

## **BRUMBIES AND GIVIT PROVIDING \$50,000 IN BUSHFIRE RELIEF FOR SOUTH EAST NSW COMMUNITIES**

Super Rugby AU 2020 champions the Brumbies and national online charity **GIVIT** visited Tumut, Bemboka and Broulee on Wednesday 30 September to further support groups and residents in need after last summer's bushfires and struggling with the economic impacts of COVID-19.

GIVIT staff joined Brumbies players for a day meeting the locals who have been directly helped by the 'Brumbies Rugby Bushfire Appeal', which raised over \$50,000 for GIVIT's [NSW Bushfires Appeal](#) thanks to donations from Plus500 and generous Brumbies supporters online and on match days.

GIVIT Regional NSW Manager, Caroline Odgers says the charity's key focus is to continue to engage their network of donors to ensure no resident or bushfire-affected community is forgotten.

"From Kiah to Queanbeyan, Broulee to Batlow and the dozens of incredible bushfire-hit communities across New South Wales, donations from the champion Brumbies and their supporters have allowed GIVIT to provide exactly what's needed by stoic locals in need," said Ms Odgers.

GIVIT has coordinated more than 120,000 items to support NSW communities still rebuilding, from gas ovens and converted shipping containers for families camping on their properties, hardware equipment, as well as Snake Bite First Aid Kits for those towns hours away from medical assistance.

GIVIT has also sourced donations of moral-building items such as sporting equipment to encourage traumatised school children to play together, gardening equipment for those tending to community gardens, and fire-fighting pumps to protect vulnerable properties ahead of the next bushfire season.

100% of donated funds GIVIT receives are used to purchase items for people in need. To donate or find more information about GIVIT's NSW Bushfires Appeal, visit [GIVIT.org.au/nsw-bushfires](https://givit.org.au/nsw-bushfires).

Plus500 Brumbies CEO Phil Thomson said, "As a team and an organisation, we're immensely proud to have helped raise this money for a truly worthy cause. The bushfire crisis affected all of us in our region, and it's important for us at the Brumbies to play our part in the healing and rebuilding process."

"We want to thank our naming rights Partners Plus500, who have been incredibly generous in their support of this initiative, showing their commitment not only to our rugby team, but to the community that supports it.

"It was an emotional day, meeting those people who were so heavily affected by the crisis, and who have benefited from this funding and we're so glad we could see the great work that's being done to help in their recovery."



Almost a year on from the catastrophic bushfires, Ms Odgers says the needs for communities are focused on repairing homes as well as items to best support the health of those affected.

“There’s still a need for water tanks, generators and tools, but we’re also seeing requests for items to support people’s wellbeing such as beehives, seedlings, canoes, guitars and sewing machines. It’s so important to make these communities feel that they are supported and not forgotten.”

Ms Odgers urged local charities and community groups to register with GIVIT to access and request items to help those in need due to bushfires, everyday hardships and the impact of COVID-19.

GIVIT is free, private and easy to use, and currently supports over 3,600 charities across Australia. If you are a local charity or service, please register at [GIVIT.org.au/need-help/organisations](https://givit.org.au/need-help/organisations).

***For more information or to arrange an interview please contact  
E: [media@givit.org.au](mailto:media@givit.org.au) M: 0444 503 759***

### **About GIVIT**

GIVIT is the smart way to give. Through [GIVIT.org.au](https://givit.org.au), we channel generosity where it is needed to support vulnerable people and communities in Australia. Working with more than 3,600 support organisations, we ensure people get what they need when they need it most – whether recovering from a disaster event, or experiencing hardship due to circumstances such as drought, domestic and family violence, homelessness, disability, and mental health.

GIVIT captures all offers of goods and services online, removing the need for charities and services to sort, store and dispose of unsolicited donations, saving valuable resources. 100% of donated funds received by GIVIT to support people in need are used to purchase essential items. We buy locally, wherever possible, to support local businesses. GIVIT’s operational costs are covered by government contracts and our amazing corporate partners.

PO Box 3061  
Newstead, QLD 4006  
Australia  
ABN: 21 137 408 201

[givit.org.au](https://givit.org.au)