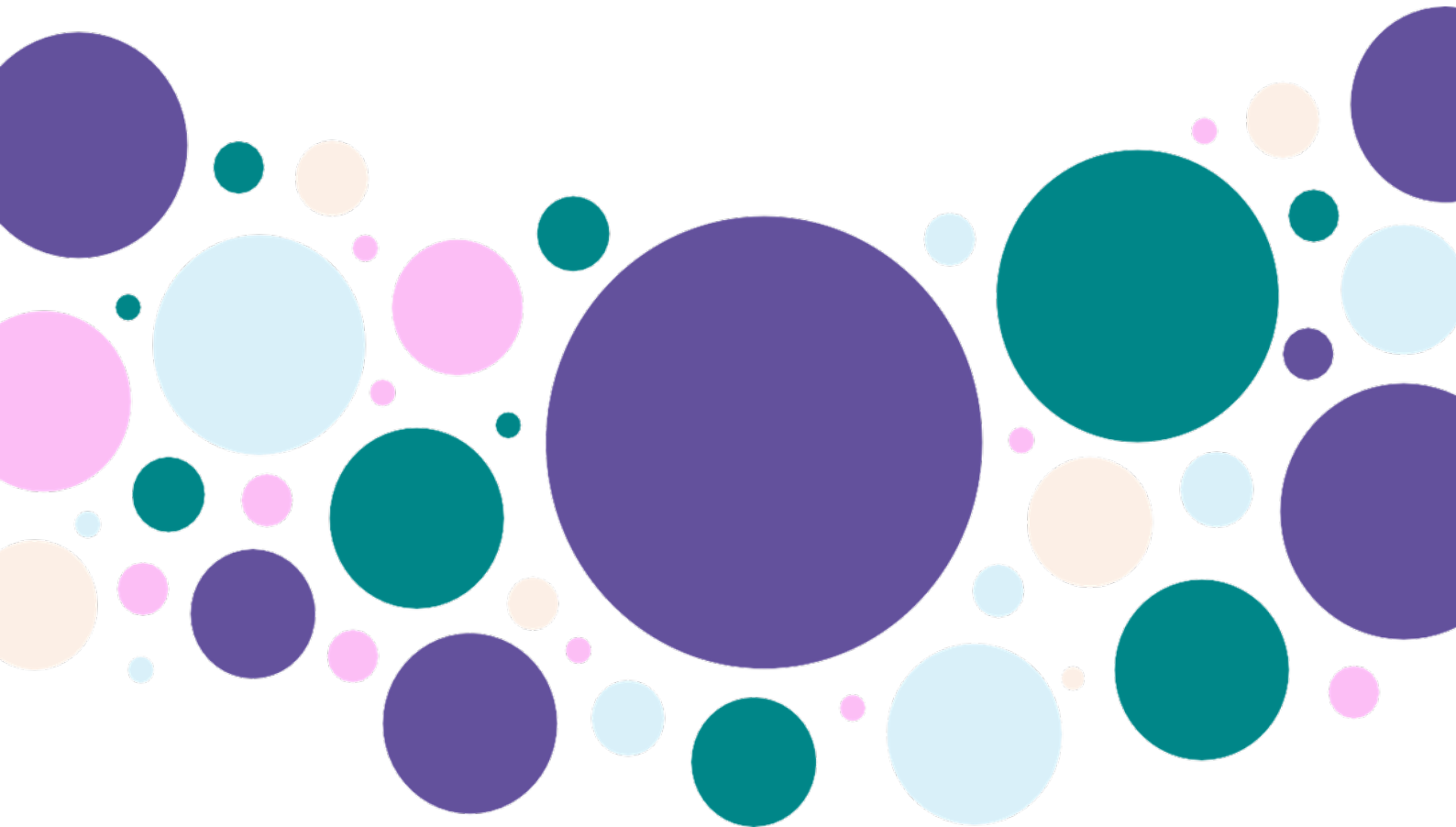




VIEW is a national women's organization with 16,000 members across Australia. Members are connected by a common purpose to improve the life outcomes of Australian children and young people in need. VIEW exclusively supports The Smith Family by sponsoring the education of young Australians experiencing 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 President Pauline Rockley



Hello to all members.

