

Beyond disability Incorporated's (BDI) recent activities.

BDI is a non-profit organisation founded by Richard Stubbs OAM who recognised a void whereby disadvantaged (either financially and/or physically) people of all ages were struggling to enter the internet age and use it to reconnect with friends and the community in general , typically via e mail and Skype programs.

Richard established BDI with the purpose of providing such people, generally in the Mornington region (at times numbering into the hundreds) with predominantly refurbished computers and laptops, generously donated by companies and institutions for which these were surplus or outdated to their needs. BDI volunteers refurbish the equipment back to good working order and provide ongoing servicing.

Following the disastrous bushfires early this year, one of the BDI volunteers spent a week as a volunteer repairing fencing with blazeaid.

In sharing experiences with locals it became apparent that one of the needs of victims, and indeed also some local non-profit organisations, was computer equipment to allow better processing of details and applications mainly associated with claims and recovery aspects.

As a result several contacts were made with organisations directly involved in bushfire recovery efforts. This in turn led to contact with a Gippsland representative of Givit (the Victorian Government's official charity donation partner).

BDI then went to work and by careful juggling of resources, 20 desktop computers plus associated equipment were fully refurbished and prepared for donation and delivered to one of Givit's Gippsland distribution centres last weekend.

The donation was very well received by Ms Lisa Herbert of Givit (photos below), who will arrange for distribution to those victims and community centres Givit determines to be in need.

