.Z.B.M.)

Hamish Everett NEAL (Deceased)

Date of action: 10 February 2000

Date of award: 23 October 2005

Citation

On 10 February 2000, Mr Hamish Neal, aged 15 years, was on a school trip to the Waihao River. While swimming in the river at a point known as the "Black Hole", a fellow student got into trouble and sank beneath the surface. Mr Neal swam over to him and attempted to pull him to safety. Mr Neal was unsuccessful in the attempt and was instead pulled down with him and both students drowned. Both students were members of a special class for children with varying degrees of learning and behavioural difficulty at Waimate High School.