

HOPE RECIPIENT

Amplifying hope



Here to Help, a Perth charity band, is a collective of university students with a passion for music and a little spare time up their sleeves. Past student, Michael Hooper (14) is the founder of Here to Help, and in 2020 received funding from the Old Grammarians' Association Hope program.

Founded in 2019, our goal is to share music with those who need it most by performing free for local charity and not-for-profit events. Our past performances include Relay For Life, Amanda Young Foundation Open Garden, Purple Walk For Epilepsy and regular visits to play for the families staying at Ronald McDonald

House. Most of the band members are studying medicine, including my good friend Sam Riley (15), and the performances are a fantastic way to support the local health related charity organisations we so admire.

Prior to last year, one issue we consistently encountered, was a lack of power at outdoor events. With the goal of performing for charities free of charge, it made little sense for us to request a generator be hired to allow us to play. In early 2020, I heard about the OGA HOPE program and thought it could provide the solution. I am very fortunate to say our application was successful and we were able to purchase a generator ('Jenny') for Here to Help in June 2020.

The generosity of the OGA has granted us the ability to perform at many more events around Perth. The new freedom provided by the generator is incredibly helpful as many events occur on ovals and in parks without accessible power outlets, such as the Harry Perkins Perth Running Festival and the Mums On A Mission Family Fitness Day. These performances were not only successful and well received but led to further performances through exposure to charity organisers. We are extremely grateful to be recipients of the HOPE program and look forward to sharing music with Perth into the future, with a lot of help from 'Jenny'.

**Mr Michael Hooper, 2014
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