

Guernsey Sports Commission Trophy awarded for the outstanding performer of the year

Citations for previous winners 2010 to 2019

2010 – Lee Merrien

Having made the decision to step up to marathon running, Lee made his debut at the London Marathon last April finishing a very creditable 11th overall and 4th Britain home. This gained him selection in to the Great Britain squad for the European Championships in Barcelona later on in the summer. Due to the hot conditions a fast time was never really an option but as the race wore on Lee got in to the top 10 and finished in an excellent 8th position; the 1st Britain home, finishing minutes clear of runners that had beaten him in the London Marathon.

2011 - Alison Merrien

Alison put her supporters' nerves through the proverbial mangle, when she lifted the Langham Glass Trophy as the new World Bowls Tour Women's Matchplay singles champion.

It may not have been her most commanding performance, but Alison showed guts and determination aplenty on the portable rink at Potters Leisure Resort to overcome top Aussie Karen Murphy, 9-5, 0-11, 2-1, in a nail-biting final.

At the same event Alison teamed up with Nottingham's Simon Skelton to win the WBT world mixed pairs matchplay championship. Merrien and Skelton upstaged the favourites, City of Ely club mates Ellen Falkner and Greg Harlow, winning a high quality, nail-biting final on a best-of-three-ends tiebreak, 5-7, 8-7, 2-0.

Elsewhere, Alison lost out to Jo Edwards of New Zealand in the World Indoor Cup singles and was bronze medalist at the World Outdoor Champion of Champions.

2012 – Heather Watson

Heather has continued her amazing progress on the international tennis circuit competing against the best tennis players in the world. The 20 year old Sarnian has competed in all of the four grand slam tennis tournaments in 2012 and as we have already heard is now ranked as the number one British woman tennis player. Importantly she has achieved her own personal ambition for 2012 by breaking in to the top 50 in the world rankings - she is currently ranked 47 in the list of women's tennis association players.

2013 - Tobyn Horton

Tobyn has had his best ever season with his team, UK Youth being crowned the top UK based professional cycling team. Tobyn played a major part in UK Youth's success with the team comfortably winning the Tour Series, which is a series of 11 town centre races. As these races were televised Tobyn could be seen on many occasions at the front of the bunch chasing down breaks and ensuring that UK Youth were the team to beat. As we heard a little earlier, Tobyn also had a successful Island Games in Bermuda.

Tobyn was the leader of the cycling team in the Bermuda Island Games where he was the dominant male rider. Probably his most satisfying race was in the criterium when Tobyn was not feeling very well. He outfoxed the two Jersey professional cyclists in the race to win what was his third consecutive criterium gold medal.

2014 - Miles Munro

Miles Munro has had an incredible year culminating in him gaining selection to represent Great Britain – firstly at the European Junior Championships held in Dordrecht, where he demolished the British Junior Record in the 50 Freestyle with a time of 22.58 seconds, which would see him place 4th overall. In the men's 4 x 100 Freestyle Relay, team GB finished in gold medal position with Munro producing the fastest split time of the quartet.

Apart from Miles' success at European Junior Championships in Dordrecht, his second GB representation was at the Youth Olympic Games held in Nanjing where he placed 6th overall in the 50 Freestyle and once again produced the swim of his life in the 4 x 100 Freestyle, producing the second fast split time overall to assist team GB into gold medal glory.

His success throughout 2014 culminated in his selection to GB's World Class Podium Potential programme.

2015 - Chris Simpson

In the highly competitive sport of men's professional squash, Chris has maintained his record of staying in the top 25 of the World Rankings. His biggest win this year came in the St George's Hill Classic where he beat World Number 16 and No 1 seed Daryl Selby in the final. Chris was selected to represent England in the European Team Championships where the team narrowly lost to France in the final. Chris was also selected to represent England in the 2015 World Team Championships but were unfortunately cancelled. Chris was also a member of the Inter Insular team that secured Guernsey's first win for eight years when he beat Jersey's Mike Hopkins in the final rubber.

2016 - Cameron Chalmers

Cameron Chalmers. The highlight of Cameron's year was his performance in the World U20 Championships. He qualified for the semi-final of the 400m and in taking his Guernsey junior record down to an outstanding 46.51sec he agonisingly missed out on the final by one place. However he had demonstrated his ability to give his best performance when it mattered.

Prior to Cameron's performance in the World U20's Championships, he had already claimed numerous titles and podiums, including: UK indoor and outdoor junior champion, UK senior indoor silver medallist, British Universities' indoor and outdoor champion, and Scottish senior indoor champion. In addition to that he broke championship records in recording victories at the U20 South of England Indoor Championships and the U20 Hampshire County Champs 400m – the latter a long standing record previously held by Olympic silver medallist Roger Black. He finished the season ranked 1st in the UK U20 rankings and 14th in the UK senior rankings. Cameron also claimed two British All-Time U20 rankings of 5th indoors and 19th outdoors. He was also the fastest junior 400m athlete in Europe for 2016.

2017 - Cameron Chalmers

Cameron represented his country at senior level for the first time at the European Team Championships in Lille where he ran the third leg of the 4x400m relay. This honour was followed by a bronze medal at the nationals and subsequently selection for the 4x400m relay squad for the IAAF World Championships. In the meantime he was to travel to Poland to represent Great Britain at the European U23 Championships. He finished fourth in the 400m but with what he described at the time as his career highlight he anchored the British relay team to victory with a scintillating leg of 45.12sec. The remainder of his summer was cut short by a hamstring injury.

For the second year in a row, Cameron was a standout performer on the national 400m scene. He began the year in encouraging form indoors as he took the silver medal at the senior British Championships for the second year running and retained his British Universities title – this time equalling the championship record in the process with an indoor PB of 46.91sec.

Outdoors he enjoyed even bigger success. He opened his campaign again in the colours of the University of Bath and retained his British Universities outdoor title at Bedford. In doing so he obliterated Tom Druce's 6-year old Island record and also claimed the championship record with a new PB of 45.71sec. Later that month he won the Loughborough International event with another sub-46sec clocking before heading back to Bedford in June for the national England U23 Championships. He came away with another title, another championship record and another Island record and PB of 45.64sec – a time which ranks him 44th in the all-time senior UK rankings and 5th in 2017. More about Cameron later.

2018 - Alastair Chalmers

In 2018 Alastair started the year by setting a new personal best on his senior Commonwealth Games debut in Australia. He then regrouped and prepared for a big summer season. This began with Great Britain U20 selection at the Loughborough International before he retained his national U20 title in June. This meant he was selected for the IAAF World Junior Championships in Tampere, Finland. Ala smashed his PB and broke the British U20 record in the semi-final with a time of 50.11sec before claiming 6th place in the final. He was not finished there as he ran the third leg of the 4x400m relay to set GB up for a surprise bronze medal. He finished the year as the fastest European junior over 400m hurdles.

2019 – Sam Culverwell

A breakthrough year for Sam in so many ways but also very difficult to pick out one achievement where there were so many, from Island Games criterium gold to his victory in the Bachte-Maria- Leerne Kermeese in Belgium. However, his best achievement was finishing 12th in the Senior National Championships having crashed with 25 km to go. The strength of the field that day attracted the top riders from across the country making it a great result for Sam.

We have already covered the highlight of Sam's year but there are so many other notable performances. 3 National B triumphs in the Midlands, Ipswich and Kent, second in National A race at the Bourne CiCLE Festival and following on post Island Games and National events, a few weeks sampling the amateur Kermesse that Belgium has to offer. At which Sam was a winner twice and runner up twice.