



The 15 young people who were presented with the Duke of Edinburgh's Award gold by Bailiff Sir Richard Collas at a ceremony at Government House. (Pictures by Steve Sarre, 14317200)

# Gold is ultimate award for D of E achievers

ULTIMATE Frisbee was among the activities which helped young people achieve a gold Duke of Edinburgh award.

Some 15 young people were presented with the award at Government House.

Achieving the award saw them take part in diverse activities, such as volunteering in orphanages in Thailand, environmental and conserva-

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tion projects in Guernsey and abroad as well as Ultimate Frisbee in Italy.

They had to work through five sections of the programme – volunteering, physical, skills, expedition and a residential section over at least five months.

The Bailiff, Sir Richard Col-

las, who presented the awards, said they should be proud of their achievements – and encourage others to take part in the scheme.

‘Congratulations. It is no wonder the Duke of Edinburgh is the most popular scheme of its kind in the world. You are now ambassadors for the scheme.’

Thomas Fitzgerald, 18, took

part in a number of activities to achieve his gold, including competing at the British Public Schools Fencing Championships and achieving a place on the Junior Commonwealth Games team, which he did in South Africa.

Despite this, he maintained the highlight of his award was being marooned on Lihou with seven girls for a week.

‘I am really proud of my achievement. Having done the previous awards, it convinced me to keep going through to the gold.’

All of the gold award holders are to be invited to attend a presentation at St James’ Palace in London, to receive their certificates and met award patron and founder, The Duke of Edinburgh.

There was also a special presentation and thank you to a team from Cazenove Capital Management, who raised some £48,000 for D of E in Guernsey and the Bailiwick.

It will be used to increase the provision of the programme across the Bailiwick, specifically working with disadvantaged young people.

To raise the money the team took on the Yukon Arctic Challenge, covering 300 miles in eight days across frozen lakes, hills and mountains dragging a sled laden with survival gear in temperatures as low as minus 50C.



Capturing the moment. Proud parents had their opportunity to take their own pictures of the gold award winners. (14317202)