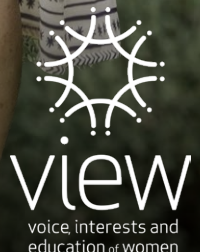


VIEW Matters

April 2026



International Women's Day with VIEW
Making connections
Meet your National Leadership Team



Our Vision

Women creating and leading a more inclusive Australian society.

Our Mission

As a leading voice and valued support network for women, VIEW actively supports, raises awareness of, and participates in, the work of The Smith Family.

Our Guiding Principles

Inclusive and welcoming
Diverse and respecting
Supportive and caring
Locally focused while nationally active
Collaborative and future looking



VIEW is a national women's organisation with over 13,000 members in more than 260 communities exclusively supporting the education charity The Smith Family. Members sponsor students, volunteer, fundraise and advocate to improve the life outcomes of Australian children and young people experiencing disadvantage.

As The Smith Family's largest community sponsor of *Learning for Life* students, VIEW supports the educational outcomes of more than 1,840 children and young people.

Through its connection with The Smith Family, VIEW is proud to enable young Australians to create better futures for themselves.

National President: Lorraine Thomson
National Vice Presidents: Angie Carroll; Dianne Fiddes.

National Councillors: NSW: Robin Bosch; Sandra Fong; Mary Hollingworth. QLD:

Irene Kinder; Christine Foster. SA: Bernie McSwain. VIC: Annette Harriott; Lorraine Batrouney. WA: Kris Behets

National Manager: Maryanne Maher

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Email: view@thesmithfamily.com.au
Website: www.view.org.au

The Smith Family provides Australian children living with disadvantage with the tools and support to thrive at school. This help extends to the child's family and community with wrap-around support essential to breaking the cycle of disadvantage. Helping a child to do well in their journey through school brings a lifetime of reward for them and their family. Investing in a child's education today will have a long-term impact that empowers them into their working life. For more information, please visit thesmithfamily.com.au.

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Front cover: Lorraine Thomson, VIEW National President (left) and Angie Carroll, VIEW National VIEW President (right) with the Governor-General of Australia, Her Excellency, The Honourable Sam Mostyn AC in the gardens of Admiralty House to celebrate International Women's Day.



From the Executive

On behalf of the National Executive, it is my pleasure to welcome you all to a positive and productive VIEW year. Angie, Dianne and I are very proud to share the exciting news that VIEW now collectively sponsors 1,840+ students on the *Learning for Life* program!

Thanks to you – our dedicated and caring members – VIEW's support continues to grow with outstanding sponsorship commitments by clubs across Australia.

The VIEW National Executive and Leadership Team met in Sydney recently, where we renewed friendships, connected with Smith Family leaders, shared knowledge and learnt valuable skills to support the year ahead. The sessions with

Smith Family representatives were particularly informative and rewarding, as was the productive time spent connecting with other Smith Family team members. Like others in attendance, I am excited about what the year will hold for VIEW.

Congratulations to all clubs who hosted an event to celebrate International Women's Day (IWD) 2026. Seeing photos and hearing the reports from National and Zone Councillors has been so enjoyable. This year's theme 'Give to Gain' was particularly relevant to our community, with giving at the heart of being a VIEW member. Please see pages 6 and 7 to read about some of the wonderful activities.

I was fortunate to celebrate IWD at a number of events, including a very special function hosted by VIEW's Patron, the Governor-General of Australia, Her Excellency, the Honourable Sam Mostyn AC. She invited representatives from several organisations under her patronage to the event, held at the historic Admiralty House. The setting was breathtakingly spectacular, perched on the headland directly across from the iconic landmarks of the Sydney Opera House and Harbour Bridge.

It was such an honour to be welcomed personally by Her Excellency as we arrived, and she was delighted to hear that Angie and I were 'first timers' to Admiralty House. All guests were asked to

sign the visitors book before entering the sitting room. After the formalities, we walked on to the lawns for a group photo and afternoon tea. We were able to explore the grounds and some of the downstairs rooms of the magnificent house, which included remarkable artworks that are reflective of a modern Australia. It was such a beautiful afternoon spent connecting with remarkable women and a real privilege for VIEW to be part of this gathering.

