

NOMOREBUTTS

ANNUAL REPORT

2022





NO MORE BUTTS, AUSTRALIA

Let's aim for a butt free environment

IT'S NOT THAT BIG OF A PROBLEM, IS IT?

~9

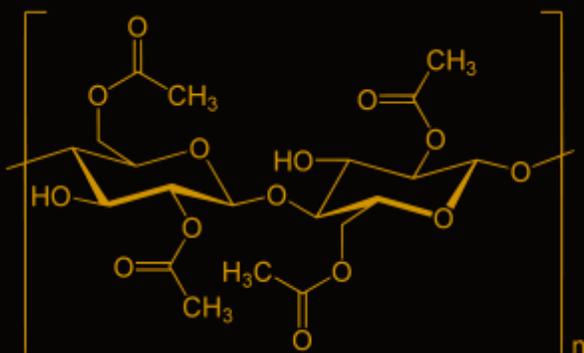


> 16%
of all litter

BILLION discarded into the environment yearly.

BUT THEY'RE BIO-DEGRADABLE, RIGHT?

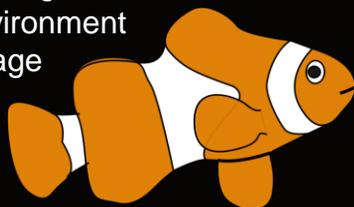
Cigarette butts are made from a fibrous plastic, known as cellulose acetate.



It can take up to 15 years for a cigarette butt to breakdown in sea water.

HOW ELSE CAN IT CAUSE HARM?

In 1 hour, chemicals begin leaching into the environment and can cause damage to our marine life.



Hundreds of fires, including bush fires, are attributed to smoking related causes each year.



WHAT CAN I DO?

RE-EDUCATE - Let people know that butts are litter, aren't biodegradable and suggest they put their butts in a bin.

RETRIEVE - Make sure butts aren't on the ground. You can even arrange a Butt Patrol to collect littered butts.

RECYCLE - Ask your council or employer to consider recycling your butt. Contact us for more details.

GET INVOLVED

#nomorebutts | @NoMoreButtsAU
nomorebutts.org | contact@nomorebutts.org | +61 411 868 275

NOMOREBUTTS

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Letter from the Chair

2022 has been a year of significant development for our charity, and I am pleased to report that we have achieved a number of significant milestones again which contribute to our continued growth.

Our CEO has been relentless in his work to raise awareness around cigarette butt litter, and other associated environmental concerns such as vape waste. This has culminated in a hefty resume of achievements for the charity this year which highlight our collective growing voice and influence on this waste issue, along with developing financial avenues to make our programs and research materialise into something more substantial.



We have been fortunate enough to speak at many local and international waste conferences, and continue to be invited to consult for government. Our collective voice and influence on this waste issue is growing steadily, and concurrently we are developing financial avenues to make our programs and research materialise into something more substantial.

We continue to engage heartily with the community, and grow a network of volunteers in most states and territories. Our sincere thanks goes out to all those who have participated and helped during the last 12 months. Every contribution is noted, and means a great deal to where we are now. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank the board for all their work until now. We are comprised of people located all over the world, and while it can make meeting a challenge, having our voice in different regions is a huge benefit for us.

To all current members, and other contributors, I also thank you for your dedication and vision. This is a special issue that we deal with in raising awareness around the most littered Item in Australia, and it is the consistency of each and every person involved that contributes to its prominence in the minds of politicians, and the public alike. So I implore all of you to just keep doing what you're doing right now, and trust that our consistency of effort will continue to lead to special outcomes for No More Butts.

Roderic Byrnes

Roderic Byrnes

Chair, NO MORE BUTTS LTD

Letter from the Founder



After resigning from my corporate career in 2020 to pursue my passion for impact, No More Butts was founded.

After spending most of the first year setting up processes and building a passionate group of volunteers and external contacts, I have been energised by the amount of growth we have seen for our humble charity in the past 12 months of operation.

I was also humbled to be recognised in January for my contributions, being awarded the Volunteer of the Year in the Cairns Regional Council 2022 Australia Day Awards.

The continued opportunity to engage key stakeholders at events such as Waste in Coffs Harbour, as well as a return to KAB NSW Litter Congress and Waste & Recycle in WA have been important opportunities to raise the profile of cigarette butt litter, but also the emerging threat of vaping waste.

Whilst there has been no formal progress on a cross-sectoral product stewardship scheme, there is increased momentum in most states, with dialogues around single use plastic bans and Extended Producer Responsibility schemes. Further, we have engagements across 5 of the States, through various streams.

