

# viewmatters

April 2021



Our new Patron  
VIEW events are back!  
Partnering to raise funds

 celebrating 60+ years  
of strength & support



## Our Vision

Women creating and leading a more inclusive society.

## Our Mission

As a leading voice and valued support network for women, 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



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everyone's family



VIEW is a national women's organisation with 15,000 members in more than 300 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 1,400 disadvantaged children and young people.

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

National President: Anne-Louise O'Connor  
National Vice Presidents: Jo Gray and Beryl Pike  
National Councillors: ACT: June Weise. NSW: Elizabeth Birch, Brenda Caligeros, Sally Cronberger, Rosemary Day, Judith Hemmingway and Gail Tooth. QLD: Evelyn Berg, Margaret Elliott, Evelyn Berg, Betty Van Heeswijck.

SA: Janice Spraakman, Anne Strangway.  
VIC: Marg Woodhouse.  
Advisors (Past Senior Officers): NSW: Lyn Gerstenberg, Wendy Hunter, Franci Morsink, Sue Field. VIC: Lyn Geer, Jennie Wynd.

National Manager: Maryanne Maher

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GPO BOX 10500, Sydney NSW 2001  
For more information about VIEW  
Tel: 1800 805 366 Fax: 02 9085 7294  
Email: [view@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au)  
Website: [www.view.org.au](http://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](http://thesmithfamily.com.au)

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Front cover: VIEW members from the Upper Mid North Coast and Clarence Valley Region NSW in Yamba: Janette Angelo (front), Phyllis Telfer, Elizabeth Birch (middle) and Helen McCarthy (back).



L-R: Beryl Pike, Anne-Louise O'Connor and Jo Gray

## From the Executive

We are delighted that the start of 2021 has been full of monthly meetings, fundraising planning and social gatherings – the wonderful VIEW activities we all missed during 2020.

With the challenges of last year behind us, it's time to reflect on the strength and support shown by VIEW members. We were impressed by the creative ways members fundraised for their *Learning for Life* students. It was wonderful to see members doing everything they could to ensure their students would not miss out on sponsorship – support that is needed now more than ever. Thanks to your efforts, as an organisation we currently proudly support 1,450 students.

We all know how special our VIEW friendships are, and 2020 certainly put these to the test! Your ability to stay connected through lockdowns and restrictions was both motivating and inspiring to see. This year, we have been delighted with the enthusiasm with which face-to-face meetings have commenced and the efforts many of you are making to encourage

other women who may be seeking connectivity with others while supporting a meaningful cause, to join VIEW. We would like to thank the National and Zone Councillors and Club Committees for their sterling efforts in keeping members connected throughout the year.

As many of you will know, after 10 years, Dr Lisa O'Brien, CEO of The Smith Family has stepped down. We acknowledge Lisa's great leadership in steering The Smith Family to the professional and trusted charity it is today. Lisa always showed great respect and genuine gratitude for VIEW Clubs and for the work we do supporting *Learning for Life* students. We wish her well in her future endeavours. We welcome Judy Barraclough, Acting CEO of The Smith Family. Judy was formerly The Smith Family's Head of Strategy and Philanthropy.

It is with great pleasure that we announce VIEW's first Patron - Her Excellency, Mrs Linda Hurley, wife of the Governor-General of Australia, His Excellency, the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Retd). As a former school teacher, Mrs Hurley understands the value of education, and women in community, so we are very excited about this significant appointment that will help to raise the profile of our organisation. See page 8 for more about Mrs Hurley. We look forward to Mrs Hurley attending some of our activities as we continue to support The Smith Family and the long-term educational outcomes of Australian children and young people in need.

**Beryl Pike, National Vice President**

## 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 visiting [view.org.au](http://view.org.au), calling 1800 805 366 or emailing [view@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au)





## Message from The Smith Family

This is my last message to VIEW members as The Smith Family's CEO. From the bottom of my heart, I want to thank you all for your generosity and commitment – you are a valued part of our family.

Over the past 10 years, I have had the privilege of meeting some of you at various National Conventions, VIEW celebrations, student graduations and supporter thank you events. On these occasions, I am always struck by the passion, dedication and enthusiasm every VIEW member demonstrates. It is humbling to see year after year your generosity; every donation and student sponsorship is truly appreciated. Your support has a profound impact on the lives of students experiencing disadvantage.

