



Supporting International Women's Day

New club in Victoria

South Australian clubs inspiring each other

Our Vision
Women creating
and leading a more
inclusive Australian
society.

Our Mission
As a leading voice and
valued support network
for women, VIEW creates
social capital in Australian
communities.

Our Purpose

- VIEW empowers women through its Voice, Interests and Education of Women.
- VIEW provides support and friendship for women throughout communities nationally.
- VIEW actively 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 15,000 members in 320 communities exclusively supporting the education charity The Smith Family. Members sponsor students, volunteer, fundraise and advocate to improve the life outcomes of disadvantaged Australian children and young people.

As The Smith Family's largest community sponsor of *Learning for Life* students, VIEW supports the educational outcomes of more than 1,200 disadvantaged children and young people. Through its connection with The Smith Family, VIEW is proud to enable better futures for young Australians.

National President: Jan Roberts

National Vice Presidents: Pat McRae, Annette Schlafrig

National Councillors: ACT: Marilynne Weston, NSW: Lesley Carroll, Jeanette Cassidy, Joanne Gray, Christine Manger, Rosie McDermott, Anne-Louise O'Connor, Beryl Pike, Fay Valerius, Helen Zirn, QLD: Lynette Masters, SA: Marlene Powell, VIC: Sandi Muntisov, Maria Culka.

National Manager: Maryanne Maher

Published by The Smith Family
GPO BOX 10500, Sydney NSW 2001

For more information about VIEW
Tel: 1800 805 366 Fax: 02 9085 7294
Email: view@thesmithfamily.com.au
Website: www.view.org.au

The Smith Family provides disadvantaged Australian children with 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 life time 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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everyone's family

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Front cover: Attracting new members through expos - National Councillor Marilynne Weston (left) with Zone Councillors Anne Brown-Bryan (middle) and Enid Kattenhorn (right) at the Connect and Participate (CAP) Expo in Canberra. Photo by Michael Jacklett.

From the Executive

Jan Roberts
National President



L-R: National Executive 2018-19:
Jan Roberts, Pat McRae
and Annette Schlafrig

As VIEW National President 2018-19, I feel privileged to lead this wonderful organisation through the next chapter of growth and development.

I have always strongly believed in VIEW, its core values and the difference we can make to disadvantaged Australian children. I'm delighted to present the 2018-19 National Executive's theme: *Make connections. Make a difference.*

With National Vice Presidents Annette Schlafrig and Pat McRae, I believe this theme sets a great foundation from which we can continue to grow VIEW and most importantly, improve the educational outcomes of disadvantaged young Australians.

Make connections sums up one of the special qualities of VIEW. You — our members — are great connectors. The strong networks you make in local communities play a huge role in raising awareness of The Smith Family's work, thus increasing public support. Connecting with others also brings different opportunities and rewarding results for VIEW and members, from building membership to nurturing new friendships.

One of my favourite examples of making connections is the story of the partnership between VIEW and the University of Wollongong College (UOWC). This partnership was formed after Marisa Mastroianni, Managing Director and Group CEO of UOW Enterprises, accepted an invitation from a

'connection' to attend a VIEW International Women's Day event in 2015. Marisa was so moved after hearing a student speak about The Smith Family's support that she felt motivated to establish a scholarship to recognise the work of VIEW and support a local young woman. Three *Learning for Life* students have now benefitted from this powerful connection! See page 8 to read about this year's recipient.

The second part of our theme, *Make a difference*, is something you all do by the very nature of being part of VIEW. Collectively, VIEW sponsors more than 1,200 *Learning for Life* students, making a huge impact on their lives. Being part of VIEW also makes a difference to each of us as members. We volunteer, give back to our communities, contribute to society, support The Smith Family and build lasting friendships.

For Pat, Annette and me, *Make connections. Make a difference* will be at the forefront of our minds. We also intend to focus on recruiting new members, retaining existing members, embracing innovations and implementing a succession plan to support committee members to move into Zone and National Councillor roles. We believe that with all VIEW members working together with National Executive, National and Zone Councillors, VIEW working groups, National Office and The Smith Family, VIEW will grow and make an even greater impact on the future of disadvantaged young Australians.

What is VIEW?

VIEW is a national women's volunteer organisation supporting the education charity, The Smith Family. Connected through a common purpose, VIEW Club's 15,000 members:

- make lasting friendships, share ideas and knowledge and enjoy social activities;
- learn and develop new skills, while giving back to their communities; and
- advocate for and support the educational outcomes of disadvantaged Australian students.



Find out more about VIEW by calling 1800 805 366
or emailing view@thesmithfamily.com.au



Message from The Smith Family CEO

Dr Lisa O'Brien

The past month has been exciting for The Smith Family with our release of a major research report showing a close link between school attendance rates and Year 12 completion levels.



The report – *Attendance lifts achievement: Building the evidence base to improve student outcomes* – is the first Australian study to demonstrate the relationships between students' school attendance, achievement in English or Maths, school completion and post-school work or study.

Using data from more than 30,000 Australian students, we found three in four (75 per cent) students with high attendance in Year 7 completed Year 12, compared to less than half (48 per cent) of those with very low attendance. The research also found students with very low attendance in Year 7 who improved their attendance by Year 9 were much more likely to complete Year 12. These findings mean we can identify students at risk of not completing Year 12 from as early as Year 7, and provide them with the additional support they need to improve their attendance and grades, ultimately increasing their likelihood of finishing school and moving on to further study or work. The report has been distributed to all VIEW Clubs and can be downloaded from thesmithfamily.com.au/research.

I am delighted with the progress VIEW Clubs and the new National Executive have already made this year. From the 1,245 student sponsorships you fund, to the growing collaboration with our retail stores and strong community voice, your dedication to our cause is making a difference.

I was thrilled to hear about the three unstoppable VIEW members — Past National Vice President, Lyn Geer,

Carolyn Taylor (Greensborough VIEW Club) and National Councillor Sandi Muntisov (Eltham VIEW Club) — who assisted with selling raffle tickets to 720 people at a Melbourne function in February with our partner, HSBC. These members helped to raise \$10,700, which will be matched by HSBC! I thank each of them personally.

In March I learnt that former *Learning for Life* student Paul Ell was the recipient of the coveted Tom Harvey Award for Citizenship 2018, following a nomination by VIEW. For many years, I have witnessed the growing relationship between Paul and VIEW, including the evocative speech he delivered at the 2015 VIEW National Convention in Wollongong. With nurturing from VIEW Clubs, Paul has become a strong advocate and ambassador for The Smith Family, the *Learning for Life* program and VIEW. His special connection with VIEW is helping to ensure more disadvantaged students can receive the educational support that has been so crucial in his life. This is just one example of the power of VIEW in the wider community.

I wish Jan Roberts, Annette Schlafrig and Pat McRae all the best in their roles as the National Executive 2018–19. Finally, I thank you all for your contribution and enthusiasm for The Smith Family and supporting the education of disadvantaged young Australians. We couldn't achieve our work without your support.



Join Facebook

Keep up-to-date with the latest VIEW news by joining the VIEW Clubs of Australia Facebook page. Post comments about your club's activities and comment on posts on The Smith Family's Facebook page.

News briefs

VIEW's impact

Learning for Life
sponsorships
supported by VIEW

As at March 2018

1,245

disadvantaged students at these levels:

981	Primary school
248	Secondary school
16	Tertiary /TAFE

Retail therapy with a difference

On Saturday 10 March, VIEW members on Sydney's North Shore celebrated International Women's Day with a fashion parade at The Smith Family's newly opened Neutral Bay Retail Store. The general public joined VIEW members to take advantage of shopping bargains, helping the store to triple its takings on the day! VIEW hopes to form a new club in Mosman so the event was a great way to promote VIEW's work to residents in the area.



Attendees at the VIEW Fashion Parade at The Smith Family's Neutral Bay Retail Store

Blue Illusion shopping day

Ongoing support from boutique fashion store, Blue Illusion, saw another successful National Shopping Day in support of The Smith Family held at Blue Illusion stores nationwide on Saturday 28 October 2017. The day raised \$25,265 for The Smith Family, with Blue Illusion donating 7% of proceeds from all sales to help fund learning and support programs for disadvantaged students. Look out for details about the 2018 National Shopping Day!



VIEW cheer squad

In March, VIEW members were out in force at the annual Smith Family Challenge in Jervis Bay, cheering on participants and spreading The Smith Family message. As of March, this event had raised over \$1 million, surpassing the target.

Christmas fundraising

Thank you to all members who were involved in gift wrapping stalls at shopping centres last Christmas. This fun activity provided a valuable service to busy shoppers, raised funds for The Smith Family and was effective in promoting VIEW to prospective members. VIEW raised more than \$20,000. Please inform National Office (view@thesmithfamily.com.au) of the details and results of your Christmas wrapping activities for our records. Thank you to all who participated.

National Office also thanks members and their families and friends who supported The Smith Family Toy and Book Appeal in 2017. VIEW contributed \$66,000, allowing 1,100 children to enjoy something special under the Christmas tree. Great effort!



Pauline Clowes from Lugarno Evening VIEW Club (NSW).

**people's
choice**
CREDIT UNION

Community Lottery 2018

If your club is interested in being involved in this year's People's Choice Community Lottery, contact your Zone Councillor now to request raffle ticket booklets. This is a great fundraising initiative used by many clubs to support The Smith Family and promote VIEW's work to local communities. Requests for ticket booklets are handled on a first-come-first-served basis. Paper tickets will be distributed to participants from April. All funds raised go towards The Smith Family's *student2student* reading program, to help young students who are behind in their reading skills to catch up. Last year, two VIEW members were lucky winners in the lottery so get in quickly and purchase your tickets!

International Women's Day celebrations with VIEW

VIEW members championed for gender equality with a range of events in early March.

As one of Australia's leading women's volunteer organisations, International Women's Day, held annually on 8 March, has become an important date on the VIEW calendar. Many clubs host events that not only celebrate the achievements of women and young *Learning for Life* students, but also shine a light on gender inequality and other issues of importance to women. With the 2017 #MeToo campaign still resonating, this year's events spread the message of speaking up and driving forward for gender parity. Read about some of this year's events here and see more photos on page 14.



In New South Wales

In addition to regional events in areas including Yamba, Lennox Head, Tweed Heads, Bathurst and the Central Coast, events were held across metropolitan Sydney. VIEW members from central and southern Sydney invited community groups including Probus, Zonta, Lionesses, Lamrock Committee and Red Cross to a luncheon in Peakhurst, while in the Macarthur, Southern Highlands and Illawarra region, 120 VIEW members and their guests came together at Camden Civic Centre.

In Peakhurst, National Vice President Pat McRae gave the opening address, touching on this year's International Women's Day theme, 'Press for Progress.' Guest Speaker, Linda Peach, from the Workplace Gender Equality Agency, referenced research on gender equality and shared her own personal experiences. Award-winning Indigenous actress, Leah Purcell, captivated the audience with the story of her life. Her message was: "Know who you are, believe in what you are doing, be confident and comfortable in making mistakes, give hope to others. Power to you, sisters."

At the Camden event, National President, Jan Roberts urged members to not lose sight of the power of VIEW's collective voice. Guests also heard from *Learning for Life* student Andela, who is in her first year of university and has been supported by The Smith Family throughout her education. Andela passionately shared how difficult it was for her family after her father died suddenly and how The Smith Family played a significant part in her life and helping her mum to pay for school fees and school clothing. Captain Melinda Barnes from the Royal Australian Navy was the event's keynote speaker, sharing her story about women standing up for what they believe they must do, particularly in respect to sexual harassment in the workforce.

L-R: Past National Councillors Madge Doust and Ellen Gray; Linda Peach; Leah Purcell; Zone Councillor, Kay Underwood; National Vice President, Pat McRae; Past National Vice President, Gloria Walter and Zone Councillor Pam Collins.