I would again like to thank our members, who are scattered across the globe and I would also like to thank all of our volunteers for their efforts this year across many facets of the charity.

Although our vision for a butt free environment has not changed, we are facing new threats. After two years, I am confident we can deliver our mission.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Shannon Mead'.

Shannon Mead
Founder, No More Butts

Our Vision

“A butt free environment”.

We see a future where cigarette butts will be recycled, with the products created having a further positive impact on the community.

Our Mission

We run national awareness campaigns on the impact of littering and recycling options, with the aim to make people think twice before carelessly discarding their butts.

We assist in the beautification and regeneration of our natural environment through participation in, or coordination of, clean-up events.

We intend to scale national recycling programs and research alternative solutions whilst challenging industry to identify more environmentally friendly materials for cigarette butt filters.

Our Approach

Re-educate - We re-educate people, businesses, governments and organisations on the importance of the correct disposal, options for awareness programs and infrastructure, and on the ability to recycle.

Retrieve - We retrieve cigarette butts where they have been discarded, promoting the preservation and recovery of the natural environment. We partner with groups and run our own events.

Recycle - We promote existing recycling options and intend to scale these into as many communities and workplaces as possible.

Research – We work across research foundations and engage industry to identify alternative recycling methods, commercialise products made from the recycled materials, and progress research into alternative materials for filters.

Reward - We plan to pilot rewards schemes, with support from companies and governments, to drive a step-change in awareness and mindset.

Our Values



Respect

“We respect the natural environment and we respect the diverse backgrounds and opinions of those involved in our charitable purpose.”



Preserve

“We preserve the natural environment by supporting activities related to sustainable litter and waste management along with clean-up events.”



Question

“We question and challenge how things have been done and how innovation can lead towards the best outcomes for the environment and our charity.”



Grow

“We seek opportunities to support the personal and professional growth of our team. We identify opportunities for funding to help our charity grow.”

Background on the Issue

Over 2.5 million Australian smokers purchase over 800 million packets of cigarettes each year. These packets contain 17.8 billion cigarette sticks and generate federal revenue from excise and duties of more than \$13.5 billion annually.

Nearly 9 billion of these cigarette butts are then littered into the Australian environment every year and continue to be reported by most States and groups as the most littered item. With a plastic filter made from cellulose acetate, cigarette butts are not biodegradable. The filter contains toxic chemicals that leach into the environment, causing significant damage to vegetation, marine life, and our reef.

Every year, cigarette butts are a high contributor to fires, with an estimated 7% of all bushfires in Australia being caused by discarded cigarette butts and matches.

As a registered environmental charity, No More Butts has been focussed on designing and deploying initiatives to tackle cigarette butt litter and waste, including pushing for the implementation of a formal tobacco industry product stewardship scheme.



Cigarette butt litter remains the most reported litter item

CEO Report

The new Financial Year started positively, carrying on momentum from our inaugural year.

We continued our discussions across State and Commonwealth government stakeholders, including relevant departments. Late in the 2021, No More Butts made a formal submission for the Federal Budget, outlining the budget required to solve the issue of cigarette butt litter across Australia. At the same time, the Federal Environment Minister opened up nominations for new products to be added to the Priority List of products to be considered for Product Stewardship. No More Butts made a detailed submission, including letters of endorsement from nearly 20 businesses, councils, peak bodies and other NGOs.

We also engaged with the department formerly known as DAWE regarding the National Plastic Pollution Portal. We provided inputs and have since engaged with the appointed agency, CSIRO, to provide feedback to ensure a robust solution for the intended users.

Conferences continued to prove a great opportunity to network and build awareness across multiple stakeholders. We started with Waste & Recycle (WA) in late 2021 and as the new calendar year commenced, our abstracts for raising awareness of the emerging threat of vaping were accepted for presentation at Waste 2022 Coffs Harbour, as well as KAB NSW Litter Congress. We were glad to use these opportunities to raise this issue to a multitude of stakeholders who had not considered the emerging threat of vaping waste and litter on the environment.



Our participation as a member of Boomerang Alliance included regular meetings with other stakeholders to drive the Single Use Plastics agenda amongst this community. We also expanded our focus outside of Australia, making a submission to UK's DEFRA public consultation on plastic tobacco filters and also attended a World Health Organisation event to mark World No Tobacco Day.

As a recent member of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Global Partnership on Marine Litter (GMPL), we hope to have the opportunity to engage on the new International Plastics Treaty that was passed in 2022 and have also been invited to present our poster on Calculating the Cost of Cigarette Butt Litter at the UNEP 7th International Marine Debris Conference in September in Busan, Korea.

For our programs, late in 2021, we were advised of a successful grant outcome in WA. Funding through KABC WA would enable us to scale a cigarette butt collection system for businesses across selected councils in WA suburbs.

At the same time, we were successful in agreeing to implement a dedicated infrastructure servicing grant with Wollongong Council. This was featured on ABC radio and there was significant interest, in particular on the remediation services that we had engaged Fungi Solutions on.

We have been able to build on the relationships we had forged with councils such as Cairns and Byron Bay and connected with larger bodies, including City of Melbourne. In Cairns, engagement across all levels and sides of government ramped up, with meetings with candidates for the upcoming Federal election, as well as Councillors and the State MP.

The exposure of our charitable plans were noticed by Cairns Regional Council and in the capacity of volunteer CEO, I was awarded the Volunteer of the Year award at the 2022 Australia Day Awards.



In NSW, our arrangement with EPA NSW as a consultant continued, as we strengthened our engagement and starting researching the impacts of vaping devices. In addition, we engaged NSW DPIE leadership to provide updates and recommendations on Product Stewardship and Extended Producer Responsibilities, on the back of the newly introduced Plastic Reduction and Circular Economy Act.

We signed a Supplier Agreement with Fungi Solutions and have been excited to see their growth and accolades received in the last year. In addition to exploring mycelium, we have worked with RMIT on three Capstone projects to identify potential commercial ways to deal with cigarette butt litter whilst having a further positive impact on both financial and circular economies.

We also focused on legal protections of our growing charity and successfully trademarked our logo, company name and our key slogan, “Don’t be a FLICKING idiot™”. We have recently written a paper on the environmental threat of vaping, which we expect to publish shortly.

From a fundraising perspective, we signed up with Grassrootz, meaning that participants in dozens of sporting events around Australia can raise funds for our charity. Early in 2022, we were also featured in the Grill’d Cairns Esplanade Local Matters donation tin, where we raised funds from the community voting. We were also happy to have employees of Grill’d join in our organised clean up to mark Clean Up Australia Day in Cairns, collecting hundreds of butts on the Esplanade.

Our charity continues to be supported by the significant amount of hours from our volunteers, who we highlight later in this document. We are always on the hunt for additional volunteers, so if you think you’ve got something to contribute, we welcome you to get in touch.



Looking Forward

As the time of writing, we have a busy few months planned.

On September 1st, we will hold our inaugural Big Butt Hunt in collaboration with Clean Up Australia, in Cairns. We hope that this will set the foundation for this event to be held in multiple LGAs in 2023.

Following this, we will speak about the impacts of vaping at WA Waste & Recycle Conference, before heading to Korea to present our poster on “Calculating the cost of cigarette butt litter” at the 7th International Marine Debris Conference. Upon our return, we will speak at REROC’s No Time to Waste conference in Wagga Wagga about vaping. Following this, we will be on the extended panel at Waste Expo in Melbourne, followed by another appearance a month later at AWARE, also in Melbourne.

We are currently awaiting to hear of grant outcomes for two applications made earlier in the year to Sustainability Victoria for the community recycling and research streams.

We plan to continue our engagement with RMIT and also Boral into alternative uses for cigarette butt waste. We also intend to expand the scope of our partnership with Fungi Solutions and look to extend the coverage of our agreement to include licensing of remediation services.

We are also looking for projects in Tasmania, the only State we don’t currently have active operations in.



We continue to seek relevant conferences to attend and present at and welcome any opportunity that comes our way.

We plan to widen our coverage across Australia to engage with WA and ACT as they seek submissions for their single use plastic bans.

We also believe there are opportunities to collaborate with TerraCycle and Close the Loop on opportunities for supply chain and trials for both mycocyling and dealing with vape waste with retail partners.

In the meantime, we intend to trial local vaping collection systems with partners such as Cairns Regional Council. We also intend to expand the reach of our commercial solutions, including the Butt Muncher Box.

Our main charitable outcome is the introduction of a Product Stewardship scheme, so to that end, we will continue to engage with the Federal Department and Government regarding all forms of tobacco product waste, including vaping.



A Product Stewardship scheme exists for tyres – can it exist for cigarette butts?

Photo credit to Buttman Original



The logo for 'NOMOREBUTTS' is displayed within a black rectangular box. The text 'NOMORE' is in white, and 'BUTTS' is in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font.