In early March, I had the pleasure of speaking at the VIEW Central and Southern Sydney International Women's Day (IWD) luncheon. It was a wonderful opportunity to reflect on the growth and change at The Smith Family and the significance of our partnership

with VIEW over the past 60 years. Without your voices raising awareness about poverty and our work supporting students, The Smith Family's *Learning for Life* program would not have reached the 57,000 students we do today. I thank each of you for the work you do in the more than 300 communities where VIEW is active.

This year's IWD theme was "Choose to Challenge". It could not have been more fitting for VIEW. To me, VIEW members are change-makers who choose to challenge poverty every day by supporting The Smith Family's mission to transform the lives of disadvantaged young people through education. Through your sponsorship of 1,450 students, you are enabling change, and making Australia a fairer and more equitable place.

With 60 years of strength and support behind you, I know the women of VIEW will continue to make a difference.

In closing, I congratulate you on your 60+1 Anniversary and thank you for over six continuous decades of support to The Smith Family. As VIEW grows from strength to strength, your contributions will continue to support disadvantaged Australian children and young people to reach their full potential.

**Dr Lisa O'Brien**  
Chief Executive Officer

*Editorial note: After 10 years leading The Smith Family, Dr Lisa O'Brien's final day as CEO was 11 March, 2021. We asked current and past VIEW National Executive members to reflect on her leadership – see page 9. Thank you Lisa for your wonderful support of VIEW.*

### VIEW's National Convention is coming!

Everyone is holidaying in Australia this year! Join VIEW members and friends in Adelaide from 10-12 September for VIEW National Convention.

Guest speakers include Ita Buttrose AC OBE, Sophie Thomson, Gardening Australia and Isobel Marshall, Young Australian of the Year. Plus you'll enjoy fun social events, a magnificent Gala dinner and 60+1 anniversary celebrations!

Book at [view.org.au](http://view.org.au) - rest assured this is a COVID-safe event.



### Join VIEW's online communities!

We're on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter! We recently ramped up our social media activity to bring members and others interested in VIEW more news and updates. Join the VIEW Clubs of Australia Facebook page, follow @viewclubs on Instagram or tweet us at VIEWClubsAU.



# News briefs

**VIEW's impact**  
*Learning for Life*  
 sponsorships supported  
 by VIEW as at March 2021

# 1,450

disadvantaged students  
 at these levels:

School	1,166
Senior School	262
Tertiary	22

## Diamond Jubilee online raffle!

An amazing \$35,000 was raised from our Diamond Jubilee raffle – thank you to everyone who purchased tickets and encouraged their friends to be involved! All proceeds will go towards The Smith Family's *Learning for Life* program, ensuring more disadvantaged students get the support they need during their schooling. Terri Craig of Brendale Evening VIEW Club (QLD) was the lucky winner of the beautiful solitaire diamond pendant, created from a stunning diamond purchased using a generous donation from Vivienne Brown, long-term VIEW member.

## VIEW Clubs joins TelethonSA

VIEW Clubs is participating in TelethonSA, an iconic South Australian charity that raises funds for local not-for-profit organisations. VIEW Clubs is one of only 23 participating charities who will share the proceeds raised in the lottery. By purchasing a ticket in TelethonSA's 2021 Home Lottery, you can help raise funds for The Smith Family. Great prizes are up for grabs, including a Melisi Projects home, MG Core 3 vehicle and \$5,000 cash.



Visit [telethon.com.au/charity/the-smith-family-sa](https://telethon.com.au/charity/the-smith-family-sa) to purchase your tickets online before 20 June 2021. Entry is open to VIEW members across Australia.



Have you submitted an entry into our purple poncho photo competition? Marion VIEW Club (SA) members, Jill McNicol, Lorraine Baker and Shirley Jenner submitted this "fun and frivolous" shot, taken on the beautiful Murray River. Other categories include: "Most Innovative", "Most Exotic Location", "Best Group" and "Ponchos in ISO".

Entries close 30 June 2021 so get snapping! Email [view@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au) with your photo or see the VIEW website for more information.

## Shining Christmas spirit

COVID-19 certainly didn't dampen members' enthusiasm for Christmas giving. Thank you to everyone who donated to The Smith Family's Toy and Book Appeal last Christmas. Together,

we contributed \$43,000 towards Christmas gifts delivered by Smith Family staff and volunteers to children from disadvantaged families.

