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MEDIA RELEASE

Steve Menzies has made history out of his ability to score tries but few will be as important as those he will chase in this week's Heritage Round.

In a move that captures the spirit of the game's inaugural season of 1908, Harvey Norman will donate \$1000 for every try scored in the game's 100-year anniversary round.

Continuing the game's association with charity, which began when gate-takings from the first finals matches were donated to charity, the money will be distributed among Rugby League's four One Community charity partners and the Men of League Foundation.

Menzies, who is the game's greatest try-scoring forward and also second on the all-time try-scoring list, encouraged all players to be enthusiastic in attack.

"It's great to think that every try we score on the weekend will help people who need it most," he said.

"I'm certainly keen for our boys to put a few tries on the Eels on Friday night."

NRL Chief Executive David Gallop said it was an opportunity to reflect on the game's long-standing association with charity.

"Rugby League has always had close ties to the community and it is fitting that in this weekend of celebration we can focus on the enormous amount of work our players and clubs have done for charitable causes in the last 100 years," he said.

Through their partnership with Rugby League, charity partners Lifeline, the National Breast Cancer Foundation, Children's Hospital Foundations Australia and Youngcare receive promotional and financial support from One Community.

“The support our charities receive from Rugby League is as essential today as it was a century ago,” said Nikki Johnston, National Director Children’s Hospital Foundations Australia.

“The Heritage Round is a wonderfully generous way to celebrate this long-term commitment and help those in our community who really need it.”

Lifeline Australia Chief Executive Dawn O’Neil said: “The National Rugby League is continuing to lead the way in creating innovative ways to engage and provide charitable support to the community, a tradition that Rugby League has embraced for 100 years.”

National Breast Cancer Foundation CEO Susan Murray said the support from Rugby League had been crucial.

“The National Breast Cancer Foundation has worked with the NRL and the Rugby League community for more than five years to raise awareness and funds for breast cancer research. We appreciate and applaud the 100 years of effort and success,” she said.

Youngcare Chairman David Conry said: “Youngcare continues to be overwhelmed by the support of the Rugby League Community. The generous support of Harvey Norman for the Heritage Round means Youngcare can continue deliver our goal of providing appropriate care accommodation for young people with high care needs.”

Further information on all of One Community’s programs is available at www.rugbyleague.com.au/onecommunity.

For more details contact: Caroline Blake 02 9339 8531, 0400 720 110;
David Taylor 02 9339 8555, 0405 228 974.