

THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

November 12, 2017



NSW Environmental Protection Agency [hung a banner](#) at the entrance to Granville TAFE, a campus generating complaints about students littering. People are urged to report the crime when they see it. The college is located near several fast food outlets.

[Singapore might try new tactics](#)

Singapore is pondering the difference between a clean city and a cleaned city. At the Clean and Green Carnival in Boon Keng on November 4 Deputy PM Tharman Shanmugaratnam said Singaporeans rely too heavily on 50,000 hired cleaners and too little on personal responsibility for cleaning up. He called on citizens to change their habits. Edward D'Silva, chair of the Public Hygiene Council, said the council is contemplating removing bins or disbanding cleaning crews for a day or two to drive home the responsibility message. Fines for littering hit a seven-year high last year in Singapore at 31,000. Only twenty-one percent of households recycle. That's up two percentage points from last year. However, food waste has risen by 40 percent over the past decade there.

[Agona, Ghana wants a win](#)

George Freeman, Agona West Municipal Environmental and Sanitation Chief, hopes the Ghanaian municipality will place first in the upcoming Central Region sanitation competition run by RCC, the Region Coordinating Council. But he worries that cleanups may be falling out of fashion due to a widely held assumption that cleaners will do it all. Eradicating litter is a shared responsibility, he said, adding it is unfair to blame the government for litter problems. Agona West MP Cynthia Morrison spoke to residents after a five-hour National Sanitation Day clean up in Swedru Central market involving police and fire officers, environment and sanitation crews, contract cleaners, youth and faith groups, municipal staff, politicians and volunteers. She told youth groups to teach the newer generations to stop littering, particularly ice water bags and sachets.

[University has ciggy butt clearing events](#)

Appalachian University, in Boone, NC recruits students to pick up cigarette butts on campus.

[A remedy for bins that spill their contents](#)

See Pg. 2 for a guest column on unsecured bins.

DID YOU KNOW?

25,000 tonnes of litter per year is tossed onto roads in New South Wales, AU.

HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (NOV 5 - 12)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

[Court backs council's get-tough £1,000 fine \(11/7\)](#)

Ouch. An unsuccessful court appeal of a cigarette butt littering conviction has cost a man £1,160 in Cheshire East. Dr. James Carey, 63, contested the £80 fixed penalty notice and costs of £930. In losing the appeal he was slapped with additional court costs of £120.

[Derby crackdown executed with some help \(11/9\)](#)

Derby Council borrowed a neighbour's know-how to haul litter offenders into court. To implement a council crackdown, anti-litter officers from Nottingham were seconded to patrol Derby. The fruits of the effort were on display in Southern Derbyshire Magistrates Court when six people in one day were cited for littering and pleaded guilty. Total fines and costs: £1420.

[Stafford trying new methods to keep clean \(11/9\)](#)

Stafford, UK has asked businesses and organizations to sign an anti-litter pledge to do their part to keep the borough clean. This year 193 people, ages 18 to 66, received £75 fines and those who didn't pay were prosecuted. Now posters will be going up in litter hot spots every month advertising the updated number of people who caught, mostly for tossing cigarettes.

[Plymouth eyes hiring a private firm \(11/9\)](#)

Plymouth might hire a private firm to takeover its litter enforcement. There is speculation this week that one of the bidders could be 3GS, owned by Paul Buttivant, at one time an aspiring bidder for the Argyle Football Club.



YOUR SPACE

Experts share their insights and tricks of the trade

Smart Cities Have To Be Clean Cities

by Gaelan Goodfellow

Founder and President: BinStrap.com – Creating a Cleaner Future Today!



Globally there are over 1.5 Billion unsecured wheelie bins. They are massively concentrated in cities.

Wheelie bins that lack locking lids are a prime cause of litter. Bins are blown over, knocked over, or overfilled. The result is huge amounts of rubbish escaping into our environment, rivers and oceans. Pollution from wheelie bins causes detrimental effects to animals, wildlife, ocean life, our planet as a whole, not to mention the human psyche.

Unsecured wheelie bins provide an abundance of easy access food for animals, birds, rodents, and wildlife. The odours emitted by partially open compost/food waste wheelie bins attract these animals and in many cities this leads to rodent infestations causing the spread of germs and disease. Once a rat infestation has occurred it is difficult to get rid of the rodents as they multiply and make a new home for themselves.

Litter pollution in cities has negative impacts on tourism and business, as well as a negative social impact on the cities' inhabitants who witness this scourge on their doorstep every day. These tourists will not come back, and in areas where tourism is the biggest income stream, this is simply not going to do.

Businesses also suffer from untidy or even dirty areas, both indoors and out. Customers turn off at the sight of flies, bugs and rodents or the odour coming from a large number of wheelie bins that are left unsecured on the premises.

Our cities are becoming smarter cities every day, but unless our cities are clean and litter free, we are inviting an even bigger problem and more expensive problem in the future. With growing city populations the amount of litter pollution increases too.

It's time to put a stop to wheelie bin pollution. People have been attacked by seagulls looking for food inland, due to the amount of accessible waste that is luring them in. Governments are under a huge financial burden when it comes to litter with recorded spending of over 1 billion GBP every year in the UK alone cleaning up litter.

Litter problems can be greatly reduced simply by securing bins. My business in Ireland has an innovative solution that will combat litter pollution in our cities, our environment and in our oceans, creating a cleaner greener city and future for our planet and all its inhabitants.

This solution is called BinStrap, it is simple, clever, affordable and very effective at reducing litter pollution.

Binstrap works by keeping the lid of a wheelie bin lid sealed and secure, so in the event that the bin is blown or knocked over the lid will remain shut keeping all the contents inside the bin and not strewn all over the surrounding area.

BinStrap will also keep out animals, birds, rodents, flies and wildlife, reducing horrible messes and protecting the animals and birds from ingesting harmful plastic. Securing bins with BinStrap will also massively reduce environmental and ocean pollution, reduce government clean up cost, boost tourism and business. This will have a positive social impact on inhabitants and people coming to work or visit the city as there will be less accessible food waste and odours associated with this. The benefits for businesses, the government and the cities inhabitants are enormous and would be a fantastic overall addition to the Smart Cities ethos. Cities will not just be Smart Cities they will be Clean Cities. Visit my company website to learn more.