In Western Australia

Members and friends from VIEW's seven clubs in Western Australia (WA) came together for two celebrations. First Wave VIEW Club held an event at Marmion Angling and Aquatic Club, while West Coast VIEW Club hosted a lunch at Hillary's Marina. At the West Coast event, guest speakers included Ian Moore, General Manager of The Smith Family WA, who spoke about

the important contribution VIEW makes to The Smith Family; and keynote speaker, Dr Pam Lynch, a life coach, mentor and motivational speaker. The highlight, however, was hearing from *Learning for Life* student, Tyler, who was supported by The Smith Family throughout school and university. Raised in a single parent family, Tyler had dreamed of becoming a diesel mechanic, but realised he wanted a career where he

could 'give back'. Giving up a scholarship with BHP, Tyler chose to study primary school teaching so he could help students who needed that little bit of extra support, like himself. The Smith Family's support eased the financial burden for his mother and gave him the resources and support he needed to complete his university degree. Tyler thanked VIEW and The Smith Family for helping him achieve this goal.

In South Australia

Marion VIEW Club hosted a luncheon at the Marion Community Club. South Australian author, Tricia Stringer was the event's guest speaker, entertaining attendees with stories of how she became a writer and the writing process. Guests were also treated to a presentation from three milliners from Studio Hats Unley. Over \$2,400 was raised from raffles, a book stall and jewellery stand. This money will be donated to The Smith Family for their educational programs for disadvantaged students.



Members from Marion VIEW Club.



Michelle Carmichael, The Smith Family Tertiary Team Leader and Jamie-Lee, *Learning for Life* student.

In Queensland

For VIEW members from clubs in and around Brisbane, a High Tea was hosted by Centenary Evening, Chapel Hill and Kenmore VIEW Clubs. More than 80 members and friends enjoyed the function, which featured messages of support from local parliamentary members and guest speaker, Cathy Hunt, Executive Producer of the Women of the World (WOW) Festival. Guests also heard from *Learning for Life* tertiary student, Jamie-Lee, who attended the event with Michelle Carmichael, The Smith Family Tertiary Team Leader from Brisbane. Jamie-Lee joined the *Learning for Life* program in Year 8 and is now studying a Bachelor of Business / Bachelor of Law (Honours) at Queensland University of Technology. Jamie-Lee told guests she would not be where she is now without the support of The Smith Family and VIEW. She thanked VIEW for supporting disadvantaged students like herself to further their education.

In Victoria

VIEW members travelled from all over Victoria and even Cessnock NSW to attend VIEW's Melbourne event at the Kooyong Tennis Centre. National Vice President, Annette Schlafrig gave the opening address, and was followed by Anton Leschen, General Manager of The Smith Family Victoria. The event's keynote speaker was Colonel Catherine Carrigan, who shared her 30-year journey in the Army and the changes in the way women have been treated. Former *Learning for Life* student, Jarrod, gave an inspiring speech about how his family was supported by The Smith Family. Jarrod said he valued the care and concern his sponsors showed him through their regular correspondence. The support helped him to complete a mechanical engineering degree. Speaking on behalf of all *Learning for Life* students, Jarrod thanked VIEW members for their support.

National Vice President, Annette Schlafrig; former *Learning for Life* student, Jarrod; The Smith Family General Manager for Victoria, Anton Leschen and Past National President, Robin Perros.



Connecting in Community



Meet a member

Judy Werner from Kenmore VIEW Club (QLD)

Member since? 2000

Most enjoyable aspect of VIEW?

JW: *The friendships I've made.*

What will you always remember about VIEW?

JW: *Learning how to use a spreadsheet when Treasurer.*

Supporting the education of disadvantaged children is important because...

JW: *The opportunity to succeed in education can assist all students to successfully enter the workforce.*

Hobbies and interests?

JW: *Playing bridge and tennis, visiting the Sunshine Coast to surf and socialising.*

Favourite attraction in your home town?

JW: *Lone Pine Sanctuary in Brisbane, where most Australian fauna is to be seen.*

University of Wollongong College and VIEW joint scholarship

Wollongong *Learning for Life* student, Aishe, is the 2018 recipient of the joint scholarship from the University of Wollongong College (UOWC) and VIEW. First awarded in 2015, this scholarship will support Aishe to undertake a three-year Diploma of Nursing at the UOWC. Aishe, who completed Year 12 last year, was presented with the scholarship at her school's presentation day by representatives from The Smith Family, VIEW and UOWC. Congratulations Aishe!