The VIEW theme for 2026-27 remains the same: *'Making Connections, Makes a Difference'*. As an active partner of The Smith Family, VIEW Clubs are certainly making a difference. Please see pages 8 and 9 for just a few examples of the powerful impact of our connections.

Finally, thank you for being a loyal part of VIEW. I would like to share some words from our Patron that express how I feel about being VIEW member: "We lift one another with care, kindness and respect that encourages, inspires and always involves others."

Members and friends, continue your inspiring journey with VIEW, stay safe and keep smiling.

Lorraine Thomson
National President 2026-27

What is VIEW?

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

It has over 13,000 members in more than 260 communities across the country. Founded in 1960, VIEW members proudly support The Smith Family by:

- advocating for women and children
- connecting in community
- building friendships
- creating lasting connections
- making a difference
- supporting education
- volunteering



Find out more about VIEW by visiting the website at view.org.au, calling 1800 805 366 or emailing view@thesmithfamily.com.au

 www.view.org.au

 1800 805 366



Message from The Smith Family

VIEW members have so much to be proud of. In the first four months of 2026, collectively you have already achieved so much.

From all of the team at The Smith Family, thank you for the extraordinary support we receive from every VIEW Club member. The partnership between The Smith Family and VIEW – rooted in 65 years of shared purpose – strengthens each year and we feel the generosity of VIEW’s community connections every day.

In January, VIEW answered our call to support the Officeworks Back to School campaign by visiting local Officeworks stores to personally thank hardworking staff. The response was incredible, with 35 visits completed by VIEW members in a single week!

Our friends at Officeworks told us they definitely felt the love from VIEW. Thank you to all VIEW members who took the time to connect with Officeworks staff. This simple act strengthened our partnership with Officeworks and contributed to a highly successful campaign that will see more students supported by the *Learning for Life* program.

In February, we were excited to launch, **All I Can Be**, a podcast that brings the experience of former *Learning for Life* students into the spotlight. It has been wonderful to see VIEW members embracing the podcast, listening and learning together, and encouraging their family and friends to tune in. Narrated by much-loved radio broadcaster, Sarah Macdonald, the series explores big dreams, tough starts and the moments that make all the difference in a young person’s life. If you haven’t listened to it yet, I urge you to. (Search *All I Can Be* on Spotify, Apple Podcasts or ACast.) Don’t forget to like, follow and share the links so even more people have the chance to hear these incredible stories and the impact of VIEW’s support.

We have also been humbled to receive several significant donations from VIEW this quarter – the result of dedicated

members volunteering in their local communities to raise vital funds to support our work. Whether wrapping gifts at Christmas, marshalling at South Australia’s Tour Down Under, baking, sewing or selling raffles tickets in your community – every effort matters and is greatly appreciated.

Finally, I want to share another powerful act of generosity. On Valentine’s Day, a home in Clovelly in Sydney sold for \$10.425 million. Its owner, Dr Karen Duggan, was a dedicated supporter of The Smith Family who wanted to ensure long-term support for students in regional and remote communities. With the property left to The Smith Family in her Will, Dr Duggan’s legacy will fund 20 students in perpetuity, and a further 1,280 students over the next five years. Dr Duggan’s belief in education as a force of change reflects VIEW’s commitment to supporting young people to break the cycle of disadvantage.

Thank you for continuing to share our belief that education is the most powerful tool for change.

Doug Taylor
Chief Executive Officer



Doug is speaking with the VIEW National Leadership Team.

Join VIEW’s online communities!

We’re on Facebook and Instagram! Join our online community of more than 3,000 VIEW members to connect with like-minded women across Australia and stay up-to-date with VIEW news. Join the VIEW Clubs of Australia Facebook page or follow @viewclubs on Instagram.



[Click here to follow us on Facebook!](#)

VIEW's sponsorship and contributions

As at 1 April 2026



263
VIEW Clubs
in communities

VIEW continues to support the good work of The Smith Family, providing an important source of volunteers, fundraising and connection in local communities.

VIEW is proud to be The Smith Family's largest community sponsor of **Learning for Life** students.

