

Auckland Central Community Shed (Inc)

# SHED NEWSLETTER



November 2021



Great news everyone...we are finally able to open again. Regrettably there will be restrictions, and it is important that Members take on board the conditions and responsibilities for everyone getting access to The Shed, but we are very fortunate to be able to operate in these times. Auckland Council (our landlord) have really been onboard with this but it is based on us strictly adhering to a Covid policy and following operational guidelines which we have now developed in conjunction with Menzshed NZ, Nikki and Rod (The Shed H&S rep). In embarking on this we have sought all of your feedback and used it to guide us (The Committee) to create a plan in order to safely begin our operations.

I had hoped upon reopening that we could have done so on the basis of social distancing alone but, unfortunately, I personally believe a sense of fear in the community and a lack of proper understanding has led us to adopt a more stringent approach. We have made every effort to include different Members' needs and tried to avoid polarising language. We want to respect peoples individual right to make their own choices and have therefore allocated one day each week for those who do not wish to provide evidence of their status in regard to Covid-19 vaccination. This could, however, change if there is more demand and if we have enough Duty Managers to cover.

As I say it has been a difficult issue to work through as individuals' ideas of what is considered safe for them differs. Ultimately it may mean that some Members may want to stay away until 'better times'.

So this is how we will get started....it is a start and changes can be expected as we learn how to navigate our way through this. All this aside, most of all we are a Shed, a Shed, a Shed... a unique place to make stuff and enjoy interactions with others while doing so...be it even with masks.

**Nikki will follow this intro with the specifics of what you will need to know and do BEFORE you plan to come to the Shed.**

On a different note, sadly Garry has decided to resign as Treasurer / Secretary for The Shed. He has done a great job these last couple of years and will be greatly missed. He has streamlined our financial system and done a real solid job getting us on to Xero and making everything much more transparent and user friendly. He has been very successful with getting us much needed funding by making regular applications with the local council and other funders. He has been a terrific support for me, actually not just support he has actively promoted ideas for The Shed prior to taking them to Committee. At times it felt he was acting more like the Chairman and, to be honest, I would have been happy to offer him the position except that would have left me without a Treasurer and Secretary! I have particularly enjoyed his no nonsense (sometimes blunt) Aussie, drole perspective as we have had to make day to day (more week to week, really) decisions about certain aspects of The Sheds business....so thanks very much Garry, I/we will miss you.

Needless to say, for us to continue as functioning Shed, we need someone to step-up and take up this role. If you would like to know more about this position call Garry on 021998305...as soon as.

Patrick Harris,  
**Chairman**



## **WE RE-OPEN ON WEDNESDAY 17th NOVEMBER.**

The Council has agreed to us reopening provided the following safety control measures are put in place. The smaller enclosed spaces including the entrance, office, tool room and the lunchroom were seen as areas of particularly high risk. We've highlighted some key rules below and sign-posted requirements throughout The Shed. They will also be on the website shortly.

### **In General**

- *No mask - no entry (bring your own, labelled)*
- *Do not come in if feeling unwell*
- *Max of 10 Members on site at a time (+ Coordinator)*
- *Keep your distance from other Members*
- *New Members to call rather than visit*
- *Use sanitiser and clean tools regularly*

### **Entrance**

- *Scan the QR code (mandatory)*
- *Only one person at a time*
- *Use sanitizer before using pen to signing*



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### **Office**

- *Coordinator to work mostly from home - email or call*
- *Respect physical barrier on office entrance*

### **Toilet/Locker Room**

- *Only one person at a time*
- *Keep mask on*
- *Wash and sanitize hands*

### **Lunch Room**

- *Only one person at a time*
- *Keep mask on*
- *Bring your own mug and take it home for cleaning*
- *Eat outside*

### **Tool and Electronics Rooms**

- *Only one person at a time*
- *Use hand-sanitizer before and after handling tools*

We are lucky to have fans and doors we can keep open for ventilation in the workshops. Duty Managers must ensure these are in operation when opening up.

**DAYS OPEN** To minimise office visitors, Members must **email** a record of their vaccination (2 x doses) to Nikki **BEFORE** starting work at The Shed. If you are unable to email, please call Nikki (027 375 9662) to discuss.

**for Members who have provided evidence of vaccination\***

*Mondays*                      *10 am to 3 pm*  
*Wednesdays*                *10 am to 3 pm (NO EVENING SESSION)*  
*Sundays*                        *10 am to 3 pm*

**for Members with undisclosed vaccination status**

*Tuesdays*                    *10 am to 3 pm*

Days will be split into a morning or afternoon session. Members can book a session using an online calendar (to be shared soon).

**MEMBER LIMIT**

**10 per session.** Again, please respect the limit of **ONE** in enclosed spaces.

**BOOKING A SESSION**

Due to our Members' varying online access, we currently don't have a system for booking sessions but we will keep reviewing this regularly and implement one if necessary.



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**SIGNING IN/QR SCANNING**

The Shed already has a QR code and sign in sheet. Please use BOTH. Contact tracing is one of the strongest tools to stop the spread of Covid-19 and thus minimise lockdowns. Remember there are a few Members with the same first name, please so please add the initial letter of your last name and, very importantly... *make it legible please!*

**RESPECTING OUR MEMBERS.** As around half our Members are retirees, regardless of your personal views, we ask you to abide by the rules so we can remain open and, in particular, minimise the risks to our older Members who are also our most vulnerable.

**MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS.** For renewals due during the recent Shed closure, The Committee has agreed to push out Membership payments for a month past their due date in order to be able to continue to pay operating costs. If you are affected but have difficulties with this, please don't hesitate to get in touch. We do not want finances to be a barrier to Membership.

**CHRISTMAS OPENING.** With the added benefit of summer on our side, we're cautiously optimistic we'll still be open by Christmas! Our opening hours will be:

Last day of opening is Wednesday 22 December  
We'll reopen on Monday 10 January



Ka kite anō (See you again)

NIKKI

Newsletter Editor 🧐

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The Shed is proudly supported by:

