

# Charlie Thompson

## Versatile winger forces himself into U18 frame

A likely starter in this weekend's Junior Muratti, this College and Rovers winger is highly thought of by his coaches, writes **Matt Lihou**

HE COULD play a key role this weekend as Guernsey look to win back the Junior Muratti and beyond that, Charlie Thompson has been tipped as a potential senior island player of the future.

The Sarnians travel across the water to Jersey on Saturday looking for their first under-18 win in three years and Rovers player Thompson is among the attacking options.

Whether he is part of Martin Scott's starting XI for the match remains to be seen, but if he is, it could be off either the right or left-hand side, as this winger can cause problem on both flanks.

His island coach Scott is a big fan. 'Charlie is technically a very good player, he has good vision, he is quick, strong, good on the ball, can beat players, has a good passing range and is a good finisher,' he said.

'He is right-footed, but can operate off either flank because when he is on the left, he enjoys cutting inside onto his right foot and causing problems that way.

'I haven't decided on the starting line-up just yet for Saturday's game but initially I was planning on using him as an impact sub, but after an excellent performance in a friendly we had last weekend, he has pushed himself up the order.'

Regardless of what happens this weekend, Thompson has been tipped to go on and become a distinguished player in the years ahead of him.

He is in the final year of the under-18 age range, meaning he will be making the step up to regular senior football from next season.

'I don't see any reason, as long as he keeps on improving, why he can't be a senior island player of the future and certainly, he is good enough to be regularly playing Priaulx football,' said Scott.

'What we are working on with Charlie is his game management from a defensive perspective because although he is a great attacking option, he also needs to help out defensively.

'That is something that he perhaps hasn't been that used to doing in the past, but he is working hard on it and he has all the attributes to be a top player. It is those kind of attacking players who are always enjoyable to watch and can win you a game.'



### CHARLIE THOMPSON

Age: 18  
Sport: Football  
Club: Rovers  
Position: Winger

Notable achievements: Included in island teams for various age group inter-insulars against Jersey in recent years; a key member of the Rovers team that won the under-16 local league in 2013.