



Press release  
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## Yorkshire distillery plants 100 new trees in the Dales

Yorkshire-based gin and whisky distillery, Cooper King Distillery, has made its second donation to plant 100 new trees in the Yorkshire Dales through its partnership with a local environmental charity.

After pledging to donate 2.5% of its annual gin sales to the environmental non-profit organisation Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (YDMT), Cooper King Distillery has made its second quarterly contribution.

As a member of international environmental initiative 1% for the Planet, Cooper King Distillery commits to donating at least 1% of gin sales to its chosen environmental project.

Since launching its inaugural gin in May this year, Cooper King Distillery has donated more than £2000 to YDMT, which equates to the planting of 200 trees.

Co-founder Chris spent a day in the heart of the Yorkshire Dales planting some of those trees with YDMT in celebration of National Tree Week, which is the UK's largest annual tree celebration, marking the start of the winter tree planting season (November to March each year).

Commenting on the donation, Abbie Neilson, co-founder of Cooper King Distillery said:

“We’re thrilled to be giving our second quarterly donation to YDMT, a truly fantastic charity working tirelessly to preserve our beautiful Yorkshire landscapes. We try to be eco-conscious in everything we do: we run on 100% green energy, compost our gin botanicals and offer a gin refill scheme. We’re constantly thinking of ways to help reduce our carbon footprint.

“As a small start-up company, we’re delighted to have donated enough to plant more than 200 trees this year and are excited to plant more in 2019 and beyond.”

Established in 2016 by co-founders Chris Jaume, a chartered architect and Dr Abbie Neilson, a former scientist, Cooper King Distillery is located in Sutton-on-the-Forest, North Yorkshire.

Through the partnership with YDMT, every bottle of gin sold supports the planting of native broadleaf woodlands across the Yorkshire Dales, helping to create vibrant wildlife habitats, reduce flooding and creating beautiful places that promote health and wellbeing.

The distillery hopes to support the planting of 400 trees in the area by the end of their first year if gin sales continue to excel as they have been since the launch. The 100 trees supported by this most recent donation form part of [Woodale Wood](#) in Nidderdale – a young site which YDMT hopes will

grow to support several endangered species of birds such as common redstart, cuckoo and black grouse.

Michael Delvin, development manager at YDMT, commented:

“It is a pleasure to work with environmentally conscious businesses like Cooper King Distillery. Their generous donations will not only contribute to the planet’s future but also help us to support the people, landscape and wildlife of the Yorkshire Dales through our woodland restoration work. Their support plays an important part in our [Together for Trees appeal](#) through which we aim to plant 100,000 trees over the next two years, creating beautiful woodlands that everyone can enjoy.”

**-Ends-**

### **Notes to the editor**

*For more information, contact Emily Docherty at MacComms on 0113 869 5242 or email [Emily@maccomms.net](mailto:Emily@maccomms.net).*

### **About Cooper King Distillery**

Located in the heart of Yorkshire, Cooper King Distillery is a self-built, family-owned gin and whisky distillery built on the site of a stable.

Formed in 2016, by Dr Abbie Neilson, a former scientist and Chris Jaume, a chartered architect, Cooper King Distillery is independent, self-built and powered by 100% green energy.

With a desire to leave the rat race, co-founders Chris and Abbie travelled across the globe, in search of sun, sand and adventure. Whilst visiting Australia the pair became fascinated by Tasmania’s eight operational whisky distilleries and the hand-crafted premium whisky industry, which was just starting to take off in this part of the world.

With a mission to bring their discoveries back to Britain, Chris and Abbie set up a truly independent craft distillery back home in Sutton-on-the-Forest in North Yorkshire.

Taught by Bill Lark, the godfather of Tasmanian whisky, and armed with a wealth of knowledge gathered from across Tasmania’s now internationally acclaimed New World whisky distilleries and beyond, Cooper King Distillery produces authentic premium spirits, using the highest quality ingredients that England has to offer.

The distillery’s inaugural product, Cooper King Dry Gin was released in May 2018.

Hand distilled using honey from the distillery’s beehives, lemongrass and a touch of locally-grown lavender, the gin has incredible savoury lemongrass flavours, a silky mouthfeel and delicate floral notes.

Produced in micro-batches, Cooper King is the first distillery in Yorkshire to combine innovative cold vacuum distillation with traditional hot copper-pot distillation, in a process that’s tailored to suit each individual botanical, ensuring they extract the freshest, fullest flavours.

The initial reviews of Cooper King Dry Gin are extremely positive, with The Gin Fayre describing it as a ‘game changer’.

The company is the first distillery in Europe to join international environment initiative, 1% for the Planet, which sees 1% of sales of Cooper King Dry Gin contributed towards environmental non-profits. Cooper King Distillery will plant one square metre of native woodland for every bottle sold through a partnership with the Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust.

Its initial batch of premium single malt whisky, made using Yorkshire barley, is scheduled to go into production in summer 2018, with a projected release date of 2023.

Inspired by Chris's great-great-grandfather, Charles Cooper King, the name Cooper King has rich historical ties to England and Yorkshire. Born in 1843, Charles, who was Lieutenant Colonel of the Royal Marine Artillery, traced the Cooper King family history back to 1030, where he identified the Pigot family of Yorkshire, whose shield can still be seen today throughout Ripon Cathedral.

The Cooper King Distillery Founders' Club is offering craft spirit lovers a unique opportunity to become part of the Cooper King family and help make English distilling history. Membership tiers start from £30, which is ideal for a gift, through to more established memberships which include a name engraving on the Founders' Plaque in the distillery. Memberships also offer first access to rare and collectable whisky in the form of new, special, and small-batch releases, individually-numbered single cask releases from their early casks, plus the chance to own Cooper King Distillery's Inaugural Release bottle #1.

**To find out more about Cooper King Distillery, visit <http://www.cooperkingdistillery.co.uk/>**

### **About Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust**

Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust (YDMT) is a small charity doing big things to support the people, landscape and wildlife of the Yorkshire Dales.

Since 1997 YDMT has helped to deliver inspirational projects worth around £28 million in the Yorkshire Dales and surrounding areas. These projects cover areas as diverse as countryside apprenticeships, supporting local businesses, education and outreach, restoring woodlands and wildlife habitats, and conserving heritage features.

The Trust has recruited over 50,000 supporters to date.

Find out more: Visit [www.ydmt.org](http://www.ydmt.org), call Sarah Pettifer on 015242 51002 or email [media@ydmt.org](mailto:media@ydmt.org)