

## THE LITTLE WHITE CHAPEL SOUTH MORANG, VIC

In August 2015, family owned business and historic wedding chapel, The Little White Chapel, was destroyed by fire. The fire is believed to have started on an external wall on the north side of the chapel before the flames spread to the roof and ceiling causing extensive damage. The front entrance, kitchen and office area at the rear of the building also suffered extensive smoke damage.

The popular 140 square metre chapel that was built by the Wesleyan Methodist Church in 1888, was unable to operate weddings and functions throughout the duration of repairs putting the small venue at risk of being forgotten, resulting in a decrease of bookings upon reopening. The Bay Major Projects team were swiftly appointed the task of carrying out this complex repair that required a substantial steel portal frame upgrade to comply with current regulations and detailed carpentry works to match the chapels' pre-existing condition. Working from heights in high winds added additional complexity to this rebuild that the team needed to take into consideration and consequently work around.

Reinstatement works included roofing, fascia and gutter replacement, replacement of damaged wall frames, internal cedar linings and internal mouldings to match pre-existing condition, replacement of arched windows, timber flooring, fire damaged weatherboards, louvre vents, electrical fittings and chandeliers, as well as restoration and reinstatement of fire damaged pews by a team of specialist restorers and original ceiling vents.

The Bay team worked meticulously on this job to ensure the chapel was restored to its pre-loss condition. It was imperative that the original look and feel of the building was maintained to ensure the business was able to operate successfully in the future.



METICULOUS WORKMANSHIP & ATTENTION TO DETAIL

BBG TEAM: VIC Major Projects  
 PROJECT TYPE: Fire rectification works  
 PROJECT SIZE: 140m2  
 BUILDING TYPE: Commercial wedding chapel  
 PROJECT VALUE: \$370k



THE STEEL PORTAL FRAME UPGRADE  
 INSTALLED TO MEET CURRENT REGULATIONS