

VIEW is a national women's organization with 13,000 members across Australia. Members are connected by a common purpose to improve the life outcomes of Australian children and young people in need. VIEW exclusively supports The Smith Family by sponsoring the education of young Australians experiencing disadvantage.

VIEW's supportive network helps women build lasting friendships, empowered and connected by the common purpose to support The Smith Family and make a difference to Australian children experiencing disadvantage.

Message from our President

Pauline Rockley

The new year has begun exceptionally well, with most of our 2025 members returning and several new members joining us. Our current financial membership stands at forty-five. Each meeting has welcomed an increasing number of guests, many of whom later become members. A reminder that renewals for 2025 members who have not yet rejoined need be completed by the end of March, to avoid the fee increase on April 1.



Our January AGM was very successful, with all positions being filled. We also welcomed Ann Mitchell as our Member Observer. Although not a committee member, Ann attends committee meetings to provide insight into any matters members would like raised. Her role ensures that members are heard and kept informed.

We are delighted to now have our third student, Amaris, with Sally Delroy as his member contact. Supporting three students in just eighteen months is truly “super fabulous”. Your student contributions make this possible, and when paid annually, this allows us to plan responsibly for the year ahead. Our raffles and Bring & Buy continue to strengthen our financial capacity, and we are hopeful that we may be able to support a fourth student in the coming months.

We have an exciting lineup of speakers scheduled for the year, and our 2026 Fashion Extravaganza will be returning—always a highlight on our calendar.

Thank you all for your continued support of Busselton VIEW. Your enthusiasm, generosity, and commitment to our purpose make our club the vibrant community it is.

Pauline Rockley

President

Committee Update

The 2026 Committee was elected at the AGM held on 15th January and for the first time ever all our committee positions are filled. Welcome and thanks to Sally and Jill for embarking on this journey and I am sure that you will find it as rewarding as the members of the 2025 committee did! Also welcome and thanks to Ann Mitchell who has volunteered to be our first ever Member Observer.

President	Pauline Rockley
Vice President	Bev Clarke
Secretary	Robyn Robertson
Asst Secretary	Karen Gaillard
Treasurer	Ann Stanton
Asst Treasurer	Sally Delroy
Program Officer	Paula Taylor
Program Officer	Jill Lumbus
Delegate	Maria Eiffler
Publicity Officer	Kath Green



*L-R Karen Gaillard, Sally Delroy, Kath Green, Robyn Robertson, Bev Clarke, Maria Eiffler, Pauline Rockley, Paula Taylor, Ann Stanton
Absent: Jill Lumbus*

Our Meetings

Our meetings are on the third Thursday of each month and feature a guest speaker, some formalities and time to socialize. To keep things interesting, we sometimes have a theme to our meetings which is sourced from calendar events like International Women's Day, Easter, Mother's Day, Christmas etc. The theme will be supported with a suggestion for attire and we encourage you all to join in. Generally, some members stay after the meeting to share a bite to eat and what can I say, the more the merrier!

The Busselton VIEW Club held its very first AGM on **Thursday 15th January** at Tonic and our members must have missed our meetings because what a turnout and vibe there was. 6 new members opened their wallets and signed their lives away at the door! Mary Deakin, our outgoing Zone Councillor, presided over the AGM proceedings which saw all members of the 2025 committee returned with the addition of 2 fresh faces in Sally Delroy (Assistant Treasurer) and Jill Lumbus (Program Officer 2). We were then well entertained by Western Suburbs VIEW Club member, Helen Anderson, with her stories and advice on travelling



for a month with ONLY 5 ½ kilos of luggage in a bottomless carry on. Apparently 2 pairs of glasses and a First Aid kit are mandatory and included in the 5 ½ limit! Helen was more than ably supported by the strong and silent Dorothy who demonstrated the up-market clothing options. After a short break the General Meeting formalities resumed and incoming Zone Councillors Rena O'Sullivan and Michele McGrath gave an overview of their histories with VIEW and how they hope to assist us going forward. Pauline announced that we had signed up to sponsor for our third child, Bev Clarke and Maura (guest) were the lucky winners of the berry themed raffle prizes and everyone was a winner at the "Bring and Buy" table.



On **Thursday 12th February** we had a great turnout for our General Meeting at Tonic. Our ladies were amply entertained by our guest speaker Steve Jeffery, Commander of Marine Rescue Busselton, who enthusiastically educated us on how Marine Rescue interacts with the community and their support role in the recently topical rescue of the Appleby family. How lucky are we to live in a town with great community groups like this supporting and bringing people together. After a short break the meeting resumed and Pauline reported on the positive feedback we have received from VIEW head office and other clubs regarding the progress of our young club. As usual the Bring and Buy table and the raffles were a big success adding to our “fun” raising efforts. Once again some of our ladies stayed for lunch – we never run out of things to say to each other!



