

Former MasterChef judge <u>George Calombaris</u> stepped back in the spotlight for a good cause, hosting a charity event on Thursday.

Calombaris has kept a low profile since his departure from the cooking show in 2019, opening up to the Herald Sun in February about his excitement to re-emerge into public life.

He joined friend Tina Nettlefold, founder of T-House, and Lyndon Galea, founder of Eat Up Australia, to make 6000 sandwiches for children in need.

"What's really important to me personally having two children is that they get a lunch every day," Calombaris said.



George Calombaris. Picture: Lucas Dawson

Calombaris and Nettlefold were joined at Half Acre in South Melbourne by former AFL star and FOX FM radio broadcaster Brendan Fevola, comedian Ash Williams and swimmer Mack Horton.

Styling and interiors expert Nettlefold created T.House, an online entertainment and ecommerce platform where she will offer limited edition collections of home essentials with ever dollar donated back to a selected kid's charity.















Tina Nettlefold and George Calombaris. Picture: Lucas Mack Horton attended the event, Picture: Lucas Dawson

"When I found out that one in five Aussie kids is experiencing food insecurity, I

was appalled," Nettlefold said.

"No child should be homeless or hungry, especially in a country like ours.

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"It's not just about me selling aprons, it's trying to help a charity which is extremely grassroots.

"I have partnered with Eat Up that works hard to deliver thousands of fresh sandwiches and donated snacks directly to schools each week, helping the kids who would otherwise go to school hungry."



Brendan Fevola and Sharelle McMahon. Picture: Lucas Dawson















Other guests included netball legend Sharelle McMahon, celebrity stylist Lana Wilkinson, Jaggad's Michelle Greene, make up artist Jade Kisnorbo and Jerri Jones, wife of Melbourne footy star Nathan Jones.

Calombaris, who has two children with wife Natalie, told the Herald Sun at February's Grainshaker event that he was looking forward to the year ahead following a COVID affected 2020.

"I'm really excited about this year, I think personally I will never go back to the crazy world that I used to live in," he said.

"I really enjoyed my family because I was never really around for them. Being around them for the last nine months ... I've missed out on a lot.

"After you come off what was one of the most incredible television shows in MasterChef, I'm very More Coverage grateful I've had time to just breathe and time to spend with my family.

George hints at TV return after ditching 'crazy' old life

"I love television and I will do it again but it's got to represent who I am and talk about the story. Hopefully I'll be able to help people through all of my good, bad and ugly."

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