NO MORE BUTTS LTD

2022 Annual Financial Reports

Annual Report - Profit and Loss

Accrual mode

01 Jul 2021 - 30 Jun 2022

	Total	
	Actual	Last Year
Income		
Membership Fees	\$9	\$473
Consultancy Fees	\$13,750	\$0
Merchandise Sales	\$0	\$30
Interest Received	\$0	\$0
Donations Received	\$192	\$441
KAB Grant Income	\$705	\$0
Total Income	\$14,655	\$944
Gross Profit	\$14,655	\$944
Expenses		
Food & Accommodation - Domestic	\$905	\$1,533
Travel Expenses - Domestic	\$1,329	\$1,554
Registration & Subscription Expenses	\$1,764	\$2,543
Insurance Expenses	\$1,393	\$1,197
Uniform Expenses	\$0	\$332
Marketing & Advertising Expenses	\$0	\$329
Telephone & Internet Expenses	\$209	\$178
Bookkeeping & Accounting Expenses	\$288	\$0
KAB Grant Expenses	\$705	\$0
Postage Freight & Courier	\$57	\$63
Merchant Fees	\$0	\$15
Other Expenses	\$0	\$122
Merchandise Purchase	\$41	\$503
Fungi Remediation Expenses	\$9	\$0
Total Expenses	\$6,701	\$8,368
Operating Profit	\$7,955	(\$7,424)
Other Expenses		
Donations Made	\$5	\$0
Total Other Expenses	\$5	\$0
Net Profit	\$7,949	(\$7,424)

Annual Report - Balance Sheet

30 Jun 2022

	Total	
	Actual	Last Year
Assets		
Westpac Community Solution One	\$6,938	\$1,687
Westpac Community Solution Two	\$200	\$190
Westpac Community Solution Three	\$152	\$102
Trade Debtors	\$330	\$22,110
Total Assets	\$7,620	\$24,089
Liabilities		
GST Balance	(\$153)	(\$269)
Trade Creditors	\$0	\$2
Deferred Revenue	\$7,248	\$21,780
Non Current Liabilities		
Shannon Mead - Loan	\$0	\$10,000
Total Non Current Liabilities	\$0	\$10,000
Total Liabilities	\$7,095	\$31,513
Net Assets	\$525	(\$7,424)
Equity		
Retained Earnings	(\$7,424)	\$0
Current Year Earnings	\$7,949	(\$7,424)
Total Equity	\$525	(\$7,424)

Our Memberships



One planet
handle with care

Alignment with United Nations SDGs



Governance

Board

Roderic Byrnes (Executive Director)

Samuel Hawkins (Executive Director)

Shannon Mead (Executive Director)

Natalie Pharaoh (Company Secretary)

Public Fund Committee

Roderic Byrnes

Shannon Mead

Natalie Pharaoh

Structure

NO MORE BUTTS LTD is an Australian based charity, as a public company, limited by guarantee.

The No More Butts Public Fund has been granted Deductible Gift Recipient status in Australia, and as such, all donors are entitled to a tax receipt and a full tax deduction for their donations.

Policies

The Board works with a number of Policies, which provide a framework for the corporate governance of NO MORE BUTTS LTD.

All Directors are required upon appointment to disclose any conflict of interest and must complete a Declaration for Responsible Persons, confirming that they are not disqualified under Governance Standard 4 to hold a Director position on the Board.

Volunteers

As at 31st July 2022



Rod Byrnes
Operations Manager



Samuel Hawkins
Controller



Natalie Pharaoh
Copywriter



Emma Frampton
Legal Counsel



Ingrid Jones
Grant Writer



Julie Tkalec
Volunteer Coordinator



Yut Cheng
Admin & Analytics



Yuki Sato
Accountant

We also acknowledge Aidan Smith and Deepthy John for their fantastic assistance as volunteers across the financial year and acknowledge Connor Anderson for his guidance in recent months.

Membership

In order to be entered and retained on the Register of Environmental Organisations (REO), No More Butts conducted a recruitment drive in the first year of our operation.

Using our website, along with organic Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram marketing, we reached and retained the requirement of a minimum of 50 members.

As a public company, limited by guarantee, our members have a financial obligation to the company. This obligation can either be fulfilled up front, or if ever called upon. In our constitution, we resolved to have this membership fee at \$10.

There is currently no separation of obligations or entitlements for members who have already contributed their obligation.

We are required to submit a annual report to retain our REO status, confirming the current level of membership. This was completed after the Annual General Meeting, where a motion was passed to change the name of the legal entity from NO BUTTS ABOUT IT (INTERNATIONAL) LTD to NO MORE BUTTS LTD.

NOMOREBUTTS

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@NoMoreButtsAU
#nomorebutts



ABN: 48 641 916 903



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