



## **2008 RUSSELL MEDAL**

### **LACHLAN NALLY**

At 12.30am on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2008, Lachlan Nally, aged 11 years was a passenger in a car driven by his father Matthew, aged 36 years, on the isolated Red Hill to Koolunga Road, Koolunga, South Australia, when the car swerved off the road and hit a pole. The car then went up a 3 metre embankment and turned over.

Lachlan who received a seatbelt burn to his neck, bruising to his head and a graze on his back in the accident, immediately checked to see if his father was OK. He saw that his father had stopped breathing and his chest was not moving.

Lachlan remembered the basics of CPR he had learned at a RLSS Australia Seminar at his school and he began mouth to mouth resuscitation. His father then began breathing again.

He realised his father needed urgent medical help and he ran some three kilometres to the nearest town to get help. He ran bare footed as he had lost his shoes in the accident. Lachlan said "I was scared and it was pitch black and I couldn't see anything because it was dark". He knocked at the door of a hotel whose owner called the emergency services. He then drove to the overturned car with Lachlan and stayed until medical help arrived.

Chief Inspector Graham Goodwin of the South Australia Police said "He performed CPR on his father and had the courage to run three kilometres down the track to raise the alarm that to me is one of the most heroic acts I've seen".

**For his quick thinking and courageous act, Lachlan Nally is awarded the  
Russell Medal**