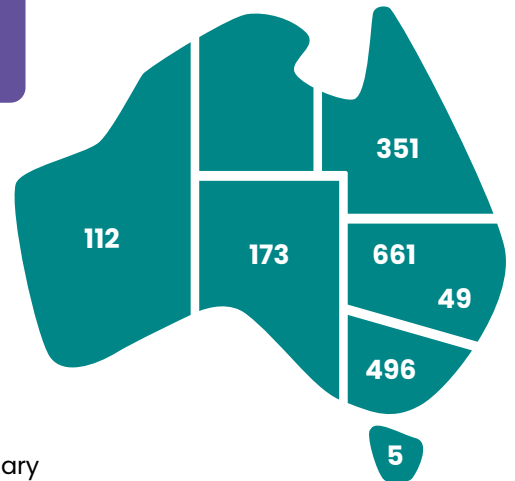
VIEW Clubs sponsor



1,840+

students on the *Learning for Life* program

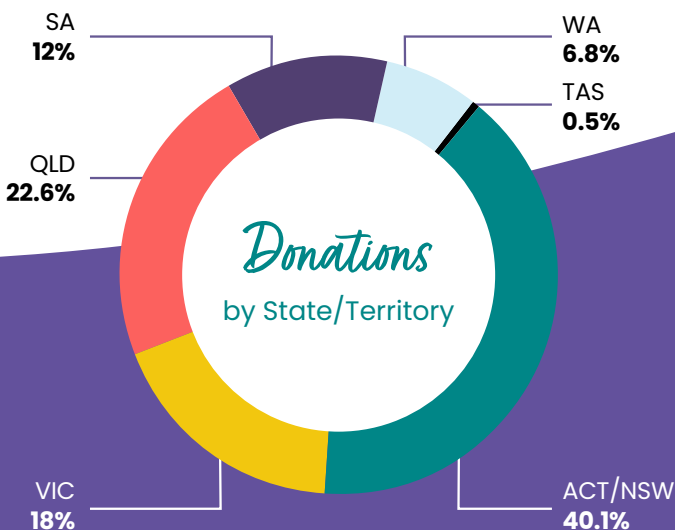
1,453 | **371** | **23**
School | Senior School | Tertiary



Note: The number of students sponsored by VIEW Clubs in each State is subject to constant fluctuation as clubs open and sponsor students, existing clubs take on new students, clubs close and students exit the program.

Contributions to The Smith Family in 2025 Calendar Year

Digital Learning Essentials	\$281,447
Christmas Appeal	\$92,107
Winter Appeal	\$79,130
Joyspreaders	\$45,474



VIEW donated
\$1.6 million

in 2025 to The Smith Family's programs for young people in need.



In the last financial year, VIEW Clubs **gifted over \$110,000** to students for birthdays/Christmas through Prezzy Gift Cards.

When we give, we gain

Celebrating International Women's Day 2026 with VIEW!

Every March, VIEW members around Australia gather at events to celebrate International Women's Day (IWD) and the achievements of women while calling for action to advance gender equality. This year's theme, 'Give to Gain', resonated deeply for VIEW members.

Giving is at the heart of everything VIEW members do. Through giving their time and support as volunteers, fundraisers and advocates, VIEW members create opportunities for children in need to thrive. For their efforts, members gain connection, lasting friendships, a deeper sense of purpose. Many say they gain much more than they give by simply knowing Australian children experiencing disadvantage have access to the educational support they need through VIEW's sponsorships and fundraising for The Smith Family.

From regular monthly meetings and fundraising fashion parades, delicious brunches and entertaining lunches, high tea gatherings, combined birthday celebrations and more, VIEW members and

friends celebrated IWD 2026 in the true VIEW tradition of bringing women in community together to celebrate progress and advocate for change. Here is a wrap-up of a small selection of events and activities.

Afternoon tea with our Patron

To mark IWD, the Governor-General, Her Excellency the Honourable Ms Sam Mostyn AC, invited representatives from 30 patron organisations to an afternoon tea at Admiralty House in Sydney. Representing VIEW were Lorraine Thomson, National President, Angie Carroll, National Vice President and Maryanne Maher, National Manager.

Her Excellency acknowledged that guests should stop, pause and reflect on all attendees in the room, and the amazing work they do, focusing on improving the lives of women through healthcare, music, education, youth engagement, safety and wellbeing or volunteering.