L-R: Past National Councillor Yvonne White, Madeline Barnes from UOWC, Aishe and Emma Woods, The Smith Family *Learning for Life* Family Partnership Coordinator.

A word from Aishe...

"I have been generously sponsored by The Smith Family since I was in primary school. The *Learning for Life* sponsorship has made an incredible difference to my schooling. It has supported me and enabled me to overcome hardships such as financial difficulties, which has lifted a huge

stress. This has motivated me to better myself at school and to strive further for my future. The sponsorship has also eased stress for my parents which has created a better home environment. I am so grateful because the sponsorship has helped me achieve my goals and ambitions. This isn't just a scholarship but a door into my future. It is allowing me to follow my dreams and passions.

The words 'thank you' simply do not show how truly grateful and blessed I feel. I hope a better 'thank you' will be me working my very best to complete my studies and participate in as many opportunities involving The Smith Family, VIEW Clubs and UOWC as I can. I would like everyone to know how much this support means to me, thank you."



Bairnsdale Inaugural Committee and Past National President, Gwen Wilton.

New Victorian VIEW Club in Bairnsdale

In November last year, VIEW was delighted to celebrate the inauguration of Victoria's newest club, Bairnsdale VIEW Club. Members from VIEW clubs from many areas in Victoria, including as far away as Bendigo, joined the VIEW Executive and representatives from The Smith Family at the inauguration luncheon.

For many months VIEW's Victorian Development Team worked diligently to attract new members to the club and the hard work is already paying off. At the inauguration, the new club's enthusiastic members raised enough funds from raffles and a silent auction to sponsor two *Learning for Life* students - a great achievement!

Additionally, East Gippsland Councillor Marianne Pelz, who attended as a special guest, was so impressed by the event and VIEW that she announced during her address that she too intends to sponsor a *Learning for Life* student. This news was met with loud applause from everyone at the event and capped off what was a very successful celebration.

With a Smith Family office located in Bairnsdale and a number of programs including the successful *Girls at the Centre* Indigenous program running in the area, the club's committee is looking forward to developing a close relationship with The Smith Family. The club's new members are keen to be involved in volunteering and other opportunities to support local students.



The Bairnsdale Secondary College Band had guests singing and dancing at the inauguration.

Entertainment at the luncheon was provided by the Bairnsdale Secondary College Band. They were exceptional and soon had members joining in with singing and dancing, a real highlight of the day.

Nominate a member!

Nominations are now open for the VIEW 'Making a Difference' Award. This award recognises members who go that extra mile to live the VIEW values and guiding principles. Recipients are recognised at the next National Convention in 2019 and in the VIEW Honour Roll. For more information including the criteria and nomination form, visit www.view.org.au/resources. Please send completed nomination forms with a high-resolution photo of the nominee to view@thesmithfamily.com.au. Nominations close quarterly.

Community in profile

Spotlight on Area NM: Northern New South Wales

VIEW in Area NM

As at April 2018

575
members

15 VIEW
Clubs

39 *Learning for Life*
students sponsored

Grafton

Grafton VIEW Club celebrated its 50th birthday in November 2017, a great achievement for this small club of 30 members. The club hosts regular social functions to bring members and their friends together. One of 2017's highlights was a high tea function where members learnt how to make chocolate pretzels. In 2018, the club is hoping to hold a fashion parade in collaboration with a local shop. As a small club, members often join with sister club, Urunga VIEW Club, for birthday and Christmas celebrations.

Maclean

Maclean VIEW Club has 45 members and sponsors six *Learning for Life* students. The club hosts a major fundraising event each year to help fund the sponsorships. Additionally, regular trading tables and raffles help to supplement fundraising efforts and ensure the club can also contribute to The Smith Family's educational programs for disadvantaged students.

Bellinger Valley

Bellinger Valley VIEW Club is located in the historic small country town of Bellinger. Formed in 1986, the club has 44 members and sponsors five *Learning for Life* students. The club's major fundraising events are two street stalls held annually in the Bellinger town centre, featuring home-made cookies from members.

