

HISTORY REPORT OCTOBER 2021-11-12

I thought I would test who exactly reads my monthly report. The topic chosen here seems as important as any history report so here it is.

I was sweeping and vacuuming up the green matting at the RIG entrance the other day and thoughtlessly emptied my sweepings into the Yellow Bin. I realised my error almost immediately, and with horror. It was too late to separate it out. I won't make the same error again.

I was later watching one of the chaps at the Boathouse emptying the vacuum cleaner of dust and shavings - actually what I had vacuumed up - exactly as I had, with no compunction, into the Yellow bin.

Between us we effectively contaminated all that was in the bin prior to that. Not, I would venture, for the first time.

The error was not forgivable but it is understandable as **which bin is for what is impossible to figure.**

Which bins *are* available, for RIG workers and visitors?

At the entrance to RIG there are two:

1. a Yellow bin (labelled "for recyclables") and
2. a Green bin. Any green bin, in my language, is a *green waste* bin, but the green bin at RIG's entrance has a can and a plastic bottle nailed to it signifying it is for collection of recyclable tin cans and plastic bottles. How can this be?

A third bin, a Blue bin with the word RIG on it was sitting over on the other side of the Wharf with the Maroon bins. It may be for landfill. Is it? Who knows? If it is for landfill, it's needed at the entrance to RIG, and with clear signage.

And what the Maroon bins are for is anybody's guess. Truly ignorant, when I was weeding the Deck Garden, I put all the green waste in the Maroon bin. Right? Wrong? Who knows?

So far we have:

- YELLOW bin for landfill, like sweepings, discarded lunch litter, coffee cups, sauce containers
- MAROON bin for green waste
- GREEN bin for recyclable bottles and cans
- BLUE bin for something as yet unknown

Help. Visitors can't be expected to know what bin is for what, if we don't.

If allowed, I would like to discuss at the next meeting "how we can take better care with our RIG waste and litter, in order not to add to the island's supply of wrongly placed waste". Misplaced waste is a heavy cost to the Island and wherever and whenever we can we should be reducing it, not adding to it.

DESIRED OUTCOMES & RESPONSIBILITIES

- Clear direction to all volunteers/ workers about which Boathouse waste/lunch waste goes where – Committee Secretary RIG
- Clear weather proof signage on each bin to clarify which waste goes where – Anne A'Herran
- Placement of each bin in its proper place – Everyone: it's up to everyone to ensure the Yellow, Green and Blue (if Blue is landfill) bins are all available at the RIG entrance.

Anne A'Herran Curator of Bins. RIG