



The Deputy Bailiff Richard McMahon hosted a reception for the Guernsey competitors going to the 2015 Commonwealth Youth Games in Samoa. Left to right: Sara Parfit (swim team manager), Annalise Munro, Courtney Butcher, Deputy Bailiff Richard McMahon, Brent Oldfield, Patrick Ogier (tennis team manager) and Guernsey's chef de mission David Harry. (Picture by Tom Tardif, 10310617)

Bound for Samoa

THE quartet that will represent Guernsey at next month's Commonwealth Youth Games were wished good luck by the Deputy Bailiff yesterday evening.

With the start of a lengthy trip to the Pacific Ocean and specifically Samoa now just five days away, swimmers Courtney Butcher and Annalise Munro, as well as tennis player Brent Oldfield, were given

an official send-off from Richard McMahon.

Oldfield's younger brother Jack – also in the tennis draw – is the fourth member of the team but is still training at his base in Spain ahead of departing for the week-long event.

Ahead of what is the fifth staging of the competition, the team's chef de mission David Harry urged all of the team to give it their

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best shot.

'It is impossible to know exactly what to expect about the competitors from other countries that will take part, until the day of competition,' he said.

'But all we hope for is that they all go there, give it their best shot and come back with personal best

performances on what is a worldwide stage.'

Butcher is the most experienced of the four as she has already competed at a full Commonwealths last summer in Glasgow.

She will swim the 50m, 100m and 200m distances in both freestyle and backstroke, while Munro will swim the full complement of five freestyle disciplines, as well as the 50m

breaststroke.

As for the Oldfield brothers, they will team up in the boys' doubles and younger sibling Jack will be the sole Sarnian entrant into the singles competition.

Tennis saw Guernsey's sole former medallist in the Games, when Heather Watson won singles gold in Pune in 2008.

This year's Games run from 5-11 September.