

Herzog Bring Centre Still Closed. Why?

Michael Commane

There's a lot of talk about the environment these days. How are you with your carbon footprint?

State agencies, city councils, transport companies are all publishing documents, most of them aspirational, on how we can improve our environment.

Last summer Herzog Bring Centre in Rathgar closed for renovations. The facility is called after Chaim Herzog, who grew up in Dublin. He was President of Israel between 1983 and 1993.

A notice appeared at the site telling customers that it was closing on Monday August 13 and reopening in October 2018. It was interesting that while the English version said it was reopening in October 2018, the Irish translation was more specific and said the Bring Centre would reopen on Monday, October 2, 2018. But believe it or not, October 2 was a Tuesday in 2018.

October 2018 has come and gone and the Bring Centre has not yet reopened.

Before it closed in August, I innocently said to staff who work at the centre, that I'd miss the facility and was looking forward to its reopening in October. They looked at me and laughed, assuring me that it would not be opening in October.

They were correct. In late October I contacted the City Council and was assured it would be reopening but they were unable to tell me when.

In the intervening months I have, on a regular basis, phoned Dublin City Council. At one stage I was told it would be opening on May 1.

Since its closure there have been media reports about illegal dumping, which is a scourge and a crime. I read somewhere that council staff would be calling on households to check how they dispose of their waste. Modern data information means that waste disposal companies can supply councils with information as to who uses their services.

I don't have any problem with that. But I certainly do have issues with such behaviour when a public body keeps its citizens in the dark, as has Dublin City Council done with regard to the reopening of Herzog Bring Centre.

On the one hand we live in times of instant communication and information and on the other we are left in the dark far too often by those who are entrusted to serve us.

It's difficult to understand why the Herzog Bring Centre in Rathgar has been closed for almost a year.

A sign of how interested the City Council really is in our environment?

Fr John Lule

We are happy to welcome Fr John Lule back to the parish, for the first three weeks of July. Fr John is coming from Uganda and will provide holiday cover here. Please greet him warmly, feel free to invite him to your home, or for coffee, and make sure he knows how much we appreciate his being here.

Collections 30th June 2019

Offertory Collection: €1,314

Peter's Pence Collection: €1,744

Thank you for your support for these collections, particularly the Peter's Pence Collection, and for your contributions to the Parish Fund each month.

St Vincent de Paul Monthly Collection will be held on next Sunday 14th July.

Christian Meditation takes place every Thursday morning after 10.00am Mass. Meditation is the quiet prayer of faith, silence, stillness and simplicity handed on to us by the Benedictine Monk, John Main O.S.B. All are welcome.

Mary Aikenhead Heritage Centre in the grounds of Our Lady's Hospice, Harold's Cross. Visit and hear the story of a remarkable Irish woman who set up the first Hospital for the Poor run by women in Ireland and who visited women prisoners in Kilmainham Jail. Free admission, and tea/coffee served. Ph: 086 7247 660.

Occasional Notes from the Laudato Sí Group

10 Ways to Help Pollinators.

Extract from the 'All-Ireland Pollinator Plan'

1. Let dandelions bloom; they provide vital food for hungry bees in spring.
2. Reduce mowing; mow every 6 weeks from mid April, to allow flowers like clover to grow and provide food
3. Pollinator-friendly bulbs: Plant Crocus, Allium or snow drop bulbs as they provide better food than daffodils or tulips.
4. Pollinator-friendly bedding **NB:** Begonias, Petunias, and Busy Lizzies, don't provide food for pollinators.
5. Plan native flowering trees: Willow, hawthorn, and blackthorn flowers provide important food for pollinators. *More next week*

St Joseph's Young Priests' Society monthly meeting will take place on Thursday 11th July at 10.30am in St Columba's Room, 49 Rathgar Road. New members welcome.

Cemetery Sundays

Dardistown: Sunday 7th July at 3.00pm

Deansgrange: Sunday 7th July at 3.00pm.

Esker: Sunday 25th Aug at 3.00pm.

Glasnevin: Sunday 30th June at 3.00pm.

Hollywood: Friday 28th June at 7.30pm.

Kilternan: Sunday 30th June at 1.30pm.

If you would like to take a copy of this newsletter with you please do. Maybe an elderly neighbour would appreciate receiving a copy. Otherwise, return it to the table as you leave the Church. Thank you.