



## **1977 Mountbatten Medal – Pauline McLean**

On 15th August 1977, Mr. and Mrs. John Telfer, who were on holiday in Guernsey, took out a dinghy which began to be carried out to sea by tide and currents. Mr. Telfer being a non-swimmer, his wife entered the water and tried to push the dinghy back to shore until she suffered an asthmatic attack. Mr. Telfer, finding himself unable to get his wife back into the boat, waved to people ashore, some of whom, including the couple's married daughter, Mrs. Pauline Audrey McLean, entered the water to swim to their rescue. The others were obliged to turn back but Mrs. McLean kept going despite high waves and currents and eventually had to swim about a mile to reach the dinghy, where she supported her mother, who was by this time almost unconscious. A surf sailor succeeded in getting Mrs. Telfer aboard his craft and returned her to shore. Mrs. McLean then swam to shore pulling the dinghy with her father in it. But for Mrs. McLean's courageous effort, her mother will certainly have been drowned.