

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

Patrick Anthony RICE Constable, New Zealand Police

Date of action: 23 September 1993

Date of award: 23 October 1999

Citation

On 23 September 1993, Constables Pleydell and Rice pursued a man in a motor vehicle who had just committed an armed robbery of a bank in Auckland City. The offender abandoned his getaway vehicle and threatened two members of the public with a loaded pistol. Fearing for the safety of these people the two unarmed constables approached the gunman and Constable Pleydell confronted him but, despite being knocked off balance by a moving Police vehicle, the gunman levelled his pistol at Constable Pleydell. Fearing that the offender would shoot, Constable Rice tackled the man and was able to knock him to the ground, which gave both constables the opportunity of overpowering and subduing the offender. Constable Rice's actions almost certainly saved the life of Constable Pleydell and in doing so he assisted in the apprehension of one of the country's most wanted criminals.