

MENCAP PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate release

The sky's the limit for Cardiff Coors employee

A daredevil Coors Brewers employee from Cardiff is taking to the skies to experience the thrill of a lifetime whilst raising money for learning disability charity, Mencap.

Coors Account Manager, Owain Southwell, will see the World from a whole new perspective as he freefalls from 10,000 to 5,000 feet before opening his parachute to glide safely through the clouds to earth.

Owain is one of two Coors employees making the parachute jump – strapped to a British Parachute Association instructor – at speeds of up to 120 mph. He will raise £395 for Mencap by making his skydive.

Owain will make his parachute jump on the weekend of 30 August, 2008. The money raised will help the charity to continue supporting people with a learning disability to live more independently.

Owain says it is a cause that is close to his heart: "Mencap is a charity that really strikes a chord with me as both of my brothers have a learning disability. I have witnessed the bullying and discrimination they have suffered and find the ongoing inequalities they face in employment extremely frustrating. Not everyone in their situation is fortunate enough to have the friends and family they have as a support network so the services Mencap provides are essential for improving thousands of peoples' lives."



Coors Brewers Ltd chose Mencap as their charity of the year in January 2007 and their employees have been taking part in fundraising activities connected to the partnership ever since.

To sponsor Owain you can visit his Just Giving website at:

www.justgiving.com/owainsouthwell .

-ENDS-

Notes to editors

If you would like to set up an interview or photograph with Owain please contact Jaine Barry by email at: jaine.barry@mencap.org.uk or phone on 020 7696 5603.

- Mencap works with people with a learning disability and their families and carers.
- There are 1.5 million people in the UK with a learning disability.
- A learning disability is caused by the way the brain develops before, during or shortly after birth. It is always lifelong.
- People with a learning disability find it harder than others to learn, understand and communicate.
- People with profound and multiple learning disabilities need full-time help with every aspect of their lives - including eating, drinking, washing, dressing and toileting.
- People with a learning disability don't get an equal chance in life. Mencap fights to change laws and services and to provide better access to education, employment and leisure facilities, supporting thousands of people with a learning disability to live their lives the way they want.