



1960 Mountbatten Medal – David Taylor

On the night of the 28th of November, 1960, in complete darkness, David Taylor, a 17 year old apprentice electrician, heard cries for help coming from the River Ribble at Preston, Lancashire. There was no one about and without hesitation or consideration for his own safety he dived into the river, which at this point is 120 feet wide. He found a woman who was a non-swimmer and who at first fought hard against his efforts to help her. After being carried some 50 yards down river, Taylor managed to get the woman to the bank, which is 6 feet high, and got her ashore with the help of another young man who had by then arrived on the scene. Despite his immersion in very cold water, Taylor then applied artificial respiration until the arrival of an ambulance which took the woman to hospital, where she recovered

David Taylor holds the Bronze Medallion of the Royal Life Saving Society which he gained at St Stephen's School, Preston, in 1958.