



## **1964 Mountbatten Medal – Lynda Dann**

On the afternoon of Sunday, 26th July, 1964, a 12 year old boy and a 10 year old girl were wading in Racehorse Creek, Alberta, and suddenly slipped into deep water. The boy's father, a non-swimmer, went to their assistance and was able to push the boy towards a bystander by whom he was pulled to safety. He and the girl then disappeared below the surface of the water. Lynda Dann, aged 15, who had been called to the scene, removed her shoes and swam out into the pool. At a point indicated from the shore she dived, and after two attempts, found the girl floating unconscious a foot or so below the surface. After towing her about 10 yards to the shore Lynda Dann handed the girl over to a man, who successfully applied artificial respiration, and returned to search for the boy's father. The search was made difficult by a strong current, and there was a risk of her being swept into a nearby whirlpool formed by the junction of Racehorse Creek with Vicary Creek. After searching for approximately 45 minutes in the cold water, which might well have induced cramp, Lynda Dann recovered the dead body of the man from a depth of 8 feet of water. Lynda Dann gained the Bronze Medallion on 27th July, 1963, exactly a year before the accident, as a member of the Vulcan Lions Club. From the report she appears to have been the only one of some 30 people present who was capable of going to the assistance of the man and girl in deep water.