

Mission Shop Report 2022

Because of the Covid outbreak in August 2021, we shut up shop for the remainder of the year. Earnings were about the same as 2020, as we were closed for about the same number of weeks.

During January 2022 a group of volunteers met on Thursdays to change the winter clothes still on the racks from last August to summer in anticipation of reopening at the normal time in February. Because the Omicron variant had taken hold it was decided to open only one day a week, and the volunteers should work only two hour shifts, with an extra person to check the required Vaccine Passes. That worked well, and very few customers were turned away for not producing a Vaccine Pass.

We were able to resume our normal days and hours in May, and since then have had no problem with volunteers wanting to stay away. Donations came in at their usual rate, we heard that some op shops were desperate for donations. We still send our overflow to ATWC and the City Mission, who are very grateful. We have been blessed with some new and not so new parishioners who have offered to work in the Mission shop so our volunteer numbers remain steady.

We had a student from St Kentigern College who came in on Saturdays to vacuum and generally tidy up. Mikayla and her Mum also came and helped at the Garage Sale, and enjoyed it, so they would like to volunteer again next year. A lot of new customers have said they googled us and found us that way. We are also on some new Facebook sites.

In June we had a team from Fair Go who came to the Mission Shop to film a segment which was shown on their programme on Monday 11 July. The Mission Shop parts would have been recognisable to any volunteers and regular customers, also the segments filmed on the drive outside the shop. The Mission Shop was used as a backdrop to a story about Facebook scammers, no complaints about our shop!

The Shop and stage selling clothes did well for the Garage Sale, we have used that system for a few years now and it seems to work well. It does involve a lot of work setting up the stairs and the racks on the stage, and packing down after the Sale.

Our takings at the time of writing are equal with 2019, which was the last year not affected by Covid. Our disbursements are covered in the Charitable Purposes Group report.

Jenny Haggitt