



Media Release

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photo opportunity – see below

MIGHTY OAKS GROW FROM RECYCLING

**Oatlands Infants' School will plant five new trees
during National Tree Week – 29 November – 5 December**

ANYONE who has sent an aluminium drinks can or a bag of clean aluminium foil for recycling in the last year can share the credit for improving the local landscape. As part of a nationwide initiative to boost recycling, Aluminium Packaging Recycling Organisation (Alupro) has rewarded the Harrogate district with five new sapling trees for their efforts in recycling a further 31 tonnes of cans and aluminium foil during the campaign.

Alupro's year long national campaign (June 2003 to June 2004) will result in 35,000 trees being planted across the UK this winter, enough to cover 900 football pitches when fully grown.

Councillor Les Ellington, Cabinet Member for Environmental Health, said: “We hope that local people will get pleasure from watching the fruit of their labours as the trees grow to maturity. We also hope that this will encourage others to recycle as these trees are living proof that recycling does bring environmental benefits.

“During this special campaign, a further 2,400 tonnes of cans and aluminium was recycled nationally. And our contribution at 31 tonnes is a huge effort. So thank you to everyone who responded and please keep recycling either through the kerbside collection scheme or at one of the mini recycling sites.”

All cans and foil collected in the Harrogate district goes to Can a Can in Lincolnshire and is turned back into drinking cans. ENDS

PHOTO OPPORTUNITY: 11.00 am Tuesday, 30 November at Oatlands Wood, Hookstone Road (on the left just before the railway bridge) when five pupils from Oatlands' Infant School – one for each tree, an ash, birch, maple, roan and oak – will join Councillor Les Ellington, Cabinet Member for Environmental Health and members of the council's tree team to plant the trees.

FURTHER INFORMATION: Councillor Les Ellington is available for comment on 01423 712461. Further technical information is available from Mr Simon Johnson, Head of Environment on 01423 556845.