She also encouraged guests to focus on continued collaboration between their organisations, through improving connections, exchanging insights and exploring opportunities for partnership.

[Click here](#) to read Lorraine and Angie's reflections on the afternoon.

Lorraine, Angie and Maryanne were honoured to represent VIEW and be part of this inspiring group of women. They shared information about VIEW's purpose and impact and heard about all the wonderful work that other organisations are doing to make Australia a more compassionate, respectful and caring place.

Inspiring celebrations in NSW

NSW members attended many events hosted by VIEW and other organisations. Dianne Fiddes, National Vice President, joined Harrington Evening VIEW members at an event featuring Kirstie Maher, The Smith Family's Family Partnerships Coordinator in Taree and Harrington Public School Headmaster, Julie Gray accompanied by students.

In Port Stephens, 27 VIEW members joined 300 other guests at a breakfast function hosted by Kate Washington MP, Meryl Swanson MP and Mayor Leah Anderson. At this event, VIEW members also hosted a stall, promoting their clubs to the wider community. On the south coast, Ulladulla Evening VIEW welcomed Anita Barry, Ulladulla High School Deputy Principal as guest speaker. Anita spoke emotionally about the influence of her grandmother and mother and experiences in her career and personal life.

Combined celebration in QLD

Beautiful quilts made in the suffragette colours of green, white and purple were the centrepiece of a joint IWD luncheon organised



Lorraine and Angie inside Admiralty House.



Ulladulla High Deputy Principal, Anita Barry at the Ulladulla Evening VIEW event.



Quilter Bev Perel at the joint Brisbane VIEW IWD event.

by Centenary Evening, Chapel Hill and Kenmore VIEW Clubs in Brisbane, Queensland. Around 150 VIEW members from six clubs in and around Brisbane enjoyed hearing from talented quilter Bev Perel about the quilts, each one with its own story about gender empowerment and women's equality. Since 2006, 1,200 women have contributed the quilt blocks with Bev putting together 50 quilts in 2025 to mark IWD. Bev, an advocate for women's rights, said the shared experience of making the quilts brought women together to share stories and experiences. In keeping with the theme of women suffrage, the event's other guest speaker was Emeritus Professor Kay Saunders AO, an outstanding Australian historian who spoke about the 'Dilemmas of Women Suffrage in Queensland'. A wonderful event for all!

SA event is full of laughs

In South Australia, four events were held. At one function, 130 VIEW members from in and around Adelaide came together for a fabulous luncheon with comedian, teacher, Fringe performer, parent and health advocate for endometriosis, Libby Trainor Parker. Libby's speech was both entertaining and informative. VIEW members described her as the perfect speaker for IWD, sharing how she is committed to making things better for women and children after her journey of undiagnosed endometriosis. Despite the serious topic, Libby delivered a presentation full of humour and warmth.



Tea Tree members at SA VIEW IWD event.

Victorians mark birthdays and IWD

Members and friends of Hamilton VIEW Club in south-west Victoria marked 25 years of friendship and 115 years of IWD in a joint celebration. The event's special guests were former *Learning for Life* student Dee Barrera and her daughter Amina, who gave a beautiful violin performance. Bravely sharing her story publicly for the first time, Dee spoke about the devastating loss of her father when she was 14 years old and her journey to becoming the successful woman and mother she is today. For VIEW members present, seeing the mother and daughter together was a powerful reflection of the IWD theme, 'Give to Gain', and the impact of educational support across generations. VIEW members from Warrnambool, Bendigo, Castlemaine, Keilor and Ocean Grove VIEW Clubs helped Hamilton VIEW members celebrate their quarter of a century of empowering young people!

WA clubs shine again

First Wave VIEW Club in Western Australia hosted their 10th IWD fundraising event at the Marmion Angling and Aquatic Club, with special guests, Julie Walker and Susan Hampton from The Smith Family and Michelle Fyfe, CEO of RAAFA WA, who gave the keynote speech about her time as the WA Police Assistant Commissioner. More than 130 guests (including over 70 non-VIEW members) attended the event which featured a long table of raffles and a fantastic door prize of two nights' accommodation at Bunker Bay. Other guests included MLA for



Julie Walker (right) from The Smith Family at the First WAVE VIEW Club event.



