

# SOUNDCHECK AOTEAROA

A safe and inclusive culture for the music community  
*Hei kōrero, hei wero, hei kōkiri anō hoki*

## PROFESSIONAL RESPECT TRAINING WORKSHOPS NOW AVAILABLE

[SoundCheck Aotearoa](#) is an action group formed in 2020 with the mission to foster a safe and inclusive culture for the music community.

We are excited to be offering a series of Professional Respect training workshops free of charge for members of our music community. The first Professional Respect workshop will be on Friday 7th May 2021 in Auckland, with more dates and locations to be announced soon. Each workshop is a full day starting at 9am and finishing at 5pm, with lunch provided.

The Professional Respect training workshops have been developed by sexual harm prevention specialist Rachel Harrison, in conjunction with SoundCheck Aotearoa, based on a model for similar training that has been rolled out across the screen sector. The workshop is friendly and interactive and the content includes:

- Definitions of sexual harassment and sexual harm within New Zealand legislation
- WorkSafe obligations and legal requirements for workplaces
- Guidance for receiving disclosures of sexual harm and supporting survivors
- Options and pathways for reporting sexual harm and support services available
- Strategies for preventing sexual harm and fostering a respectful work environment
- Practical tips for bystander intervention

The training days will be facilitated by Rachel Harrison together with either Mel Calvesbert or Meredith Kennett – their bios are included below. The facilitators are experienced specialists and they will ensure that the discussion is safe, constructive and respectful. However, if you have any concerns about the workshops and would like to discuss how to attend or contribute in a safe way, please contact us on [info@soundcheckaotearoa.co.nz](mailto:info@soundcheckaotearoa.co.nz), or contact Rachel directly by email [HERE](#).

Please note these training workshops are different from the consultation style workshops SoundCheck Aotearoa has offered recently. The consultation style workshops were intended to gather views, ideas and feedback on the challenges in our music community and what we might do together to address them. If you missed the consultation workshops and want to give feedback, the conversation is always open. You can contact us by email anytime or use the online feedback form [HERE](#).

Finally a reminder of the range of support services listed on our website [HERE](#). One of the services listed is [HELP](#). HELP is the sexual harm crisis agency we have partnered with, and it is available 24/7 nationwide on 0800 623 1700 (you can call anonymously if you wish), [info@helpauckland.org.nz](mailto:info@helpauckland.org.nz), or directly via its website. HELP can provide information, support and practical assistance to anyone who has experienced sexual harm, anyone supporting a friend or family member who has experienced it, or anyone else who is affected.

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## Facilitator Biographies



### **Rachel Harrison**

Rachel Harrison lives on the Coromandel Peninsula and works with organisations and communities across Aotearoa to help prevent sexual harassment, sexual violence, domestic violence and child abuse.

Rachel believes that harassment, violence and abuse are preventable and that the best solutions are tailored to each specific community and workplace, making use of their strengths and minimising specific risk factors.

Rachel started at Auckland Rape Crisis in the 1990's, and since then has worked at Netsafe, the Hauraki Family Violence and Child Abuse Prevention Services Hauraki. She is now self-employed and works with a range of public and private sector organisations including ACC Injury Prevention, the New Zealand Defence Force, New Zealand Rugby, BNZ, and the Screen Women's Action Group as they work toward making their communities safe and free from harassment and abuse.



### **Melanie Calvesbert**

Mel was born, grew up and lives in Te Whanganui ā Tara (Wellington). She is Pākehā and works at the New Zealand Defence Force as one of their small team of regionally based Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Advisors. Moving into this role in June 2016 was a major change for Mel who had previously worked mostly in NGOs including WellStop and the Wellington Sexual Abuse HELP Foundation. Mel was attracted to her current role by the fact that prevention was in the job title and job description. She has enjoyed and been challenged by being able to take prior learning and adapt that in order to be able to play a small part within an organisation which has taken on the challenge of culture change.



### **Meredith Kennett**

A Trainer/Facilitator for over 20 years, Meredith has a vast array of experiences from working with primary aged children to high level government employees and CEOs. She prides herself in making a solid connection with her audiences to enable learning to happen easily. Meredith believes that the environment must be welcoming, and that fun is an essential element in all learning.

Meredith currently leads the facilitator training for ACC's Mates & Dates programme. [www.matesanddates.co.nz](http://www.matesanddates.co.nz) is a dating and sexual violence prevention programme available to all New Zealand high school students.