



The Hammer Circle

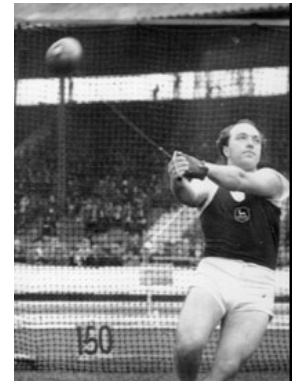
The Association of
British Hammer Throwers
Founded 1952



THE DON ANTHONY OLYMPIAN AWARD 2016



Don was one of the founder members of the Hammer Circle and had a highly successful 10 year international career resulting in a very respectable 12th place in the 1956 Melbourne Olympics. He also competed at the 1954 Commonwealth Games in Vancouver and the 1958 Games in Cardiff. In his Olympic year he broke the English native record several times and set his official lifetime best of 59.94m. Don also founded the Amateur Volleyball Association of Great Britain in 1955.



In 2007 Don received the IOC award for “Sport and promotion of Olympism”. Olympism is a social philosophy which emphasises the role of sport in world development, international understanding, peaceful co-existence, and social and moral education. “One of the greatest achievements, therefore, of any athlete is to become an Olympian”.

The inaugural award was provided and presented by Jean and Shaun Pickering at the Hammer Circle’s 60th Anniversary dinner in Bedford for their wonderful achievements as the youngest participants to qualify for the Final in their first Olympic Games – Sophie Hitchon and Alex Smith.

The award for 2016 was presented to Sophie Hitchon for her tremendous achievements in the final of the Rio Olympics in breaking the British Record and taking the Bronze medal. Sophie showed exceptional strength and determination in the competition having entered the Olympic final ranked only 20th in the world. The award was collected by her father Michael on her behalf at the 2016 Hammer Circle Reunion.

The Don Anthony Olympian Award will be available on occasions that someone related to the Hammer Circle, or the sport itself, embodies the principle of Olympism in an exceptional way that deserved suitable recognition.



