

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oxford and Orcas: WDC, Whale and Dolphin Conservation and vegan restaurant guide vanilla bean join forces against plastic pollution

Birmingham, 9 July 2018 — What links the iconic city of Oxford with the largest member of the dolphin family? Sadly, it's plastic.

Up to 95% of the plastic waste in the oceans comes from towns and cities, not beaches, carried there by wind, streams and rivers. The plastic box from Friday night's takeaway, the cup from the daily coffee or wrappers and bags casually discarded might start off in one of Oxford's streams, the Cherwell or the Thames, but end up being mistaken for food by orcas, other dolphins and whales in the oceans. With their stomachs full of indigestible plastic, which doesn't provide any nutrients, these magnificent, intelligent creatures simply starve to death.

In Oxford for their Away Day on 13th July, the team from award-winning vegan restaurant app vanilla bean and WDC, Whale and Dolphin Conservation will undertake a WDC Urban Beach Clean in Oxford as part of WDC's #NotWhaleFood campaign, which is supported by Bicester-based BRITA.

Working their way along the Thames Path from Osney Island to Folly Bridge, the team will pick up as much plastic as they can and will ensure this is safely deposited for recycling.

For more information, or to get involved in the Urban Beach Clean on Friday 13th July, please contact: Sharon Stevenson, Fundraising Officer at WDC (sharon.stevenson@whales.org) or Anna Ferguson, Restaurant Data & Customer Care Coordinator at vanilla bean (anna.ferguson@vanilla-bean.com).

WDC, Whale and Dolphin Conservation is the leading global charity dedicated to the protection and conservation of whales, dolphins and porpoises all over the world.

<http://uk.whales.org>, <https://notwhalefood.com>

vanilla bean is a sustainability-focussed vegan restaurant guide that strives to connect green businesses with green consumers.

<https://www.vanilla-bean.com>

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<https://www.vanilla-bean.com>

App Store links:

<https://itunes.apple.com/app/vanilla-bean/id1002445403?mt=8>

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=de.grunzeug.vanillabean>

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