



1981 Mountbatten Medal – Evan Franklin Davies

On Thursday, 28 August, 1981, at the West Parade, Rhyl, Clwyd, North Wales, Paul Doran (aged 16) from Liverpool entered the sea to swim. The sea was rough and a force six north westerly wind was blowing the spring high tide onto and over and the sea wall. When Doran got into difficulties, his two friends, Alan Carson (aged 18) and Neil Michael Savage (aged 19), entered the water in an attempt to save him. Two beach lifeguards employed by the Rhuddlan Borough Council, Evan Franklin Davies (aged 23) and Derek Denton (aged 28) on patrol observed all three youths being swept out of their death. Whilst Denton entered the water to rescue a conscience casualty, Davies summoned help using his personal radio, then enter the water to rescue and resuscitate one of the casualties who appeared unconscious; he was unable to complete this rescue due to the prevailing conditions without the help of the life line brought from the shore by Denton. All three casualties were given expired air resuscitation and, with the two rescuers, were subsequently treated in hospital

Evan Franklin Davies holds the Award of Merit of the Royal Life Saving Society - United Kingdom, which he gained at Rhyl Life Saving Club in May 1980. Without his presence of mind in co-ordinating this action, in summoning assistance promptly, and in affecting a successful rescue in conditions that had prevented the launching on inshore lifeboat, up to three lives would have been lost. In recognition of his gallantry the Mountbatten Medal of the Royal Life Saving Society for 1981 is awarded to Evan Franklin Davies.