



**For Immediate Release
3 July 2009**

Press Invite

Date: Saturday 11 July

Time: 11am

Place: RAF Weston on the Green, Bicester, Oxfordshire

Winchester Skydive Daredevil prepares for Flight

James Rose, 24, from Winchester, is preparing to fulfil his dream of jumping out of a plane after finally getting the ok from doctors who believed his Cerebral Palsy would prevent him from doing so.

James will jump on Saturday 11 July at RAF Weston in Bicester, Oxfordshire to raise £4,000 for charity.

After spending two years battling bureaucracy, James is all ready to take flight and raise money for his chosen charities with his 'Like A Bat out of Hell' named jump.

James is taking to the sky with his close friend Michelle Lewis. They are raising money for Canine Partners, who provided James with his assistance dog Nemo, and Comic Relief. They are £3,000 towards their target and have also had help from companies who have donated sponsorship of over £2,000.

A project a long time in the making, it was Michelle's trek in Jordan in 2006 that inspired James to meet his fear of heights head on. However, doctors were concerned that apparent spasms in his legs caused by Cerebral Palsy would put James at serious risk during the jump and refused to sign the permission he needed.

Cerebral Palsy affects James' dexterity, speech, and mobility. He uses an electric wheelchair to get around and has an assistance dog called Nemo, who helps by opening doors and retrieving items for him.

James' determination to make a difference, give back to Canine Partners and help raise funds for those less fortunate through Comic Relief, meant that the jump was going to go ahead. James finally got medical permission in summer last year.

James said: "It is fantastic that we finally got the go ahead. Both Michelle and I have been planning this jump for such a long time and we both can't wait for the day to arrive, so we can achieve our dream and raise money for two great charities.

"Canine Partners is a charity very close to my heart. They provided me with Nemo, a gorgeous black Labrador who literally opens doors for me, and pulls my socks off amongst other necessary tasks - on command obviously! Comic Relief meanwhile makes a difference to so many people battling against poverty, something even more necessary in today's economy."

The two intrepid jumpers have so far secured support from companies including communications agency, The Remarkable Group, HSBC branch Winchester, Smith & Williamson and Leigh Day & Co Solicitors.

For more information and to sponsor James and Michelle visit
www.likeabatoutofhell.co.uk

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Notes to editors

For media information please contact Jennifer Pearce or Catherine Reid at Remarkable Group on 01962 893 893 or email Jennifer.pearce@remarkablegroup.co.uk

About Canine Partners

Canine Partners assists people with disabilities to enjoy greater independence and a better quality of life through the help of specially trained dogs.

Training assistance dogs totally transforms the lives of people with disabilities and their families, enriching human life in practical ways such as dressing and undressing, supermarket shopping and vital emergency response procedures.

As a registered charity Canine Partners receives no government funding and is wholly dependent on public donations and legacies. There are currently over 140 partnerships throughout the country.

www.caninepartners.co.uk

About Comic Relief

Set up in 1985, Comic Relief has helped millions in the UK & globally to fight their way out of poverty through the power of the media and entertaining people attracting massive donations from those who may not normally

The money raised is allocated to a wide range of grants and social investments aimed at delivering real and long-lasting change to the poorest, most vulnerable people at home and across the world; as well as informing the public and young people in particular about global citizenship and the underlying causes of extreme poverty.

www.comicrelief.com