

# Around the Boundary

Award-Winning Official Newsletter of the Jersey Cricket Board

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## JERSEY CRICKET ANNUAL 2007

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## NATWEST PRESENTATION DINNER 2007



*Ryan Driver with Jerry Whitsey of NatWest*

FORMER county cricketer Ryan Driver is Jersey's Player of the Year after his superb efforts with bat and ball for Romeril's and the Island over the past few months. He was presented with the trophy by former England Test bowler Angus Fraser at the NatWest Cricket Dinner last weekend. The evening was a celebration of a brilliant season for Jersey cricket at so many levels, during which they firmly established themselves as excellent hosts and competitors on the European scene to go along with their associate membership of the ICC. And the evening could hardly have had a better start when Jerry Whitsey, of long-standing sponsors NatWest, announced a further two-year deal worth £50,000 for Jersey cricket.

And another big success story - junior cricket in general - was again highlighted when Rathbone's Old Victorians Edward Farley (19), a regular in their Premiership line-up, won the Jersey Evening Post Young Cricketer of the Year award after scoring centuries for Jersey's successful U19s and U23s.

Highlands student Paul Connolly lifted the Weekend League Division I Young Cricketer of the Year having scored 148 runs from eight innings for Romerils (average of 18.86) as well as taking 15 wickets at a cost of 15.26 each. He also turned out for Sloggers in the Evening League, scoring 245 runs.

Those in the running for the night's top award, won by Driver, included Springfield bowler Simon Parker (22 Weekend wickets); Ward Jenner of Rathbones Old Victorians, who scored 475 runs in the Weekend at an average of 59.38 as well as taking a dozen wickets; Serial winner Matt Hague of Fairbairn Sporting Club, the Island captain, has scored 553 runs at the Weekend including one century against St Ouen for an average of 55.30 he also took 14 wickets at an average of 18.50; Another Island player, Chris Jones of OVs, hit 546 runs in the Premier Division for an average of 60.67, including a ton against Mavericks, as well as taking 17 wickets at an average of 22.18.

Mark Saralis also won an award, for services to cricket, from the Island's umpires and scorers, while the President's award went to Nikki Holmes for her excellent Jersey Cricket Board newsletter as well as her assistance in organising ECC events.

Jerry Whitsey of NatWest presented the various team trophies won during this memorable season for Jersey Cricket.



## OVs CHANNEL ISLANDS CLUB CHAMPIONS

Rathbones Old Victorians are the NatWest Channel Islands Club Champions after beating Guernsey Mavericks in the final by 123 runs. It could be argued that the first ball of the innings decided the fate of the Championship after opening batsman Jonny Gough was dropped by Mavericks' captain Justin Meades. Gough went on to make 153 not out, ably assisted by his captain Chris Jones who reached 100 not out off the last ball of the OV's innings, the pair forging a 250 partnership. OV's eventually amassed 295 for 2 from 45 overs.

Meades admitted afterwards, "If I had taken that first wicket, first ball, it would have changed the whole tone of the game but I dropped it. Ultimately we didn't get enough wickets but I also think OV's deserved their win because they were outstanding in the field. They were restricting us to ones when they had been running twos. We never had any momentum and having to chase such a big total, we lost early wickets because of that pressure. Even though we lost the game, we beat both the Islands' champions to get here."

OV's captain Chris Jones said, "Before the game we spoke about how each one of the first four batsmen had to stand up and be counted. We had decent batsmen to come in after that but we needed a big score from any one of the first four." Put into bat, OV's were 131 after 30 overs and were struggling to score runs before Gough and Jones accelerated the rate to a run a ball in the final stages of the game. Jones added, "The ball was moving around early on, which made it hard to score. I think after 14 overs I'd only scored 14 runs. But the game was played in a really good atmosphere and I felt for Meadsie when he dropped that catch." Jonny Gough was man of the match.

