

For immediate release

Issued 6 July 2018



Horniman Café replaces single-use plastics with plant-based packaging

The Café at the Horniman Museum and Gardens in Forest Hill, south London, has replaced single use plastics with plant-based products, making it more environmentally friendly than ever before.

From 1 July the Horniman Café is using a range of 19 products made from plants not plastic – from disposable coffee cups and takeaway boxes to sandwich wrappers and straws – each replacing a non-recyclable or single use plastic product.

The move adds to the Café's existing green credentials, which include turning food waste into liquid compost which is used to fertilise the Horniman's 16 acres of Gardens. The Café uses sustainable fish, fair-trade tea and coffee, free-range eggs, and local suppliers for organic and free range meat and other products.

The new range is supplied by Vegware and includes coffee cups lined with plant-based polylactic acid (PLA) and products made from a variety of plant-based materials such as recycled sugarcane, all from renewable sources and commercially compostable.

Brad Owen, Head of Commercial at the Horniman Museum and Gardens, says: 'We're pleased to be able to make this significant change, to offer our visitors a greener service and reduce the Café's environmental footprint, in line with the Horniman's wider concern for environmental issues.'

The Horniman is currently looking at alternatives to bottled water, and in the meantime offers free tap water refills to visitors as part of the [Refill](#) campaign, as well as selling reusable water bottles in its gift shop.

The Horniman Café Ltd. is owned and run by Anthony Ienco on behalf of Horniman Museum Enterprises.

Ends

Horniman Press Office - Tel: 020 8291 8166 - press@horniman.ac.uk

Image attached: Packaging made from plants not plastic © Vegware.

Notes to Editors:

- **Vegware** is a manufacturer and visionary brand, the global specialist in plant-based compostable foodservice packaging. Vegware's plant-based catering disposables are made from renewable, lower carbon or recycled materials, and can all be composted with food waste where accepted. vegware.com
- **Refill** is a free tap water scheme and app, designed to reduce plastic pollution and promote healthy hydration by making refilling a water bottle easy, social and rewarding. Participating venues and businesses welcome visitors to fill up their water bottle with tap water. [Download the free Refill rewards app](#) to see where you can Refill on the go, or add new places to Refill yourself. www.refill.org.uk
- **The Horniman Museum and Gardens** opened in 1901 as a gift to the people in perpetuity from tea trader and philanthropist Frederick John Horniman, to 'bring the world to Forest Hill'. Today the Horniman has a collection of 350,000 objects, specimens and artefacts from around the world. Its galleries include natural history, music and an acclaimed aquarium, with a new World Gallery of anthropology opening on 29 June 2018. Indoor exhibits link to the award-winning display gardens – from medicinal and dye gardens to an interactive sound garden, Butterfly House and an animal walk – set among 16 acres of beautiful, green space offering spectacular views across London. horniman.ac.uk
- The Horniman Museum and Gardens is core-funded by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and since 1990 has been governed by an independent charitable trust, registered charity no. 802725. The Horniman Museum and Gardens also receives funding from Arts Council England as one of its National Portfolio Organisations.
- **Opening times and admission.** The Horniman Museum is open daily 10.00am-5.30pm, except 24 - 26 December, when it is closed. The Gardens open at 7.15am Monday to Saturday and 8.00am on Sunday and Bank Holidays, and close at sunset. Entry to the Museum and Gardens is free but charges apply for the Aquarium, Butterfly House and some special exhibitions and events. Horniman Members and Benefactors go free – horniman.ac.uk/members.
- **Access.** The Museum and the Gardens are both wheelchair and pushchair friendly with accessible toilets. Limited on-site parking is available for Blue Badge holders.
- **Travel.** The Horniman is situated at 100 London Road, Forest Hill, London SE23 3PQ on the South Circular Road (A205). It can be reached easily by train to Forest Hill station (London Overground/Southern, travel time approx. 15-20 minutes from east/central London or East Croydon) and by local buses (176, 185, 197, 356, P4).