The first three months of the year have now gone I'm sure we're all looking forward to the next months that will include our FIRST BIRTHDAY. It continues to be a pleasure to see so many ladies enjoying themselves each month as well as the social get togethers in between. It takes time to develop and grow a successful club and I think we are well on our way to doing just that. Success does not come through just one person or a committee, it comes from all members working together harmoniously. It's often hard to talk to all of you each meeting and to thank you for being part of Busselton VIEW but I do sincerely thank each and every one of you. Let's see what friendships and fun we can have over the next 3 months.

Yours in friendship
Pauline

Committee Update

Busselton VIEW now has over 40 members and we generally get a couple of new members each meeting. We are sponsoring our first child, which we hope will be the first of many, and whilst the structure of our committee is still fluid, it continues to work together well to ensure our club objectives are achieved. All in all, not too shabby for a club that is less than a year old!



Back Row L-R Kath Green. Ann Stanton, Karen Gaillard (Vice President), Pauline Rockley (President), Robyn Robertson (Secretary), Paula Taylor
Front Row L-R Marria Eiffler, Bev Clarke (Treasurer)

The positions for Assistant Secretary, second Programme Officer and Members Liaison Officer still remain vacant. Do not be shy, come and ask a committee member about these positions if you are interested or just need more information.

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 like to have a theme to our meetings. Themes may be sourced from calendar events like International Women's Day, Easter, Mother's Day, Christmas etc and may 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!

Our first meeting for 2025 was held at the Veteran Car Club. Attendees enjoyed hearing our guest speaker, local man Barry House talking about his life as a Member of the Western Australian Legislative Council, what is involved in community representation and how it impacts our lives.

Our Treasurer Bev Clark was kept busy collecting the membership fees for the year with her new friend the Square EFTPOS machine. I believe there were a few initial hiccoughs but Mr Square will now be a regular part of our club's life. Thanks, Bev, for taking on this challenge!

The Bring and Buy table featuring fresh produce was well received but Marg Tickle we will expect some of those figs returned as jam.



Our March meeting celebrated International Women's Day and we were pleased that so many members decided to feature purple in their attire. The colour purple has come to symbolize justice, dignity, hope and purity, and to represent the fight for women's rights and equality. Our guest speaker Jo Harrison Ward continued in this theme with her talk "Empowering Women", based on her 25 years' experience in the public sector.

Members were excited to hear that we have started to sponsor our first child and Liz MacLeay volunteered to be our point of contact with Joaquim.



At our April meeting, held at Tonic by the Bay, we welcomed 6 guests and featured guest speaker Dr Natasha Teakle who is a member of the Busselton Jetty Board. Tash gave an entertaining and educational talk about the Busselton Jetty and how Busselton Jetty sponges may play an important role in future cancer treatments. Any Busselton resident loves to hear stories about our jetty!

In the formalities that followed we enjoyed hearing from Liz MacLeay about her first communications with our child Joaquim and then were entertained by members Elizabeth Horne and Brina Anderson who shared some stories from their lives.

Our theme for the meeting was Easter and what a variety of Easter Hats there was on show. After the meeting about twenty hungry members stayed on for lunch. As Tonic by the Bay provide our meeting venue for free this is a great way show our appreciation!



Upcoming Meetings

Date	Venue	Speaker	Theme
15 th May	Tonic by the Bay	Speakers are Maud Stanley and Margaret Paterson from Riding for the Disabled who will give a insight into the power of volunteering and the aptitude of the horse to improve the life and welfare of others.	Mothers Day Bring your mother, friend or sister
19 th June	Tonic by the Bay	In lieu of a guest speaker we will run a fashion show featuring our members modelling fashions from St Vincent De Paul. Clothes will be available for purchase.	
17 th July	Shelter	High Tea Lady Bugs Odd Bunch Possibility of a video of past Smith family Learning for life students	Our 1 st Birthday

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.

The Publicity Officer regularly posts to FaceBook and Instagram to promote the group and attract new membership. Ideally, we would like all of our members to “follow” us on Facebook and Instagram 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 between members 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.