L-R: Hamilton VIEW President Fay Alexander, with inaugural President Lesley Slater, VIEW National Councillor Lorraine Batrouney and founding member Lorraine Wilson.

Kingsley, Jessica Stojkovski and Real Estate Agent Carole Saville, both generous supporters of the event. What a fabulous way to celebrate International Women's Day!

Across town, West Coast VIEW Club's lunch was a truly uplifting afternoon, brilliantly hosted by the ever-popular Perth journalist Verity James. Julie Walker, National Corporate Services and Relations Manager, The Smith Family, said it was a pleasure to speak alongside such inspiring women and to hear the powerful story of *Learning for Life* student Noe, whose journey left many guests feeling hopeful and proud. Guests were also captivated by speaker Sue Freeman who shared her remarkable path as a female fighter pilot in the British and Australian Air Forces. It was a wonderful opportunity for women to connect, share stories and celebrate each other, topped off with fabulous raffle prizes, including an incredibly generous donation from a member of a week in Bali!



West Coast VIEW Club members with student, Noe.

Making connections makes a difference

Across Australia, VIEW members harness local connections to create lasting change for students supported by The Smith Family. In this issue, we showcase that collective power in action.

SA clubs hit top gear

When members connect to share ideas and work together, VIEW's impact grows! The huge growth in VIEW members volunteering at this year's Tour Down Under (TDU) cycling event in South Australia (SA) shows the power of VIEW's connections in community.

Starting with just 13 VIEW volunteers in 2023, this year 150 VIEW members and family braved SA's sweltering heat in January to volunteer as traffic marshals at the famous event to raise vital funds for The Smith Family. With each volunteer receiving a \$50 donation towards

their chosen community club or organisation for every day they volunteer, thousands of dollars were raised! In the TDU cyclists pedal over 1,000km across the state, passing through many towns where a VIEW Club exists. Members from Tea Tree Gully, Adelaide City Evening, Prospect, Marion, Adelaide East, Blackwood Hills and Tonsley VIEW Clubs and their family members volunteered. Thank you to everyone who supported, volunteered and helped – your time and commitment truly made a difference.

It all starts with a conversation

Although VIEW members regularly use their voices to raise awareness about The Smith Family's work, the ripple effect of these conversations often goes unnoticed. So when Denise Simons from Leopold VIEW Club (VIC) had a short conversation with best-selling author Jane Harper during a book signing event at her local library, she never imagined it would result in a generous donation to VIEW.

Members of Leopold VIEW Club were stunned and overjoyed when they learned of the \$10,000 donation from the famous author. The extraordinary act of generosity is a powerful reminder of how one connection can make a profound difference.

"We are inspired, humbled and incredibly thankful," says Victoria Trofimovs, Leopold VIEW Club's President. "This gift will change lives. The money will go towards sponsoring an additional three senior secondary school students in the *Learning for Life* program for three years."

Leopold VIEW Club formed in 2023 and has more than 50 active members. Through fundraising activities, members sponsor



SA VIEW members volunteering at the Tour Down Under.



Jane Harper with Leopold VIEW member, Denise Simons.

Learning for Life students and regularly donate to help fund other Smith Family programs.

Did you know Jane has another connection to VIEW? Back in 2016, just as her debut novel *The Dry* was hitting shelves and on its way to becoming a bestseller, Jane kindly accepted an invitation to be guest speaker for a literary event promoting a new VIEW Club in Woollahra in Sydney's East. It was one of the author's first book events so at VIEW we like to think we played a small part in launching her speaking career!

Connect with community radio

From regional towns to city suburbs, advertising on community radio is a great way for VIEW committees to connect to local women who are looking for friendship, purpose and a way to give back to their community.

Like VIEW, community radio is local, it's trusted and it reaches people who value community connection. Several clubs including Lithgow VIEW have already had success with community radio advertisements, seeing more general enquiries, new visitors at meetings and stronger recognition in the wider community.