Monthly raffles and the trading table help the club raise funds each month and mid-month outings such as kegel bowling, croquet, outings, "soup and slice" days and Melbourne Cup functions contribute



additional funds and also build strong bonds of friendship.

Members of the club are also active volunteers at the local public school, Smith Family Learning Clubs in nearby Coffs Harbour, and The Smith Family Coffs Harbour Retail Store.

Above: L-R: Bellinger Valley VIEW members, Phyllis Smith, Gina Troy, Di Ginis and June Thomas at their fundraising street stall in Bellinger.



St Patrick's Day Luncheon for Yamba Day VIEW Club. Back row: Beth Spence, Desley Snowden, Joy Lauder, Jan Ainslie and Thelma Winitana. Front row: Roslyn Dixon, Margaret Cohen (Club Vice President), Lyn Hinrichsen (Club President) and Dianne Want.

Yamba Day

Located on the northern NSW coast with 11 beaches in close proximity, Yamba Day VIEW Club members have no shortage of beautiful locations and entertaining activities to enjoy together. Established in 1993, the club has steadily increased its membership and, thanks to dedicated and enthusiastic fundraisers, supports five *Learning for Life* students.

The club holds a variety of social events for members and guests,

including an annual 'Soup Day' which raises funds for The Smith Family Winter Appeal. Members also enjoy regular morning teas, visits to local museums and galleries, a movie morning and a Mystery Bus Tour.

Each year, the club joins with neighbouring clubs Clarence Valley, Grafton, Maclean and Yamba Evening to celebrate International Women's Day. A highlight for members in 2017, was the club's 'Walk with VIEW', where members took to the streets of Yamba to promote VIEW and The Smith Family.

Other VIEW news

Get to know your National Convention Award recipients

In the November 2017 issue of VIEW Matters, 2018 National Councillor Marlene Powell and Past National President Lorraine Montgomery were announced as the recipients of the 2017 National President's Award and George Forbes Award respectively. These Awards recognise two outstanding VIEW members who have gone above and beyond to promote and support VIEW. We share a little about these dedicated VIEW members and why they were recognised at the 2017 National Convention in Tamworth.

Marlene Powell lives in South Australia (SA) and has been a member of Southern Vales VIEW Club since 2006. Just one year after joining VIEW, Marlene stepped up to take on a role in her club's committee and since then has held various positions within her club and area. Since 2010, Marlene has been an energetic member of the SA Development Team, assisting

with the establishment of six clubs during that time. Committed to helping to grow VIEW and support the organisation's work with The Smith Family, Marlene maintains a supportive relationship with The Smith Family's team members in Adelaide's south and is an excellent mentor and advisor to clubs in her area.

Lorraine Montgomery is a longstanding VIEW Club member from the South Coast of NSW and a Past National President (2012-13). In addition to committee, council and executive roles with VIEW, as Convention Convenor, Lorraine has been actively involved in the organising committee for two National Conventions (2015, 2017 and now preparing for 2019!) and recently led the NSW Development Team through the establishment of the Woollahra VIEW Club (inaugurated in March 2017). She also provided

valuable guidance and training to Woollahra's inaugural committee and is an ongoing member of the Future of VIEW Working Group since its inception in 2012. Lorraine participated in the development of the Treasurer's Guide, the updating of the Club and Councillors' Handbooks and the VIEW Charter which was signed in 2013. She is an enthusiastic ambassador for VIEW and The Smith Family and is an excellent mentor. Congratulations to Marlene and Lorraine.



Past National President, Gwen Wilton (right) presenting awards to Marlene Powell (above) and Lorraine Montgomery (below).



The Smith Family General Manager SA/NT Graham Jaeschke, with *Learning for Life* student Rueben and Program Coordinator, Cassandra Wisman.

to come together to share insights, learn more about The Smith Family and get inspired for the year ahead. The highlight of this year's event was the speech delivered by *Learning for Life* student, Rueben, who has been supported by The Smith Family from a very young age. Rueben is now completing an Honours Degree at Flinders University and told attendees that without the support of The Smith Family and his sponsors he would have dropped out of school by Year 12. Rueben is from a family of three boys, raised by a single mother. He became very emotional when he shared that he is the first person in his family to complete Year 12 and go on to university.

