

**Project name**

Painting the main room in St Arnaud Band Hall

**Project location**

St Arnaud Band Hall

**Name of organisation applying for a grant**

St Arnaud Citizens Band

**Brief description of the organisation applying for a grant**

The St Arnaud Citizens Band has been an integral part of the St Arnaud and district since 1875. It continues to participate in community events such as Australia Day Flag Raising, Anzac Day, St Arnaud Show, St Arnaud Festival, Carols by Candlelight and Christmas Parade. There are over 20 playing members ranging in age from eight to seventy plus. Jane and Peter Battersby of the St Arnaud Citizens Band administer the Wimmera Bands Group Music School which has been instrumental in providing music instruction for children and adults throughout the Wimmera for over forty years. The Band has for many years, been invited to perform at the Donald Schools Music Festival.

**Brief project summary**

To paint the main room in Band Hall as part of the refurbishment of the Band Hall.

The Band Hall is used for weekly Band practices and Learners' Group. The Pipe Band and Community Choir also join band practice prior to community combined performances. The Line Dancers use the Hall weekly and a young rock band use the Hall for rehearsals. The hall interior has not been painted for decades.

**Maximum amount applied for**

\$1500

**Expected date of project completion**

The overall project will be completed when money is available. If successful in receiving \$1500 from this grant, the painting will commence immediately and completed within a few months.

**Project Details****A summary of what the project is, including where it is**

To paint the interior of the main room in the St. Arnaud Citizens Band Hall.  
Quote attached from Michael Martin who will do the painting.

The hall interior has not been painted for decades. Vents in the roof were removed a few years ago because they leaked. The stained ceiling in the main room is too high for the Band members to paint. The walls are in desperate need of painting also.

It is envisaged that the hall will be a light, bright and vibrant venue for the Band and Community.

### **An indication of the objectives of the project, what the planned outcomes are and how they can be measured**

#### **Objective**

To paint the main room in the Band Hall so that the historical photos can be displayed in a freshly painted room and thus lift the spirits of those who currently use the room and those who visit and appreciated the importance of the Band to the town of St Arnaud and district. To recognise the contributions of the musicians of the past and present.

The painting will give a fabulous lift and brighten the Band Hall. It will provide a clean, low maintenance venue for years to come and enable the Band to consider other community groups who wish to use the Hall.

That the Hall is an upgraded asset for the Band, Town of St Arnaud and district.

#### **Outcomes**

That the main room in the Hall looks fresh, vibrant and an inviting community venue.

That the Hall is a low maintenance asset for the community and especially the Band.

That the freshly painted hall will complement the display of restored and newly framed historical photos.

That the Band will practise in a 'feel good' Hall and encourage other community members to participate in the Band.

#### **Measurement of success**

This will be reflected in the enthusiasm of all who use the Band Hall.

That the Band Hall become the music hub of the district through advertising and also demonstrate the commitment of the musicians at community events. The Band is highly regarded in the district and together with the Historical Society I feel there will be quite a deal of interest in the project. This will require promotion in the North Central News and making the Band Hall gallery of photos available at events such as the St Arnaud Festival and Historical Society tours.

#### **An explanation of how the community will benefit**

To provide a well presented Band Hall which provides a fabulous venue for the Band and other users.

To provide an updated venue for the musicians, public, relatives and visitors who have an interest in the arts and culture of St Arnaud.

The Historical Society conducts tours of St Arnaud. The Band Hall will provide an interesting stop for community and out of town visitors as part of these tours.

To recognise the dedication of the musicians who regularly, rehearse and perform for the community of St Arnaud and district.

#### **An estimation of how many people will benefit**

The Community of St Arnaud, the Band members and relatives, Historical Society and visitors to the town.

**What contribution/in kind support your organisation will make towards the project**

The Band will contribute \$4000 to the cost of the project.  
Barry Wiseman will oversee the hanging of the photos in the Band Hall.

**Who will manage the project**

Barry Wiseman together with the sub-committee of Band members.

**What the overall cost of the project is**

\$5500

**What the timeline of the project is**

The overall project will be completed when money is available. If successful in receiving money from this grant, this part of the project will commence immediately and completed within a few months.

**Declarations and Information**

**How did you hear about the community grant program?**

Information in the North Central News

**Are there any disclosures regarding the project or your organisation you wish to make?**

No

**Is your organisation willing to allow the project to be used for promotional purposes by CBWF?**

Yes

**Other information**

The Band is requesting \$1500 to get the project started and appreciative of support from the Coonooer Bridge Wind Farm.

The St Arnaud Citizens Band has encouraged community members young and old to consider joining the Band and learning an instrument. This has been via the North Central News, information in School newsletters and direct contact with the St Arnaud Primary school. There are players in the Band from Coonooer West, St Arnaud East, Donald, Cope Cope, Winjallok as well as St Arnaud.

Kaye Smith, a Band member has played the Last Post at the Coonooer Bridge Anzac Day Service for about 35 years. We believe we have a strong connection with Coonooer Bridge through Kaye's commitment to supporting the community on Anzac Day.

The Band has a very good relationship with Lin Postlethwaite and the St Arnaud Pipe Band. Together they play traditional music at the St Arnaud Show and the Festival.

It is essential to maintain the Band Hall as part of the heritage of St Arnaud and district. It is important for the community to have an organisation working hard, not only to practise

and play well at events, but demonstrating a commitment to preserving the history as well. Judging by the enthusiastic compliments and larger than usual audience at the recent St Arnaud Show, we are doing something right.