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 January 29th we met for afternoon drinks at the Goose where a gaggle of members gathered for the first time after the long break to share their stories of family and festivities.

On February 16th we had afternoon drinks at Tonic by the Bay which was well attended by members who all had a chance to connect with new and old faces for a laugh and a giggle.



On April 2nd the group met at the Par 3 Golf Course for another afternoon catchup. Attendance was a little down but that didn't stop those who attended from having a good chin wag. Two members got talking and discovered that they had both grown up with amazingly similar childhoods, but their paths had never crossed until that moment. This is what we are about!



Upcoming Social Events

Date	Time	Details
May 6th	4pm	The old stone house called the "Old Bakery" at 6 Kent St was built in 1915. It served as a bakery in 1919, then as a War commission home between 1920 to 1950, after which it reverted back to private ownership and was renovated in 2018. The current owner is a VIEW member who will share the history of this house with guests as they socialize and wander its rooms and gardens. Tea, coffee and nibbles will be provided and BYO your favourite tippie. There will be a \$5 entry donation to this event which will go into our fundraising coffers.

Our Children

At our March meeting it was announced that The Smith Family had assigned us our first student. Joaquim, lives in Tasmania, is in Year 1 and will turn 7 in October. Due to strict privacy policies further personal details regarding Joaquim cannot be shared with us but we can read what he says about himself:

I'm curious about mathematics, and I love knowing about numbers, the world makes more sense to me through numbers. Once a week, after class I do Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. I would really like to do swimming, but it is not yet viable for my parents. On weekends, I like to go with my parents to do outdoor activities, when it's raining, we watch movies at home.

I feel proud to have won a Growth Certificate of Merit for applying myself during learning activities, and also a Kindness Award for being kind and helpful in class. At home I always try to fulfill my responsibilities, such as organizing my toys and removing dirty dishes from the table. I also play with my little brother. I'm also very proud that at 5 years old I already speak two languages

My dream job is to be a dragon trainer. I love dragons.

Joaquim sounds like a bright, loving, inquisitive, imaginative boy, who with our assistance could go on to do some wonderful things with his life. Thanks to Liz MacLeay who will be corresponding with Joaquim and we look forward to Liz updating us on his progress.

This will be a permanent section of future newsletters that will grow as we sponsor more children. Sponsorship of a child through The Smith Family is no small thing as we are committing to each child for their entire school life!

Fund Raising

Whilst most of our fundraising for our children is based on the meeting entry fee, 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. If you have any ideas, please raise it at a meeting or approach a committee member who will ensure the idea is considered.

Our Bring and Buy table continues to be an ongoing source of revenue and thank you to members who "bring AND buy". Recent themes on the Bring and Buy have not proved to be so successful, so until further notice all items will be welcome at the table.

Whilst most of our social get togethers are held at external venues like the Goose and Tonic, when one is held at a member's home, the member may suggest that a donation is applicable.

Our 1st Birthday

In July it will be a year since Busselton View held its inaugural luncheon which was attended by 72 people which included members from other VIEW clubs and representatives of the Smith Family. To celebrate this auspicious anniversary, we will be holding our July General meeting in the upstairs room at Shelter where we will enjoy high tea, watch a video of past Smith Family Learning for Life students (TBC) and tap along to entertainment provided by the Lady Bugs and the Odd Bunch.

VIEW National Convention 2025



Please talk to our lovely committee members Robyn Robertson, Bev Clarke, or Paula Taylor if you are interested in joining them in Brisbane for the VIEW National Convention which runs from Friday 5th September to Sunday 7th September. The program is packed with fabulous speakers and will provide some wonderful networking opportunities.

Congratulations

....to the gorgeous Marg Tickle for reaching the tender age of 90 in March. Marg you are a legend and stalwart of the community and we hope the good times continue!

BTW I feel a little sorry for Johnny!



Busselton VIEW Club thanks

Tonic by the Bay for providing the venue for our monthly meetings free of charge

Veteran Car Club for providing their venue for our February meeting at a discounted rate

Contact Details



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



<https://chat.whatsapp.com/ISTy3JDLOX52IZkEif1EYB>



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



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