On **Thursday 19th March** over 50 ladies attended our March General Meeting at Tonic and there was plenty of purple in support of International Women’s Day. Our guest speaker, Barb Wall, inspired us with her stories about being a professional squash player in the 1970s which included playing the great Heather McKay. Barb vividly recalled a pivotal point in her career when she was challenged about “not reaching her full potential”, how confronting it was and how accepting this challenge led to her 1979 British Open win and changed her life. Her message to us was clear, maybe more challenges like this should be issued. To sum it up the lady next to me whispered “I love this club... I love our speakers”. In the meeting that followed Mary Deakin announced the exciting news that WA would soon welcome its 9th VIEW club with the June inauguration of the Mandurah VIEW Club, Pauline announced that we would commence sponsoring our fourth child very soon and once again, the raffles (thanks Carol and Marg) and the Bring n Buy table were a big success. After the meeting 20 ladies stayed and enjoyed lunch and yet more chatter. What a great start to 2026, let’s keep it up!



Upcoming Meetings

Date	Venue	Details
16 th April 2026	Tonic by the Bay	Guest speaker is a well-known author and local identity who will share her story of courage
21 st May 2026	Tonic by the Bay	Guest speaker is Bernie Masters talking about his trip to Antarctica
18 th June 2026	Tonic by the Bay	Guest speaker is Cathy Gibson from "POOPS" who will talk about the rewards of helping a pet in need.
July	TBA	Our Birthday celebration

Social Events

Whilst the primary function of the Busselton VIEW Club is to raise money to support the educational needs of disadvantaged children through frameworks provided by the Smith Family, we are also committed to providing a safe and friendly atmosphere where women from all walks of life can connect and establish new friendships. Whether you are a long-term Busselton resident or a blow-in like myself, it is always good to meet new friends and enrich your social sphere. So don't be shy and make the most of these opportunities and if you have a suggestion for an event, please share it with a committee member who will ensure it is considered.



On **Friday 9th January** we covered ourselves in VIEW purple while picking mulberries at the Robertson / Lofthouse farm at Forrest Beach. It was a great shared experience and judging from the giggles and raucous chatter coming from the enormous old tree, truly enjoyed by all our pickers. Those not into picking were able to relax on the shady veranda of the "Old Dairy" and enjoy a cuppa and scones with homemade mulberry jam and other tasty goodies. This truly was a fine





example of “fun raising”, with \$180 raised. Thanks to Robyn and Ray for hosting this event and if they weren’t selling the farm I am sure that this would have become an annual highlight for our club. What a fun way to start 2026!



On **Wednesday 4th February** we caught up for a sundowner at KYST where we enjoyed some chit chat and refreshments amongst the buzz of the Busselton foreshore. The conversation, as always, was lively and we were lucky enough to have some members and guests who were associated with Busselton Marine Rescue who were able to give us the low down on the Friday night rescue in the bay that has been featured on local and international news. What a good news story that turned out to be!



On **Thursday 5th March** 13 of our ladies met for morning tea at the Vasse Village. How lucky are we to have this place of “fruit and veg porn” on our doorstep! As normal there was plenty of chatter about local events and some shared life stories that really highlighted we live in a time when it has become “normal” to shift town, state or country to follow opportunity rather than waiting for it to come to us!

Members will be notified by email and / or WhatsApp about any upcoming social events but don’t forget to put Melbourne Cup on 4th November into your diaries.

Communications

Information pertaining to club business like meeting details, minutes, agendas and Smith Family information will always be sent to members by email from the Secretary.

To promote the group and attract new membership we regularly post to Facebook, where we now have over 280 followers. Ideally, we would like all of our members to “follow” us on Facebook so that they can observe and comment on how this channel is being managed. We are all a part of this team; every voice deserves to be heard and any suggestions will be considered.

Social communications between members are via our WhatsApp group and if you have not already joined this group, please approach a committee member who will help you get started. This group is a self-managed private chatline that allows members to send messages to the group. Use it if you want to find a coffee pal, require a dog walker or share something that is on your mind. Like most groups it will only be as good as its members, so we encourage respectful behaviour when using it.

Fund Raising

Whilst most of our fundraising for our children is based on the meeting donation, we are constantly looking for new ideas as to how we can raise money without asking too much from our members in terms of time and money. We now have a Fundraising Subcommittee comprised of Paula Taylor, Jill Lumbus, Robyn Furlong, Anne Mitchell, Cher Allen, Robin McDonald and Sally Delroy who are eager to hear your ideas.

Our Children

Liz MacLeay reports that Joaquim is our first sponsor child. He is 7 years old and lives in Tasmania. He lives with his parents and younger brother. His favourite subjects at school are Maths and Science, and he enjoys Lego. He also likes Dragons. He sounds like a great kid!