To make it easier for more clubs to explore community radio, a ready-to-use VIEW radio script is now available. All clubs can personalise the script and record it themselves before approaching their local radio station. Hearing a local voice speak with genuine warmth about VIEW's work, the friendships formed and



Fraser Coast VIEW Club members with David Lee, State Member for Hervey Bay.

the impact of supporting The Smith Family could inspire a listener to consider joining VIEW. A professional pre-recorded message is also available for clubs to send to their local radio station with a request for free airtime.

Visit the [Resources](#) section of our website for assistance with community radio advertising.

Building relationships with local MPs

Connecting with local Members of Parliament (MPs) is a great way for clubs to raise awareness and strengthen VIEW's presence in the community. Many MPs are happy to be supporters of VIEW, promoting local clubs through their newsletters, websites and social media and assisting committees by providing

community grants, venues, printing or donating raffle prizes. Sometimes, all it takes is reaching out and starting a conversation.

Fraser Coast VIEW Club (QLD) recently did just that, meeting with their local State MP, David Lee, a great supporter of VIEW. At the meeting, they discussed plans to explore the possibility of opening a new evening VIEW Club in the Hervey Bay area.

At a national level, letters from the VIEW National President Lorraine Thomson to Federal and State Ministers have generated strong interest in VIEW's resolution areas – mental health, education and loneliness and social isolation – with an unprecedented number of meeting requests from MPs and policy advisors. We are delighted that with each meeting, VIEW's messages are reaching a new audience, raising our profile and highlighting the difference VIEW members make in their communities.

Inviting local MPs to be the guest speaker at a VIEW meeting is another way to get them involved. During Queensland Women's Week in March, Redcliffe VIEW Club (QLD) invited their State MP, Kerri-Anne Dooley to speak to members. It was a great opportunity for the MP to learn about VIEW. Afterwards, Kerri-Anne shared a photo with Redcliffe VIEW members on her Facebook page, calling out the club's fundraising work and encouraging other women to join.



Toni Thomas, VIEW Past National President with Jane Harper in 2016.



Redcliffe VIEW Club (QLD) members with Kerri-Anne Dooley MP (fourth from left).

Other VIEW news

Farewell and good luck to Linda

After 13 years with VIEW National Office, Linda Custer is leaving to pursue another role within The Smith Family. Linda has been a friendly and patient voice at the end of phone line, supporting VIEW National Executive and Leadership Teams, clubs and members across the country with all manner of enquiries and requests. Her passion and enthusiasm for VIEW will be greatly missed. At the February National Leadership Team meeting, VIEW National President Lorraine Thomson thanked Linda for her many years of support. We wish her all the very best in this next chapter in her career.



VIEW is growing!

The WA Development Team has been busily working behind the scenes to establish a new club in **Mandurah**, a coastal city south of Perth. A huge thank you to the incredibly hardworking Mary Deakin, whose energy and commitment have been instrumental in building momentum, supported by passionate members from surrounding clubs.

To spread the word about VIEW, the team has distributed flyers and connected with Facebook community groups and the local newspaper, *Have A Go*. Interest meetings have been very well attended, with numbers growing quickly and a date set in June for the club's inaugural! A visit from Amber Kearns, Mayor of Rockingham, at one session was a highlight.

The team has also been pleased to strengthen their partnership with Smith Family team members who have been happy to get involved. Julie Walker, National Corporate Services and Relations Manager, attended one meeting to share a presentation about The Smith Family's work and *Learning for Life* program. With such strong interest, enthusiasm and a real buzz in the community about VIEW, this is shaping up to be a wonderful new club.

The Far North Queensland (FNQ) VIEW Development Team, led by Past National President, Jan Roberts, has also been drumming up interest in a new club in **Townsville**. The team has hosted a pop-up stall and several Interest Meetings to share information about VIEW and The Smith Family.

Prior to February, they worked hard making connections in Townsville. They also met with local Smith Family team members to learn about their work and get first-hand knowledge on suitable venues for meetings and activities. A Facebook page was set-up and advertisements were placed in the local newspaper. The team also reached out to all Queensland clubs, asking members to spread the word. In Townsville, VIEW posters have been put up around the community and essence cards are being handed out.

Although it is still early days, several women have signed up to be members and Jan and her team feel there is very strong interest to form a club!