## STANDARD BANK U16 COUNTY FESTIVAL RESULTS

### Final

#### **Yorkshire v Ireland (50 over game) Grainville**

Yorkshire batted first scoring 180 all out. Dominic Sharp 82

Andy Balbirnie 2 for 28

Ireland 185 for 5

### 3rd and 4th Place

#### **Wales v Sussex (50 over game) Farmers Field**

Sussex batted first scoring 216 for 8

In reply Wales 218 for 4

### Plate Final

#### **Middlesex v Berkshire (50 over game) College Field**

Berkshire 167 all out

Middlesex 168 for 5

### 7th and 8th Place

#### **Channel Islands v Hampshire (50 over game) F.B.Fields**

Channel Islands batted first 86 all out Wahed Khan 3 for 32

In reply Hampshire 90 for 2 Phil Hughes not out 24

### Awards

**Standard Bank Trophy Winners**

**Ireland**

**Standard Bank Plate Winners**

**Middlesex**

**Bill Fielder Sportsmanship Award**

**Sussex**

This year also saw the introduction of a new award, Player of the Tournament, in memory of Tom Cartwright MBE who attended the festival for nearly 20 years. The inaugural award went to Andrew Balbirnie of Ireland with a batting average of 50.4 and a bowling average of 14.3.



*Ed Farley, JEP Young Cricketer of the Year with Angus Fraser*



*Paul Connolly, Weekend League Division 1 Young Cricketer of the Year with Angus Fraser*

## U11s IN TAUNTON

Seven Jersey youngsters were part of the Channel Island Team which competed in the English Schools Cricket Association U11s Tournament in Taunton, as reported in last month's newsletter. Led by captain, Stephen Le Maistre, the Jersey youngsters joined seven Guernsey players in a very competitive county tour. Five games were played and the CI team lost four, but improved with every game, growing in confidence with good all round performances from James Duckett and Rhys Palmer – wicketkeeper Elliot Corbel should also be commended for his performance. Notable bowling displays came from Dominic Blampied, Lee Evans and Curtis Chilvers who enabled the CI team to bowl Devon out on the final day. "All in all it was a very valuable experience to broaden the young cricketers' knowledge of the game on a wider spectrum to bring back and build on in the future," said Mark Palmer who coached the side along with Stephen Blampied. Guernsey's Jason Shambrook travelled as manager.

## ECC DIVISION 2 U15 CHAMPIONSHIPS

Jersey were beaten by Guernsey in the final of the ECC Division 2 U15 tournament held last month in La Manga in Spain. Jersey won the toss and fielded first which paid dividends with two quick wickets. However a championship-winning stand of 93 between Adam Hindle (48) and Thomas Kirk (29), who was dropped in the gully on 1, allowed Guernsey to post 189-7 in their 35 overs. In reply, with wickets falling at regular intervals Jersey finished 120-9 and Guernsey lifted the trophy. Chris Minty, Director of Cricket, said afterwards, "Guernsey played better on the day. Although we're disappointed to have been beaten in the final, the Jersey team's behaviour and conduct on and off the pitch was exemplary. They were excellent ambassadors for the Island." Guernsey's captain Thomas Kirk received the



*U15s team in La Manga*

*Photo courtesy of D.Bisson*

European U15 2nd Division Championships trophy from ECC Development Manager and Tournament Director Richard Holdsworth at the presentation dinner, and Kirk was also named as the Player of the Tournament, having scored 183 runs and taken 9 wickets in his five matches.

## TWENTY/20 INTER-INSULAR

THE cricket world may have gone Twenty/20 crazy but when it comes to Guernsey-Jersey matches it will be years - if at all - before it succeeds the annual 50-over game in terms of importance. Guernsey rather fell over the finish line for a five-wicket win in the first 20-over-a-side inter-island game, but both captains agreed that regardless of the result it was not quite the same as winning the one that has half-a-century of history behind it. It was good fun though. Stuart Le Prevost, Guernsey's skipper, said it was always nice to beat Jersey, but added: 'It's obviously slightly different and there's not quite the same intensity as the inter-insular.' Jersey captain Matt Hague was not about to disagree. 'It was treated by both sides as a bit more fun compared to the serious nature of the island game.'

Jersey squad: Matt Hague, Jonny Gough, Jamie Brewster, Bradley Vowden, Tony Carlyon, Chris Jones, James Caunt, Bobby Minty, Martin Waite, Tom Minty and Ryan Driver. Twelfth man: Jason Carpenter.

