

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Chawton House Library launches recycling scheme Recycle old printer cartridges and mobile phones for charity!**

**Chawton, Monday 20 June 2007.** Chawton House Library, the educational charity based at Chawton House, has just started a new scheme where people can get rid of their old printer cartridges and mobile phones, do their bit for the environment and raise money for a good cause at the same time. The scheme, organised through Reclaim-IT, can be used both by individuals and businesses and Chawton House Library are urging people in the local area to get involved.

For individuals, Chawton House Library can send them pre-paid envelopes so that they can post their used cartridges or unwanted mobile phones back to Reclaim-IT. A barcode on the envelope tells them it has come from Chawton House Library who will be credited with the funds. Alternatively, people can even help the scheme while doing their weekly shop: take these items down to Sainbury's in Alton, and put them in the collection box in the foyer.

For businesses or any organisation that uses lots of printer cartridges, Chawton House Library can send them a collection box for these items. Once the box is full, they simply call Reclaim-IT who will pick it up and replace it with an empty one. For many offices, it will be a welcome change from packing up each individual item and sending it back to the manufacturer, and by signing up to the scheme with Chawton House Library, they will also be supporting a local charity.

All funds raised from the scheme will go to the Chawton House Barn Appeal, a project which will restore a part of our local heritage - a late 17th-century barn that has been saved from demolition and will be restored and preserved on Chawton House Estate where it will form part of an education programme for local schools. Individuals and businesses who wish to take part in the scheme, can call 01420 541010 and speak to Helen Thirlway.

To give people an idea of the environmental benefits of this scheme, during the year 2000, over 48 million ink jet and over 7 million laser toner cartridges were consumed in the United Kingdom - this equates to 26 million litres of fossil fuel (oil) which was consumed in their manufacture. It has been calculated that 85% of those same cartridges were disposed of in Landfill sites, contributing millions of tonnes of plastic and metal waste that will stay in the ground forever. Recycling these items ensures, not only that they end up in landfill but also that the materials are reused.

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#### **Further information from:**

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