If you know a VIEW member who is moving to Townsville or Mandurah, please invite them to email: view@thesmithfamily.com.au



Saying 'Thanks' to Officeworks

Thirty-five Officeworks stores received a visit from VIEW Club members in January as part of the Officeworks Back to School campaign. Knowing how powerful VIEW's connections are in community The Smith Family's Corporate Partnerships Manager, Jo Booth, reached out to VIEW for help in nurturing the powerful partnership with Officeworks.

During a single week in January, VIEW members around Australia responded enthusiastically, visiting stores to pass on a message of thanks to staff.

During the campaign, \$1,051,921 was raised by Officeworks, exceeding the \$1 million target. This is enabling 1,511 students to be sponsored through The Smith Family's *Learning for Life* program.

"We could not have reached this result without help from our VIEW friends.

"When we ask for support, VIEW members never let us down. We can always rely on them to get out in their communities and drive awareness of our work. Thank you!" Jo says.

For women, led by women

Did you know VIEW Clubs is run by women just like you? The VIEW National Executive and National Leadership Team 2026-27 (NLT) are a group of dedicated VIEW members who want to give back to ensure the organisation continues to thrive.

The NLT is led by Lorraine Thomson, National President and National Vice Presidents Angie Carroll and Dianne Fiddes, who support VIEW National Councillors located across Australia. The group supports clubs, shares knowledge and information and ensures the wellbeing of all VIEW members. They are supported by Maryanne Maher, VIEW National Manager and Becca Crofts, Operations Coordinator, with a new team member joining soon.

In February, the National Executive and NLT came together at The Smith Family's National Office for two jam-packed days of learning about VIEW and The Smith Family. The group heard from Nicholas Moore, Chair of The Smith Family, Doug Taylor, CEO, Lisa Allan, Head of State and Territory Operations and David Rae, Head of



Hobart VIEW Club (TAS) members.



Southern Highlands VIEW Club (NSW) members.

People and Culture. They also received presentations from The Smith Family on Media and Communications, Advocacy and Government Relations and were given an update on the *Learning for Life* program. Goals for the two-year term were discussed and each member shared what they are looking forward to this year in VIEW.

Throughout the year, the NLT will continue to meet online to share ideas and knowledge, discuss challenges and opportunities and work together to build a stronger future for VIEW.

Below L-R: Sandra Fong, National Councillor Concord West VIEW Club, NSW; Dianne Fiddes, National Vice President, Foster/Tuncurry Evening VIEW Club, NSW; Christine Foster, National Councillor, Hervey Bay and Maryborough VIEW Clubs, QLD; Irene Kinder, National Councillor, Carindale VIEW Club, QLD; Angie Carroll, National Vice President, Raymond Terrace VIEW Club, NSW; Lorraine Thomson, National President, Robina VIEW Club, QLD; Robin Bosch; National Councillor, Maitland VIEW Club, NSW; Lorraine Batrouney, National Councillor, Ocean Grove Day VIEW Club, VIC; Bernie McSwain, National Councillor, Prospect VIEW Club, SA; Mary Hollingworth, National Councillor, Glen Innes VIEW Club, NSW.

Absent: Kris Behets, National Councillor, Melville City VIEW Club, WA and Annette Harriott, National Councillor, Boronia and Waverley VIEW Clubs, VIC.



Around the clubs

A rewarding feeling in Dapto

Seven members from Illawarra, Lake Illawarra, Kiama Day and Albion Park Evening VIEW Clubs (NSW) gave up a morning in January to help The Smith Family team members in Dapto pack 750 books for the 2026 Let's Read program. Their smiles show the warm and fuzzy feelings this small act of kindness brought them all!



Mulberry picking to raise funds

No - it's not a murder scene! It's just a group of Busselton VIEW Club members (WA) picking mulberries to raise funds for The Smith Family! The activity, at a member's farm, was a great shared experience with lots of laughter and chatter from the pickers. Those not picking were also able to enjoy the day, relaxing under a shady veranda with tea, scones and homemade mulberry jam. A fantastic example of "fun raising" to support The Smith Family.



Happy 40th Brunswick Valley

Brunswick Valley VIEW Club (NSW) members celebrated their 40th anniversary with special guest, well-known entertainer Normie Rowe OA. Normie shared colourful stories of his wonderful career on the stage and strummed tunes on his guitar as members celebrated the momentous milestone. Generous Brunswick Valley VIEW members sponsor eight *Learning for Life* students.