## JERSEY CRICKET

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## JCB CLOTHING

Available from  
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polos,  
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etc .

The Annual dinner brought the curtain down on the cricket season in style last Friday night. The event seems to have found a new lease of life and the success enjoyed by the various age groups representing Jersey this year, has certainly increased enthusiasm for the sport. The evening started well, with Jerry Whitsey of NatWest announcing a £50,000, two year sponsorship deal, met by rapturous applause and beaming faces from the top table. Brent Pilnick, the master of ceremonies, ensured a smooth transition from the early awards, through the player of the Year award and finally to Angus Fraser, who took to the podium shortly before midnight and kept the audience entertained for nearly an hour. The climax of the ceremony, for many, is the Player of the Year award, which this year appeared to rest between Ryan Driver and Chris Jones although Dean Morrison had set the judges the poser of evaluating his record breaking Evening League form. Despite Ryan Driver being quoted as the 5/4 fav, most local money was on 13/8 shot, Chris Jones, and Brent Pilnick's voice was almost lost amongst the loud cheers as he read out Jonesy's list of achievements. Admittedly the loudest were from the ubiquitous Old Victorian legion of players, many of whom, being members of the under 19's team, still have much to learn about the finer art of drinking, whilst maintaining a certain level of sobriety and respectability. Perhaps next year they should sit on Richard Gomersall's table, for a few pointers from the master. Hopefully Ryan Driver didn't take the ripple of boos, when he was nominated as the winner, as anything more than good natured banter, nothing more than the "You're nothing more than a pub bowler" type of comment that you are likely to hear on a Saturday afternoon, especially if Pete Blackburn is bowling to Tony Carlyon. Despite being a former Minor County Player of the Year this trophy means a lot to Ryan, and I would have to say that all those in the Island respect and value his presence in the game. That all sounds a bit mushy, but I think needed to be said. Just because he's a big guy doesn't mean he isn't sensitive, especially at this time, as he is still reeling from being hit for a straight six by Brownie a couple of weeks ago. He is also battling against the naturally xenophobic nature of the local population. A drive around the Island gives some indication why such a state of mind exists, the various forts and battlements show that not all visitors to the

Island have come bearing gifts, and a home grown winner is likely to be greeted with considerable fervor, especially after years of Australian Matty Hague plundering the prize. Anyone who listened to Ryan's post award interview, in which he managed to slur praise upon the Island team, rather than focus on his own individual achievements, will have been impressed by his modesty. It may be a few years however, before he reaches the heights of popularity enjoyed by home grown celebs, such as Jonesy, Wardy, Stevey, Tony and of course Brownie. Maybe it is nothing to do with his birthplace, looking at those names, it may just be that you can't add a Y to his name and create an endearing nick name. Ryany or Drivery just doesn't work, meaning he may struggle to become fully accepted within the cricketing ranks, unlike people like Evansy and Selvachandrany. Pete German is in a similar position, despite possessing a Y friendly name. He really has no chance; in fact, there is only one way things could be worse for him; if his name was Guernse.

One person who probably left the do a little bit disappointed to be empty handed was Jonny Gough, whose 153 not out in the final of the Channel Island Knock Out, failed to impress the selectors enough to award him the Cricketer of the Month award for that month. It seems the fact that he was dropped first ball somehow devalues the innings, and anything that happened after that doesn't count. Why can't people forget about one dropped catch? I just don't understand it. It's terrible that one dropped catch can totally devalue what was otherwise an imperious performance. Poor Richard Veillard of Guernsey experienced a similar backlash after he dropped what would have been the winning catch in the Inter Insular a few years ago, costing Guernsey the game, and despite subsequent achievements will be best remembered for that. Fortunately the people of Jersey are far more forgiving and, in time, Jonny Gough's innings will be remembered for what it was. I mean can you imagine Steve Carlyon for example, being remembered for anything other than being one of the best batsmen the Island has ever produced and who for so many years, including this one, has been the scourge of Guernsey? You can't, can you? The fact that the following week he dropped a dolly of a hat trick catch in the slips in the Over 40's Inter Insular, will soon, I'm sure, be forgotten. In fact I would imagine that in, say fifty years time, it may even bring a smile to the faces of those involved.