

Grant Application Summary

Required information	Applicant provided response
Project name	St Arnaud Pipe Band - Australian Championships 2020.
Project location	St Arnaud
Name of organisation applying for a grant	St. Arnaud Normal Simpson Memorial Pipe Band Inc.
Brief description of the organisation applying for a grant	The St. Arnaud Pipe Band is a not-forprofit community based organisation providing musical tuition to local citizens, and entertainment to the community – locally and more further afield.
Brief project summary (max 100 words)	The St Arnaud Pipe Band is preparing to compete at the 2020 Australian Championships in Maryborough, at Easter 2020. This is an 18-month project that will bring regular world-class tuition to St. Arnaud; the focus of this tuition will be toward developing players ahead of the 2020 Australian Championship performance. The band will provide tuition for all members (experienced and beginners); the project also includes a uniform ‘refresh’ to modernise the uniform and reduce the level of sun exposure to the band members whilst on parade.
Maximum amount applied for	<p>\$8540</p> <p><i>Uniform items (updating for first time in 25 years) - prices quoted from St Kilda Retail, Australia.</i></p> <p>6 x new kilts @ \$550 each: \$3300 20 x waist coats @ \$99 each: \$1980 20 x white socks @ \$33 / pair: \$660 20 x long sleeved shirts @ \$30 each: \$600</p> <p><u>Tuition costs:</u> Quarterly tuition prior to championships (\$400 per weekend, incl. travel): \$2000</p>
Expected date of project completion	Uniform refresh to be completed (pending funding): 22 Feb 2019 Australian Championships: 4-5 April 2020

Project Details

This 18-month project for the pipe band comprises three key elements:

1. An expansion of the band's tuition program to bring regular world-class tuition to St Arnaud;
2. A refresh and modernization of the band's traditional Scottish uniform; and
3. Delivery of a high-class performance at the 2020 Australian Pipe Band Championships to be held in Maryborough over Easter 2020.

The band offers residents of St Arnaud and surrounding areas the opportunity to actively participate in local community events and activities throughout the year as part of the band's regular performances at local functions and events. In support of musical education in the community, the band teaches pipes and drums with twice weekly tutoring sessions throughout the year. Currently the band has 19 uniformed players, with this number likely to increase by up to 10 additional players in the next few months. This growth in numbers is the result of the band's commitment to its 'learner' program to teach the art of bagpipe and drums to the youth of the local community.

The band, under the leadership of Pipe Major Lin Postlethwaite, will engage highly accomplished tutors to provide additional tuition for all members (experienced and beginners), to supplement the regular tuition provided by the band's senior members.

The project includes a uniform 'refresh' to modernise the band's traditional Scottish uniform and reduce the level of sun exposure to the band members whilst on parade. The band hasn't updated the uniform in 25 years, and in order to maintain a professional appearance, as well as reduce sun exposure to the players, the band will be purchasing long sleeved shirts and waistcoats. In addition to this, the band is seeking funding to purchase an additional 6 new kilts. This will see the complete refresh of the original kilts, which were purchased when the band formed in the late 1940s. New white socks are also required – currently these are not all of the same type, which is detrimental to the band's overall appearance and ranking at competitions.

This project will provide opportunities and pathways for the younger members of the band to develop their musical ability to a sufficient level to participate with the band at the 2020 Australian Pipe Band Championships. The St Arnaud Pipe Band will be the only band from the Northern Grampians Shire to compete at the event, and in fact will be the only band from regional Victoria participating from a small regional town. As such, it has very limited resources to compete with bands from larger regional cities.

The band expended in excess of \$10,000 of its own funds in 2017 to purchase new lightweight drums. This was a significant and costly purchase for the band, but necessary when considering the health and safety of its players. Funding to support our project to compete at the 2020 Australian Championships will be much appreciated and highly valued by the band.