



Commonwealth Lifesaving
The Royal Life Saving Society

2011 Mountbatten Medal

PC 6619 Mohamad Reshad Fatehmamode

On 20th March 2011 two holiday makers were reported trapped in a cave below the cliff at Gris Gris beach in Mauritius after being swept off the cliff by a huge wave. Onlookers alerted the Coast Guard and a group from the Souillac National Coast Guard which included PC Fatehmamode, a Bronze Medallion holder were sent to the location.

After assessing the situation the rescuers concluded that with the force of the waves their outboard was useless. It was determined that the best way to get to the trapped couple was to descend the cliff which PC Fatehmamode did with a rope tied around his waist and aided by his colleagues at the top. He then jumped into the water but it took at least 10 minutes to reach the cave where the couple were due to the waves and strong current. When we reached the cave the woman was crying and panicking and the man was in shock. After managing to calm them down he explained to them how he would get them out although initially the woman would not leave the rock onto which she was clinging to. He tied a life buoy, which he had taken with him, around the woman's waist and swam with her towards the cliff during a lull in the waves. Once at the foot of the cliff the other coast guards assisted her to the top with a rope. Once the woman was safely at the top PC Fatehmamode who was now exhausted went back to the cave to rescue the man. Again he tied the life buoy around his waist and swam to the cliff before the man was pulled to the top by the other Coast Guards.

Both victims suffered minor injuries and were transferred to Souillac Hospital for treatment.

**For his determination and courage in difficult conditions PC Fatehmamode
is awarded the 2011 Mountbatten Medal**