

**June 21 2005: Immediate Release:**

## Educ8, Celebr8, Don8

Log on to World of Workshops and adopt the 'WoW' factor to help make history!

Brighton based World of Workshops (WoW), is asking parents, teachers, children and local communities to log on to its site [www.worldofworkshops.co.uk](http://www.worldofworkshops.co.uk) and do their bit to make 2005 the year that made poverty history.

Educ8, Celebr8, Don8 is the brainchild of 'WoW' founders, ex-teacher Melanie Rees and internet wizard, Tony Nisbett. "We want local communities to pull together and help change the plight of poor nations, and have some fun at the same time," explained Rees.

The internet initiative has already received celebrity backing. "I think Educ8-Celebr8 - Don8 is a Gr8 idea. I would H8 for people to come to it L8, so listen up. This 1 time, do something that all of Africa will apprecia8, get up, get in2 it, get involved, don't devi8, cos at this r8, we could get into a right st8! This is such a good idea, be a m8 and get off your butt and DO SOMETHING!!!!, said comedian Lenny Henry.

The Educ8 area of the site is targeted at schools and parents nationwide. "In 1991 the UK ratified the UN Convention on the rights of the child, which in essence said all children have a right to an education and wealthier countries should help poorer countries achieve this," explained Rees. "Educ8 is about raising awareness in the classroom and at home, through all kinds of inspirational activities, from African drumming to face painting – the idea is we can all do our bit, however, small to help make a difference".

Con/t...

The site will carry three strands: Children's Rights, Africa and World Poverty. Each area will carry educational and creative material which is available to download free of charge. WoW is asking teachers and parents around the country to use the material to show the next generations how effort, knowledge and lots of laughter can go along way in shaping the world we live in for the better!

The concept has already won over local teachers. "I think it's exciting and dynamic, bringing African culture to everyone," said Annie Noble, Head of Lower School at Whitehawk Primary School in Brighton. "Children need to know they can make a difference now and for future generations".

It doesn't stop there!

Educ8 is just one of WoW's initiatives running in parallel to that of the G8 Summit. The "Group of Eight Nations" summit, which is taking place at Gleneagles in Perthshire between 6 – 8 July this year, will bring world leaders around the table to discuss Africa and climate change.

WoW Celebr8 is also encouraging local communities to celebrate Africa by booking in skill workshops, such as African dancing. "You might just discover you've got a hidden talent," laughed Mel. Whilst the self-explanatory Don8 provides information on simple fund-raising ideas – built around what Mel calls the 'Kiss' objective. Keep it simple and straightforward! "Of course asking for money is by far the simplest route," explains Mel. "If every pupil in the UK gave 1 p and every teacher a £1 the sum raised would be a staggering £565,000".

Log on to [www.worldofworkshops.co.uk](http://www.worldofworkshops.co.uk) and celebrate the WoW way of life now!

Con/t...

About World of Workshops:

World of Workshops (WoW) was set up in 2003 by Melanie Rees, an educational consultant and former special needs teacher, and technology entrepreneur Tony Nisbett. Both saw a need for qualified skill sets, outside the teaching profession, that could be a resource available to schools to enrich the educational process. Eg. When studying animal evolution bring in a zoologist or when tackling the potter's wheel in the art room – bring in a potter.

The site has gone from strength to strength and now boasts a UK-wide customer base. Experts, who have suitable skills to offer schools and colleges pay £5 to register their skills and can advertise five workshops a year (this can be topped up for an additional fee. All have completed a Criminal check. The site includes skills ranging from Mosaics and yoga to debt management and bullying.

WoW is all about matching skills with people. The facility can also be accessed by people who want to provide a venue for a workshop.

About G8:

The G8 stands for the 'Group of Eight' nations which was conceived in 1975 when the then President of France, Giscard d'Estaing invited the leaders of Japan, USA, Germany, the UK and Italy to discuss the economic problems of the day. The group expanded to include Canada in 1976 and Russia in 1998. Unlike other international bodies, the G8 does not have a fixed structure or a permanent administration. The country that holds the Presidency sets the agenda and organises the annual G8 Summit. This year, that position falls on the UK, which has chosen to focus on major world issues, Africa, and the demands on the world's poorest continent and climate change.

Photographs available on request.

Both Mel and Tony are available for interview.

All press enquiries:

Please contact Melanie Rees direct on:

[mel@worldofworkshops.co.uk](mailto:mel@worldofworkshops.co.uk)

Telephone: 01273 822769 or mobile 07919 108210.