

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com  LOVE THE PLANET February 14, 2016



Punggol marina's big litter problem

Rubbish washed in by tide started after nearby Punggol Dam was built, says club's manager.

Its reputation for being clean notwithstanding, Singapore has its challenges when it comes to littering. The New Paper kept its lens on the problem of litter at Sungei Punggol Dam and marina, filing articles like the one shown left from Jan. 28, with a photo laying out all the gritty evidence at Marina Country Club. Following the story's publication, measures were announced to address the situation such as vertical grating to be installed at the mouth. Drainage improvements and run off controls are also in the works.



CLEAN FOR THE QUEEN

New York's mayor has city dump millions more into street cleaning

Mayor Bill de Blasio announced \$4.2-million to be rolled into graffiti removal and litter abatement across New York's five boroughs. The booster fund ushers in CleanNYC, a mayor-led initiative that pledges more frequent collection from public bins, power washing of sidewalks in high traffic business locales, more attention to highways and onramps. Another \$2.5 million is destined for capital expenditures. Targeted hotspots include Brooklyn's Church Avenue, 125th Street in Manhattan, Broadway on the Upper West Side, Hylan Blvd. on Staten Island, Downtown Flushing Transit Hub in Queens and Jerome-Gun Hill in the Bronx.

At left, the heraldic logo for UK's March 4-6 event to tidy the kingdom for Her Majesty's 90th birthday.

AU Index for 2014-15 comes out early

March 6 is Clean Up Australia Day. Keep Australia Beautiful issued its 10th annual National Litter Index six months early – in February, intending the valuable data it contains to give a helping hand to people making submissions to the EPA's Container Deposit Scheme consultation for New South Wales that closes Feb. 26. Goods news: litter rates in AU are down slightly. Bad news: Cigarettes, plastics and paperboard objects remain big problems.

Local Australian politicians mess up

After posing for photos at a Craignish Road press conference on Monday promoting Australia's clean up, Fraser Coast Mayor Gerard O'Connell and his deputy, Councillor Robert Garland, set their bag of litter beside a previously dumped mattress and left the scene. A Facebook user scolded the two: "Brickbats to the local polities . . . You didn't clean up the rest of the mess and you even left behind your clean-up bag." The two told the press they left it for a truck to pick up later. Litterland calls it 'littering'.

DID YOU KNOW?

Those dual-compartment, butt litter reducing, 'voting ashtrays' from UK non-profit Hubbub Inc., as featured in *Litterland* (Sep 6/15), are now for sale. At £195 apiece they would be the talk of any town. Smokers vote 'yes' or 'no' on topical questions by depositing their butts in the slot that corresponds with their viewpoint.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (FEB 7-14)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

A clean scene makes us feel safer: study (2/7)

Pay attention to a study in the Journal of Environmental Psychology if you love safe neighbourhoods. A research team from Manchester, Manchester Metropolitan and Bradford universities filmed three fake news reports in a Buxton Park. In one the backdrop was clean. Another showed McDonald's-branded litter. A third version used unbranded rubbish. Shown to 200 adults, the littered scenes were perceived to be 25 per cent more likely to attract crimes like vandalism and drug-dealing.

Urging love for Leeds on Valentine's Day (2/11)

Ed Platt wants fellow citizens to show their love for Leeds like he does by picking up one piece of litter a day and sending photos. On Twitter and Instagram they lay their passions bare. #1pieceofrubbish @clean_rubbish

Can Harare rise to world class by 2025? (2/11)

Litter in Zimbabwe is being declared a threat to the health of the nation and an impediment to the city of Harare achieving its goal of world class status within 10 years.

Vancouver, BC looks at ways to scuttle slob (2/9)

Hurting from growing litter woes, Vancouver, Canada is looking to share the pain. The city, leaning away from any bans on coffee cups and plastic bags, will explore how it can better train its sights on people who commit the crime of littering. Gaining favour is the idea of giving tickets to those who have bad recycling practices, let loads leak or are otherwise careless with their garbage.