



NatWest Island Games 2011
25 June – 1 July

PRESS RELEASE dv3

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ISLE OF WIGHT STUDIO GLASS CREATES MEDALS FOR NATWEST ISLAND GAMES 2011

One of the UK's leading studio glass designers, Isle of Wight Studio Glass Limited based in St. Lawrence, has been commissioned by the 2011 NatWest Island Games Organising Committee to produce 1555 gold, silver and bronze glass medals which will be presented to the winning athletes at the Games this June.

The Isle of Wight glassmakers worked with the Games graphic designers, Octopus Designs, to create these medals, the first time a glass medal has been presented at a major international sporting event. Winning athletes from the NatWest Island Games will not only take home the glory of winning at the Games but will also be carrying back a unique medal created for them on a sister island.

David Ball, Chairman of the IW Island Games Association said: "This is truly a great compliment for these two local companies to be commissioned to design and produce the Games medals, which I am sure are destined to be a collector's piece".

Tim Harris, MD and Master Glassmaker said. "In order to make these medals we have used over half a ton of glass, with six different processes. A tremendous amount of work goes into the creation of the medals. Each medal is hand thrown in hot glass, with colour blends, is then polished, etched, sandblasted and filled with Gold, Silver and Bronze"

265 Commemorative medals will also be presented to dignitaries and officials as a memorable gift of this auspicious occasion.

There will also be a limited edition souvenir made by Isle of Wight Studio Glass which can be purchased from the Games Office throughout the week. These can also be ordered after the Games have taken place.

Around 3000 athletes and officials from 25 member islands around the world will be attending the NatWest Island Games which take place on 25 June – 1 July. The athletes, many of whom compete at international and world championship level, will compete in several hundred events across 14 sports during the course of six days.

The sports involved are archery, athletics, badminton, basketball, cycling, football, golf, sailing and windsurfing, shooting (clay and target), squash, swimming, table tennis, tennis and volleyball. The events will be held at 30 locations across the Island.

The NatWest Island Games take place every two years and is one of the largest participation events in the world behind the Commonwealth Games and Olympics. The Games this year will be the biggest to date, and will also be the largest international multi-sport event ever held on the Isle of Wight,

Further details about the NatWest Island Games 2011 can be found at www.natwestislandgames2011.co.uk and www.islandgames.net

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NOTE TO EDITOR

1. Could you please refer to the event as the NatWest Island Games 2011 (not "Island Games" or 'The Games') at the start of articles and in headlines, and as "the games" mid copy, as appropriate. Thank you.
2. Background :
 - The International Island Games were established in the Isle of Man in 1985 and today include 25 member islands in, or associated with, the nine sovereign nations of Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Norway, Spain, Sweden, UK plus the Caribbean :

Aland (Finland)	Alderney	Bermuda
Cayman Islands	Falkland Islands	Faroe Islands
Froya (Denmark)	Gibraltar	Gotland (Sweden)
Greenland	Guernsey	Hitra (Norway)
Isle of Man	Isle of Wight	Jersey
Menorca (Spain)	Orkney	Price Edward Island (Canada)
Rhodes	Sark	Saareem (Estonia)
Shetland	St Helena	Western Isles
Ynys Mon		
 - In 1999, NatWest became the title sponsor of the Island Games.
 - The NatWest Island Games 2011 are being run by the Island Games Association (Isle of Wight) supported by the IW Council, which is also a sponsor.
 - The NatWest Island Games were last held on the Isle of Wight in 1993.

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