

# WordPress 2.8 and the get\_link() error in line 647 of dashboard.php

Adrian Kosmaczewski

2009-06-25

Wow, that's a long title, but it should drive people with this problem right here. If you have upgraded your WordPress installation to 2.8, you might have encountered a nasty error in your Dashboard, which says something about a

```
Fatal error: Call to a member function on a non-object in  
/home/user/www/wp-admin/includes/dashboard.php on line 647
```

This has been reported in the WordPress site but no fix has been provided. I found elsewhere a possible fix, but in my case, the new URL would not be saved at all, and the problem would persist.

I fixed it using a good old method, enabled by Open Sourceâ„: **editing the code directly**; I'm posting it here for those of you who would like to do it, until 2.8.1 is released:

```
$author = $item->get_author();  
if ($author == NULL)  
{  
    $site_link = "";  
    $publisher = "Someone";  
}  
else  
{  
    $site_link = esc_url(strip_tags($author->get_link()));  
    if ( !$publisher = esc_html(strip_tags($author->get_name()))  
        $publisher = __('Somebody');  
    if ($site_link)  
        $publisher = "<a href='$site_link'>$publisher</a>";  
    else  
        $publisher = "<strong>$publisher</strong>";  
}
```