



Commonwealth Lifesaving
The Royal Life Saving Society

2014 Mountbatten Medal

Tamara Loiselle

On the morning of 29th December 2014, Tamara Loiselle, a Royal Life Saving Society award holder from Canada was on a beach in Cancun, Mexico when she heard screams from two swimmers who were in trouble far out in the ocean.

Although other people including security guards from a nearby complex had been drawn to the beach by the screaming no one seemed willing or able to help. Armed with a life preserver and a rope secured to a reel on the beach, Tamara swam beneath the waves, which were coming fast and furious. One wave knocked the wind out of her and at one point the rope that was connecting Tamara to the beach became stuck for a while so that she couldn't move. Once she managed to get the rope free she continued swimming until she reached a man, he pleaded with her to continue and rescue a woman who was further out to sea.

Tamara let the man grab onto the life preserver and they both swam out to the woman who, by the time they reached her, was gasping for air, totally exhausted and unable to swim anymore.

Once Tamara ensured everyone was holding onto the rope, the men on the beach began to pull them back to shore where they were greet by paramedics. Although neither victim sustained any injuries both were traumatised by the events that took place.

For her brave and selfless actions Tamara Loiselle is awarded the

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