



NatWest Island Games 2011
25 June – 1 July

PRESS RELEASE dv2

6 June 2011

CLOSING CEREMONY TO FEATURE SONG WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY LOCAL STUDENTS

Students of Nodehill Middle School have been invited to perform at the NatWest Island Games Closing Ceremony on Friday 1 July, with a song which they have written and produced with Eccleston George.

The song, "Ray of Light" was born out of an idea by the Headteacher, Mr Morris, music teacher, Mrs Mitchell and Eccleston George to write and record a song with the staff and students to celebrate the life and times of Nodehill School and commemorate its closure in July.

After five days of bubbling creativity, the song "Ray of Light" was written and recorded with the students at the school. It then became apparent that something special had been achieved, and in the knowledge that the NatWest Island Games was to be held on the Island, and without an anthem, the school offered it to the Organising Committee.

Eccleston George commented, "Ray of Light is a song about hope and aspirations, about moving on and having a commitment to the endeavour, enjoying the journey and realising that the destination is just a means to an end".

"The song musically and lyrically encapsulates the 'hold your head high' ethos that was current at an unusual time for the school. Running throughout the school there was a determination to see the bigger picture; there was a real sense of not only making the best of a difficult situation, but making more of it."

Keith Lane, Director of Ceremonies, said: "When the song was offered to the 2011 Organising Committee we jumped at the chance. Whilst the NatWest Island Games will be showcasing the achievements of our local sports men and women we are also keen to show the rest of the world the dynamic and innovative cultural elements that exist on the Isle of Wight. This is clearly demonstrated through the partnership between Nodehill Middle School and Eccleston George. It will be a very moving experience when the song is performed live to bring the Games to a close on 1 July."

The song "Ray of Light" is available as a free download at : <http://soundcloud.com/theegband>

The song will be performed by the Eccleston George Band and Nodehill students live at the NatWest Island Games Closing Ceremony in Cowes on July 1st.

(Nodehill Middle School) commented, "This is a very positive end to what started for us as just a negative situation it's very emotional."

Just some of the comments received from students, Matthew Guelbert, Will Foreman and Charlotte Acres : "A brilliant opportunity to do something different with the school". "A once in a lifetime opportunity to be involved in the closing ceremony." "It was a great opportunity to work together as a school with Eccleston George." "We wanted to show how good the school was."

Eccleston George is a collection of creative people who work together on many different kinds of projects. The collective brings together an array of artists, craftsmen/women, musicians, innovators and creative thinkers and makes them accessible to schools, communities, organisations and businesses alike.

For information about the NatWest Island Games visit : www.natwestislandgames2011.co.uk

ENDS.

NOTE TO EDITOR

1. Could you please refer to the event as the 'NatWest Island Games' (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. The song "Ray of Light" is available as a free download at: <http://soundcloud.com/theegband>
3. Background :
 - The 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	Alderney	Bermuda
Cayman Islands	Falkland Islands	Faroe Islands
Froya Islands	Gibraltar	Gotland
Greenland	Guernsey	Hitra Islands
Isle of Man	Isle of Wight	Jersey
Menorca	Orkney	Prince Edward Island
Rhodes	Saaremaa	Sark
Shetlands Islands	St Helena	Western Isles
Ynys Mon		
 - In 1999, NatWest became the title sponsor of the Island Games which has become one of the largest participation events in the world behind the Olympics and Commonwealth Games.

- The NatWest Island Games 2011 are being organised by the Isle of Wight Island Games Association, supported by the IW Council, which is also a sponsor.
- The 25 member islands compete every two years around the world in a range of up to 14 sports chosen by the Host Island from a list of 18.
- Sports chosen for 2011 are :
Archery, athletics, badminton, basketball, cycling, football, golf, sailing inc. windsurfing, squash, swimming, shooting, table tennis, tennis, volleyball
- The Games were last held on the Isle of Wight in 1993.
- Further information is available at www.natwestislandgames2011.co.uk and www.islandgames.net

For further information please contact :

Michelle Russell, Marketing & Communications, NatWest Island Games 2011
m. 079298 47665 e. michelle@natwestislandgames2011.co.uk

Nigel George, Eccleston George
m. 077897 55457 e. nigelgeorge@papernature.fsnet.co.uk

www.natwestislandgames2011.co.uk