Fiona Kealley reports that Kawhi is from NSW and lives with his mum, stepfather, two younger brothers and baby sister. He turns 12 in April and has started High School this year. We will be sending a birthday card and voucher soon. He appreciated his Christmas voucher and planned to spend it at Rebel Sports. This ties in with his passion for sport, especially Rugby League. He loves playing footy and aspires to play in the NRL. His favourite food is pasta and his favourite colour is blue. Kawhi loves to connect with his culture on country whenever he can.

Sally Delroy reports that our newest child, Amaris is in Year 3 at school and loves spending time with his family on the weekends. He likes maths as its interesting, uses a reading eggs app and is doing well in his reading.

Membership Renewals

A reminder to our 2025 members who are yet to renew their membership that membership fees will increase to \$30 from the 1st of April, so get in quick before the fees increase!

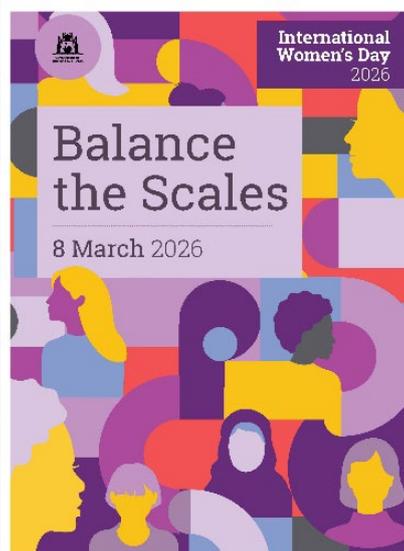
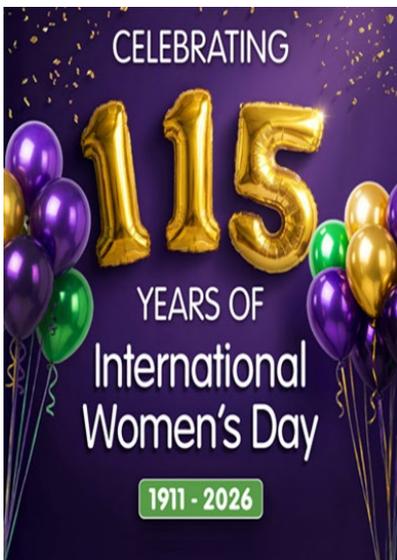
Electronic payments can be made to the bank account details provided below but please remember to include your name on the transfer so our Treasurer can ensure all details are recorded correctly

Account Name Busselton VIEW **BSB** 633 000 **Account Number** 219648508

Please email busseltonview@gmail.com if you need advice on payment options.

International Women's Day (IWD)

International Women's Day is an annual global celebration that fell on the 8th March this year with themes of *Balance the Scales* (UN Women Australia) or *Give to Gain* (International Women's Day global platform). This year's celebrations focused on equality, justice, and action to close the 36% legal rights gap between men and women. We all have a part to play for when women and girls stand equal, families are stronger, workplaces are fairer, communities thrive and society becomes safer for everyone.



www.communities.wa.gov.au/IWD

IWD was first celebrated in 1911 when more than one million women and men attended rallies campaigning for women's rights to work, vote, be trained, to hold public office and end discrimination. IWD remains relevant 115 years later celebrating women's achievement, raising awareness about discrimination, striving for gender parity and belonging to all who care about these concepts. Imagine a gender equal world. A world free of bias, stereotypes, and discrimination. A world that's diverse, equitable, and inclusive. A world where difference is valued and celebrated.

In Remembrance



Lorellyn Kinnaird was a caring daughter, mother, doting grandmother, good friend and inaugural member of our Busselton VIEW club. She worked as an Information Technology teacher but her passion was caring for wildlife and she was an integral part of FAWNA activities in Busselton. Lorellyn had a wicked sense of humour and was known to greet her grandchildren at school, dressed in a unicorn or dinosaur costume. She was resilient, spiritual, tenacious and extremely creative. Her generosity and thoughtfulness knew no bounds and this was shown in recent times when she organized a trip to Melbourne with her grandson, where she introduced him to all kinds of new experiences like hot air ballooning, eating oysters and running out on the MCG with her beloved West Coast Eagles! Lorellyn you will be greatly missed.



New Members

As it is a new year Head Office are a little overworked processing new badge requests and we have only received one badge to date. If you have recently joined, we encourage you to be patient as the wait for the badges can be long and wearisome but they do eventually arrive.

Congratulations to Jeanette Craggs who was presented her badge at the March General Meeting.



Birthday Celebrations....every month some of us get a little older....



January Pam, Pauline, Robyn and Cher



February Lois



March Marg and Robyn



Busselton VIEW Club thanks....

Tonic by the Bay for providing the venue for our monthly meetings

Contact Details



Busseltonview@gmail.com



<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61569459233708>



<https://chat.whatsapp.com/!Sty3JDLOX52IZkEif1EYB>



<https://instagram.com/BusseltonVIEW/>

Well that's a wrap for this edition, so ladies stay safe and be kind to yourselves and others!