Indulging for good

Is your VIEW club looking for a low-cost fundraising activity to boost your *Learning for Life* scholarship funds or make an extra donation to The Smith Family? In March, members from Bendigo Evening VIEW Club (VIC) indulged in a Pancake Day fundraiser, making a small contribution for tasty pancakes and great company. The cheap and cheerful activity for Shrove Tuesday was easy to organise with minimal effort and outlay. Dedicated member, Elaine, kept up a steady stream of pancakes while the diners (pictured) sat back and enjoyed their VIEW friendships!



Don't get scammed!

From now until August 2026, VIEW members and their friends can attend free Financial Wellbeing Workshops across Australia, delivered by The Smith Family and ANZ. Janice Monk and Dianne Lutze from Coolangatta/Tweed VIEW Club (pictured) attended the

workshop in February in Banora Point, Queensland. They learnt about scam protection, digital banking and where to get support in times of need. Look out for upcoming workshops in WA, SA, QLD, the New England region and Wagga Wagga (NSW).



Teaming up with Men's Shed

Close to 50 members from Western Suburbs VIEW Club (WA) enjoyed an outing to the Showgrounds Community Men's Shed for a delicious lunch (prepared by the men) and informative tour of their facilities. It was a great way to connect with another local organisation where friendships are so important. The day was a joint fundraiser for the two groups, with a raffle raising money for the club's *Learning for Life* students!



A golden time in Wagga Wagga

Wagga Wagga Evening VIEW Club (NSW) celebrated 50 years of supporting The Smith Family in February. A highlight of the gold-themed celebration was hearing from inaugural member and current Treasurer, Pam Cattell, on 50 years of VIEW. More than 70 women, including past and present VIEW members from local clubs had a wonderful night celebrating fun and friendship.

Packing to raise funds

In March, a group of Maroochydore VIEW (QLD) members donated their time to pack athlete bags for the Mooloolaba Triathlon. As the photo shows, it was hot work, but that didn't stop the members from smiling and laughing through the task! Each member received a donation to the club for giving their time. Well done to all involved!



VIEW photos!

From recent celebrations



Mackay VIEW Club (QLD) Officeworks visit.



Caloundra VIEW (QLD) IWD event.



Centenary Evening VIEW (QLD) members at IWD event.



VIC VIEW members at Warrnambool Officeworks.



ACT VIEW members at Belconnen Officeworks.



Bathurst VIEW (NSW) IWD event.



Bathurst VIEW

Support the education of Australian children experiencing disadvantage



SA VIEW members at IWD event.



Queanbeyan VIEW (NSW) members.



Lennox Head VIEW (NSW) members celebrating IWD.



VIEW members at First WAVE VIEW (WA) IWD event.



Shepparton VIEW Club (VIC) Officeworks visit.



Kawana Waters VIEW (QLD) at IWD event.



view

voice, interests and
education of women

merchandise



65th Anniversary pop-up fans	\$5
60th Anniversary fold-out fans	\$5
60th Anniversary spectacle cleaner	\$5
60th Anniversary pin	\$5
VIEW pen	\$8
VIEW bum bag	\$15
VIEW nail file	\$5
VIEW backpack	\$5
VIEW apron	\$26
VIEW travel pack	\$10
VIEW bumper sticker	\$4
VIEW bucket hat	\$12
VIEW beanie	\$15

WINTER IS COMING



Pick-up a VIEW
beanie at the new
**DISCOUNTED
PRICE OF \$15!**



All money raised from the sale of VIEW merchandise helps children in need to succeed at school.
To order any of these VIEW items, please email: view@thesmithfamily.com.au

It's time to stand up to poverty. Ava's future is on the line.

The school year is underway,
but poverty is still taking its
toll on Ava* day after day.

No Australian child should
miss out on the essentials
they need to thrive at school.

Sponsor a child like Ava
today so they can get
back on track and build
a better future.

**VIEW Club members give children like Ava the educational support
they need to change their lives.**

*Names, location and associated images have been changed to protect the identity of Ava and her family.

Sponsor an Australian child today.

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**The Smith
Family**
Learn today, change tomorrow.