Attendees also heard from SA's new Zone Councillors, Janice Sprakman

and Anne Strangway, VIEW National Manager, Maryanne Maher and The Smith Family General Manager of SA/NT, Graham Jaeschke. Program Coordinators, Cassandra Wisman and Kalindi Benson invited members to visit them in schools to see how The Smith Family's volunteering program and Learning Clubs work.

Collectively, SA VIEW Clubs currently sponsor 88 *Learning for Life* students. National Councillor Marlene Powell used the event to encourage clubs to support another student in 2018 to increase the state's sponsorships to over 100. A representative from each club was also asked to share their club's plans for the year to inspire new fundraising initiatives, outings, guest speakers and activities across the state.

Up, Up and Away in SA

South Australia's 7th 'Up, Up and Away' Workshop for the VIEW National and Zone Councillors of South Australia (SA) was held on 30 January with 110 members from clubs in SA attending.

This annual event is an opportunity for VIEW representatives across SA

Around the Clubs



Breakfast by champions

We love this initiative by members from Twin Towns Evening VIEW Club (NSW). Every Monday during the school term, members provide a warm breakfast of toast, fruit and juice to the students of Centaur Primary School. According to reports from the school, the initiative is having a positive impact on punctuality, academic results, concentration and behaviour of the students. The club recently also provided a sausage sizzle for all students and teachers.

L-R: Faye Lennon; Trudy Sloan; National Councillor, Rosie McDermott and Club President, Jill Mason.

200 members and 30 students

Aspley VIEW Club (QLD) is the largest VIEW Club with nearly 200 very active members. The club, which recently celebrated its 23rd birthday, supports 30 *Learning for Life* students. At each monthly meeting, the club holds raffles and a trading table (selling craft, jams, pickles, home baked goods, recycled jewellery and home wares) to raise funds for The Smith Family and student sponsorships. Additionally, several members run a 'book table' which makes a huge contribution to the club's

overall fundraising. Throughout the year, books are also sold at a stall outside the club's local shopping centre helping to promote the club to the general public. Several major fundraisers including a fashion parade, high tea or a bigger raffle also help to contribute to the money raised for The Smith Family. Great work Aspley!



Aspley VIEW Club book table – a regular fundraising initiative.



Jane Austen High Tea - the talk of Sussex Inlet

A Jane Austen High Tea, hosted by Sussex South VIEW Club (NSW) to mark 200 years since the renowned author passed away, created quite a stir in Sussex Inlet! With the majority of the event's 60 guests not formally connected with VIEW, the high tea was a great way to promote VIEW and The Smith Family to local community members, while raising \$1,200. With a membership of 33 women, the Sussex South VIEW Club supports four *Learning for Life* students, and contributes to the joint sponsorship of another student with other clubs in the surrounding area.

Above: Fine china brought special charm to the Jane Austen High Tea.



L-R: Wendy Studman, Shirley Good and National Councillor Marilynne Weston.

Expo success in ACT

In March, members from VIEW Clubs in and around Canberra attended the Connect and Participate (CAP) Expo to share information about VIEW and The Smith Family. CAP is a community event showcasing the range of opportunities and interest groups available for Canberrans looking to build social connections around common interests. VIEW has participated in the Expo for the past four years, promoting the 17 VIEW Clubs in the area. This year, 12 new members were signed up on the day! Well done!



Adelaide City Evening VIEW Club members at 'Show and Shine'.

Purple power in Adelaide

Purple reigned in Adelaide last November but it wasn't only from the beautiful Jacaranda trees and flowering Agapanthus that were in bloom. Members of Adelaide City Evening VIEW Club (SA) were out in "their purple" promoting the organisation. Not deterred by an extremely hot day, members attended the 'Show and Shine' day in Gumeracha in the Adelaide Hills to collect gifts that were donated to The Smith Family's Toy and Book Appeal. Run by Lions, 'Show and Shine' is an annual fundraising event for charities, organisations and community groups where proud car owners can present their much-loved vehicles to the public.



