

# THIS WEEK IN "LITTERLAND"

www.litterpreventionprogram.com

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## Take a look at Luxembourg

Last week we mentioned Luxembourg's resurging litter-lowering efforts that zero in on the two main culprits that challenge cleaner-uppers: cigarette butts and chewing gum. "Tiny waste, big pollution", say the posters in French. "Don't throw down in nature!"



## Toronto Fire sends hard-hitting message

The fire department in Canada's largest city, Toronto, is sounding alarm bells over a leading cause of apartment fires - littering cigarette butts by flicking them over balconies. A campaign was unveiled in Parkdale, statistically a neighbourhood where littered butts outrank kitchen cooking as the biggest starter of high rise fires. To get the word out, slogans on posters try to hit hard: "Don't be a flicking idiot." and "Kill your butts. Not your neighbours."

## "Kazzie" winners!

Three outstanding women have been named to receive the 2018 Kazzie Award and cash to support their projects in environmental leadership and education. They are: **Melodie Murphy** for her work with remote communities in the Northern Territory to grow community enterprise through re-purposing waste as a resource; marine biologist **Sacha Guggenheimer**, of the [Seaside Scavenge Festival](#) Rye Pier, for her plastic as a resource programs; and **Lou Ridsdale**, for her [Food is Free Laneway](#) in Ballarat, Victoria. The Australian-based award, open to women worldwide, is funded by donations to the [Karen Curnow Women in Environment Protection and Litter Prevention Memorial Fund](#). Namesake Karen Curnow [1960 - 2017] was an environmental pioneer and an inspirational mentor to women. *Litterland* publisher Sheila White was again one of the judges for the contest, now in its second year. Congratulations to the winners and all the incredible nominees!

## DID YOU KNOW?

Toronto, Canada is digging into a litter issue: whether to introduce voluntary or mandatory measures to control "single-use plastics and takeaway items" like bags, straws, cutlery, containers, cups and Styrofoam - everything from education to product bans and fees is on the table. Public comment is invited until October 28. The online survey is [here](#).

## HEADLINE LITTER GRABBERS (SEP 30 - OCT 7)

Some of what made our News Reel this week

### **Six in ten Dubliners fail to pay their fines** [\(10/1\)](#)

Dublin has an unpaid fine dilemma. Only 40 percent of the 7,500 people over five years cited for littering have paid their fines, new figures have revealed. Of 541 people cited this year, 158 paid. The revelation has sparked calls for stricter enforcement and follow up.

### **British politician busted for littering** [\(10/2\)](#)

Jim Cunningham, MP for Coventry North, said he was sorry for throwing down his finished cigarette at a train station after being nabbed and fined £50. The politician said he forgot himself in his rush to board the train.

### **One in the same man receives a huge fine** [\(10/2\)](#)

A man who operated under two different names in Longford, Ireland appeared in court to face littering charges. With identity wrinkles ironed out, Hugh Anthony Nevin aka Hugh West was fined €3,000 for dumping at a bottle bank in March. West had a previous conviction and an unpaid fine for littering from 2011.

### **Durban litter video racking up the views** [\(10/2\)](#)

Surfer Gary Nilson's [video](#) of a really messed up portion of lawn and parking lot around Country Beach opposite the Moses Mabhida Stadium in Durban, South Africa racked up 250,000+ views on his Facebook page.

### **Plastic straw count supports call for ban** [\(10/2\)](#)

The Nature Foundation in St. Maarten says the number of plastic straws used on the island is 1.4 billion a year.