

In the spotlight...

Ollie Hudson

Hudson looks to build on 'sensational achievement'



On target: Elizabeth College student Ollie Hudson, 17, became what is believed to be the youngest ever winner of the local Guernsey Summer Prize Meeting's grand aggregate event last week. (Picture by Adrian Miller, 12868449)

AFTER a pair of 'sensational' achievements already this month, the sky looks the limit for standout young shooter Ollie Hudson after another memorable weekend. Still only 17, the Elizabeth College student became what is believed to be the youngest winner ever of the local Guernsey Summer Prize Meeting's grand aggregate event. He saw off competition from visitors including Commonwealth Games competitor Bruce Horwood from Jersey, as well as those from the National Rifle Association. It is a feat that has attracted considerable praise from all quarters and has delighted Mike Creber, who has been coaching the teenager for the past year. 'To do that at the age he is, against the quality of field

Shooter Ollie Hudson has enjoyed something of a meteoric rise this year, with the 17-year-old student harnessing his potential and producing some stunning results. **Matt Lihou** reports

there was, was a sensational achievement and is quite remarkable really,' said Creber. 'The conditions down there at the weekend were grim and on the limit of what you can shoot in, so to master those better than experienced shots is incredible.' However, it is not the first time during 2016 that Hudson has caused waves in the local shooting fraternity with his level of performances. Earlier this summer at Bisley, he

finished as high as 28th in the St George's Final – a feat that many of his more experienced local colleagues have never achieved. It has been something of a meteoric rise for Hudson, with Creber admitting that these levels of display seemed unlikely even at the beginning of 2016. 'Ollie has always had talent and been a very good shooter, but nobody could have foreseen what he has produced in the last few weeks and months.

'But he has harnessed the potential he has had and has put every aspect together on a consistent basis and has rocketed up as a result. 'You could call it a purple patch but I am confident that even if he does plateau for a bit, he won't go backwards and that given his consistency, he will produce superb performances year after year now.' But where next for Hudson? 'Having seen Phin [Barber] win the island title as a teenager for the first time a couple of weeks ago, I am sure that Ollie will have that as a target as well now,' continued Creber. 'It is a realistic target but one that he shouldn't become solely fixated on, because there is so much for him to look forward to in the next few months and years.'

OLLIE HUDSON
Age: 17
Sport: Rifle shooting
Club: Guernsey Rifle
Notable achievements: 2016 winner of Guernsey Summer Prize Meeting's grand aggregate event