

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

May 15, 2016

Container deposit scheme is a definite 'go' for New South Wales



Long fought for and awaited, a May 8 NSW government announcement gives the green light to a container deposit scheme. It came after a fierce, multi-year lobby driven by environmental groups like Boomerang Alliance and Greenpeace. Environment minister Mark Speakman told 2UE Weekend Afternoon show that a plan will be brought to fruition by July 2017. It will be based on a simple idea - return an empty container, receive 10 cents. An advisory panel will recommend how the program should be set up. Premier Mike Baird campaigned on reducing litter by 40 per cent by 2020 in NSW, where 160 million containers are littered out of four billion distributed each year.

Girl, 3, inspires community turnaround
Mathilda Rusby is only three, but the toddler is teaching adults a thing or two. Her parents posted photos of the girl picking up litter on social media. The images caught the eyes of authorities in North Tyneside, who responded by installing more bins and posting warning signs. A short [YouTube piece](#) quotes a neighbour: "She's three and she already knows that littering is wrong, whereas people who are fully grown adults don't know."

DID YOU KNOW?

Toronto has a problem with people not recycling correctly and contaminating loads, which is costly in penalties and runs counter to the city's solid waste diversion objectives. wastewizard.ca is its handy, online tool for finding out what item goes into which bin.



POP-UP SHOP STOCKS LITTER

Until July 21, Hubbub Inc. has a [rubbish shop](#) open in Colford, a clever stunt to highlight litter levels in the Forest of Dean. Shelves display "locally sourced litter", some of it 33 years old, found in the forest.

Trees on watch for littering in Forest of Dean

School children will design faces to be painted on 100 trees in Forest Dean - the newest way to deter littering, according to Hubbub, a charity innovating responses to the problem. In Rotterdam, 10,000 eyes were painted on public buildings and crime dropped noticeably. Research hints that seeing the image of eyes makes people feel like they are being watched and makes them less inclined to break rules. This latest scientific theory is driving the program to put eyes on the trees. It is believed that littering will decrease. The local council spends £400,000 a year to haul 250 tonnes of litter out of the forest.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (MAY 8 - 15)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

Fines go up in Christchurch, NZ (5/12)

The maximum littering fine in Christchurch has changed for the first time since 1991, quadrupling to \$400.

Garbage trucks bear a hard-hitting slogan (5/14)

Savannah, Georgia wrapped ten garbage trucks with a billboard-sized message against littering: "There's a word for people who litter: criminal."

List reveals who's raking in the most fines (5/9)

The list of the ten highest litter-fining cities in Britain is out. Accordingly, people who litter should steer clear of Enfield. The London suburb was the top fine-charger over the past five years, at £1.5 million. The national average for fines is £10,000 per council 2010 to 2015.

Call to ban barbecues from London fields (5/13)

A rampant mess resulting from weekend barbecues has triggered a serious call to ban BBQs on London Fields.

Queensland wants a three-way bag ban (5/15)

Queensland is floating the idea of a plastic bag ban to protect endangered marine life from suffocation and injury. It wants New South Wales and Victoria to pass similar bans in a joint effort to achieve a bag-free coast.

"Love locks" are litter, Hawaii cautions (5/8)

New signs in a state park in scenic Oahu, Hawaii will warn lovers that leaving padlocks on fences is littering.