Congratulations Paul Ell!

Following a nomination by VIEW Clubs, former *Learning for Life* student, Ambassador for The Smith Family and VIEW Clubs 'friend', Paul Ell (pictured above), has received the coveted 2018 Tom Harvey Award for Citizenship from the Australia Youth Trust. NSW Governor David Hurley AS DSC presented the award at a NSW Parliament House luncheon commemorating Commonwealth Day. This award recognises the outstanding contribution of a young Australian (aged between 15 and 30) who has assisted in the development of other young people and their families by providing better opportunities either through literacy, education and/or employment programs. VIEW National Councillor Hunter/Central Coast, Anne-Louise O'Connor (left) and National Manager VIEW Maryanne Maher were at the award ceremony to congratulate and support Paul.

Connecting through song

The Chapel Hill VIEW Club (QLD) Choir has been singing together for 16 years, spreading the word of VIEW through song. Led by Doreen Orton, the conductor, Marguerite Giovannini, her accompanist, and Robyn Frost, the compere, the choir sings classics and musical theatre at retirement villages, nursing homes, church groups and, of course, at the birthday and Christmas celebrations of the club. Through the choir, the club is able to share information about VIEW and The Smith Family's *Learning*



for Life program to the wider community. Additionally, money raised from the fees of each performance are donated to the *Learning for Life* program – helping the club contribute to supporting the education of disadvantaged students.

Above: Chapel Hill VIEW Club Choir

Celebrating graduates in NSW

Every year, The Smith Family celebrates the achievements of its graduating *Learning for Life* students with a special ceremony for students, their families and supporters. In February, National Councillor Helen Zirn and fellow members of the Macquarie Ryde Evening VIEW Club (NSW) attended the NSW event. This was the first time these members had attended a graduation ceremony and everyone was moved by the compelling stories they heard from the *Learning for Life* students, Vanessa, Melissa and Brett. "We each came home with many stories to tell our members of

these wonderful students who would not have been able to have the opportunities they had without the support of sponsors like VIEW through The Smith Family," said Helen Zirn.

Below: L-R: National Councillor Helen Zirn; Denise Egan, Jan Beitsch (seated), *Learning for Life* student Vanessa, and Catherine Collins.





International Women's Day events

Photos from events hosted by VIEW Clubs around Australia



Northern Rivers, NSW



Camden, NSW



Marion, SA



Cessnock VIEW in Melbourne, VIC



Point Cook, VIC



West Coast, WA



The Smith Family Neutral Bay Retail Store, NSW



Peakhurst, NSW



First WAVE, WA



\$15 ea

VIEW Umbrellas with new Spots design



\$2.50

VIEW Lapel Pin



VIEW Backpack

\$5



\$12

VIEW Notecards includes envelopes



VIEW Shoehorn

\$7



\$8

New VIEW Pen design



Gifts

VIEW Keyring

\$10



VIEW Travel Hairbrush



\$7

Back in Stock



\$22

VIEW Apron

Size: 86 cm x 70 cm



\$5

VIEW Nailfile



\$10



VIEW Travel Pack

All money raised from the sale of VIEW gifts helps children in need to succeed at school.

To order any of these VIEW gifts contact National Office via email:

view@thesmithfamily.com.au

A bushfire hit our house and we almost lost everything. Mum and Dad are struggling. I am too. Even at school.

What happens now?

There are 1.1 million Australian children and young people growing up in poverty¹. Michelle's* story is one of them. Poverty hurts. It follows her everywhere – even to school – where she's falling further behind by the day.

We must act now to give children like Michelle access to vital support and out-of-school learning programs, so they have the chance to catch up, keep up, and fit in at school.

What happens now is up to you.

Please donate today and help children like Michelle this Winter.

HELP END POVERTY, ONE STUDENT AT A TIME. PLEASE DONATE TODAY.

Call 1800 024 069 or thesmithfamily.com.au



everyone's family

**WINTER
APPEAL
2018**

* Michelle's image and name have been changed to protect her identity.
1 ACOSS Poverty Report, 2016