

# MUSWELLBROOK CHRONICLE

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## Malabar resources donate \$1500 to Muswellbrook's Roohaven Wildlife sanctuary

[Local News](#)



GREAT WORK: Brad Smith and Julie Smith (left and right) with Malabar's Linda Benson after receiving a \$1500 donation.

MUSWELLBROOK non-for-profit wildlife sanctuary, Roohaven Wildlife, has received a much-needed boost in the lead up to Christmas following a tough year of drought and bushfires.

Malabar Resources donated \$1500 to Roohaven, which was established by a network of like-minded and experienced carers to facilitate the rescue, rehabilitation and release of orphaned and injured native wildlife in the Upper Hunter.

Brad and Julie Smith, who volunteer their time to operate the sanctuary, said the donation would make a big difference ahead of the new year.

"Wildlife sanctuaries are vital to protecting native animals in our region," said Mr Smith.

"The terrible drought and bushfires substantially increased the number of animals in our care and Malabar's generous donation will go a long way to assisting our carers with veterinary and food costs.

"We rescue as soon as possible, and every animal is given a chance to go into care and be released back into the wild when the rehabilitation situation allows.

"Other wildlife groups often bring their animals to be released at our facility as it is safe, secure and professional and caters for most of the native animals found in the Hunter Valley."

The Muswellbrook Chamber of Commerce recently recognised Brad and Julie in its 'Making Muswellbrook' program for their contribution and service to the community, and their promotion of environmental sustainability.

Malabar's manager of health, safety, environment and community, Donna McLaughlin, said the company was delighted to sponsor Roohaven and support its passion for local wildlife.

"Local wildlife is in good hands with Roohaven's team of carers," she said.

"Native animals have had to cope with extreme conditions this year due to the bushfires and drought, so it's important we pitch in where we can help organisations like Roohaven, which play such an important role in our community.

"Road accidents are the main cause of native animals coming into our care," added Mr Smith.

"When possible, drive slower around dawn or dusk when animals are moving from resting areas to grazing areas and vice versa.

"If you see a dead animal on the road, if safe to do so, check to make sure there are no joeys in the pouch if it is a female.

"They can, in some circumstances, live for a couple of days in their mother's pouch."

If you see injured or orphaned native animals, please contact Roohaven, which will assist as soon as possible.

The team can be reached online at <https://www.facebook.com/roohavenwildlife/> or on 0438 425 582.