



BURWASH PRIMARY SCHOOLCHILDREN UNITE WITH AUSTRALIA TO FIND A CANCER CURE THROUGH MUSIC

Burwash Primary School is now the subject of a pop song and video, which is selling internationally and raising funds for Cancer Research

More Info?

MEDIA RELEASE

1. **Click here to view the video and hear the song**

2. **Click here to view the background story**

3. **Media contact by email:**
deehandyside@me.com

4. **Purchase the single from iTunes – search for “Ten” by ReturnNorth**

5. **CDs can be purchased from**
www.peacheyclub.com

It all came about when ex -Burwash pupil Dee Handyside, returned to the village in 2009 to visit her friends and family.

This visit was particularly important as it was the first time that Dee’s family had been re-united since she, her sister and her cousin (also ex-pupils), had been diagnosed and treated for breast cancer. The three women were all diagnosed within a month of each other and endured aggressive surgeries and treatments at the same time, albeit in different countries.

Dee, who now resides in Australia, is a musician and during her treatment, she composed and recorded a musical album entitled '*Genetic*'. This has now received critical acclaim and is the endorsed fundraising CD for the Australian Cancer Research Foundation. Further encouraged by her songwriting partner Steve Hills, Dee went on to complete a further album '*Now Hear This*' recorded by her band '*ReturnNorth*'.

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"At the time of writing, I was still recovering and wondering if I would ever make it back to Burwash again" Dee stated. "At a traumatic time like that, it is natural to think back on your life and I wondered what it would be like to return to the school some 35 years later and remembered my school friends."

It was this concept that led to the song entitled **"Ten"**, which has been described as 'a charming account of childhood memories'. In August 2009, Dee was well enough to return to Burwash, visit the school and take a selection of video and photographs to interpret the song.

The song and video then made it through to the semi-final of the 2010 Australian Catapult Song Competition. Due to the family's link with Burwash Primary School, a project to raise funds for Cancer Research has now been adopted by the School who are selling both albums plus a bonus edition of the **'Ten'** song and video. Whilst Dee donates 10% of profits to the Australian Cancer Research Foundation, the school donates 1 pound of each sale to UK Cancer Research.

Debbie Gilbert, Headmistress said *"It was a real pleasure to show Dee around the school during her return to Burwash two years ago. When she undertook the filming, I had no idea it would result in such a heart-warming song and video which capture perfectly just how precious our school memories are. The children are very excited about the project and especially keen that money raised will go towards such a worthwhile cause. Let's hope many copies are sold!"*

The single 'Ten' by ReturnNorth is available for purchase on iTunes. CD's can be purchased via www.peacheyclub.com



Skype!

The Project was launched on 4th July when the schoolchildren took part in a live Skype interview with Dee in Australia.

Here is a selection of questions that the children asked!

- 1 *What was the school like in 1970 and did anyone live in the School-house?*
- 2 *What is it like to live in Australia and does it ever rain there?*
- 3 *Does Australia have a TV 'Idol' competition?*