Our thanks also go to all members who took part in 'COVID-safe' Christmas gift wrapping stalls in December. With

many restrictions in place, it wasn't the usual Christmas season, however, more than \$16,000 was raised for The Smith Family. Some clubs took the opportunity to use their Square Reader electronic payment device which resulted in another amazing effort!

# International Women's Day

# 2021



Dr Lisa O'Brien with VIEW members

In New South Wales (NSW), Lugarno VIEW Club in Sydney organised a wonderful luncheon which also served as a farewell for The Smith Family's outgoing CEO,

Dr Lisa O'Brien, who was one of three guest speakers. Lisa shared personal life stories and highlights in her 10-year career with The Smith Family including achievements

of VIEW over its 60-year history. Linking with the IWD theme of "choose to challenge", Lisa reflected on how VIEW members are all challengers. "By choosing to support The Smith Family through VIEW, you are standing up against poverty, challenging the fact that one in six of our children and young people are growing up in poverty and saying, no, that's not ok," she said, later thanking all VIEW members for their support. Visit [view.org.au](http://view.org.au) to watch Dr Lisa O'Brien's speech.



Sally Cronberger and Sally Parfit at the Tamworth VIEW Club event.

Dressed in hats and gloves of the early 1960s, VIEW members from Tamworth and surrounds gathered for a themed morning tea and lunch. National Councillor Sally Cronberger welcomed attendees from Coonabarabran, Glen Innes, Gunnedah, Inverell, Manilla, Moree, Narrabri, Tamworth and Werris Creek VIEW Clubs. Guests enjoyed songs from Sally-Anne Whitten before

hearing from *Learning for Life* student alumni, Paul Ell, who spoke via video conference about his educational journey with The Smith Family and the right for every child to rise. Other speakers included Beryl Pike, VIEW National Vice President, Fiona Brierley, The Smith Family's Tamworth Programs Coordinator and Oxley High School's Wellbeing teacher.

In Charlestown near Newcastle, Anne-Louise O'Connor, VIEW National President was joined by Lake Macquarie City Mayor Kay Frazer, Swansea MP Yasmin Catley, and Charlestown MP Jodie Harrison at a joint event for members in the region. Other events were held in Forster/Tuncurry (for 64 members), Lithgow (for 84 members), Gloucester (for 40 members) and the Far South Coast.



Members from VIEW Clubs in Newcastle and Lake Macquarie (NSW) raise their hands for IWD.



Large gatherings for VIEW members had been a distant memory until early March when VIEW Clubs across Australia came together to celebrate International Women's Day (IWD).

In South Australia, Marion VIEW Club celebrated with a crowd of 191 VIEW members and friends from Marion, Holdfast, Blackwood and Adelaide West VIEW Clubs. Guest speaker, Jessica Leo-Kelton, Editor of the Sunday Mail entertained the women, and following lunch, Sorbet, Harbour Town presented a fashion parade. The event was a fundraiser for Marion VIEW Club's *Learning for Life* students and The Smith Family.



L-R: Janice Paget, Sandy King, Jan Pexton and Linda Stein from Marion VIEW Club (SA).



L-R: Christina Matthews, Kris Behets, Salina, Susan Hampton-Mortlock and Jenna Clarke.

In Western Australia (WA), First Wave VIEW Club hosted a luncheon at Marmion Angling and Aquatic Club for 120 VIEW members and their friends. The event was a fundraiser for the club's 10 *Learning for Life* students. Guests enjoyed hearing from *Learning for Life* student, Salina, who is currently studying a Bachelor of Education. Salina shared her journey with The Smith Family

and how sponsorship has helped her achieve her dream of going to university. Other speakers included Ian Moore, The Smith Family's WA General Manager; Susan Hampton-Mortlake, Partnership Coordinator for The Smith Family; Kris Behets, Zone Councillor; Christina Matthews, CEO of the WA Cricket Association and Jenna Clarke, Assistant Editor of the West Australian newspaper.

At WA West Coast VIEW Club's event, guests were enthralled by *Learning for Life* student Myra, who has been supported by The Smith Family for more than 14 years. Myra graduated from high school, went on to TAFE and this year will begin studying Criminal Law at Edith Cowan University. "Myra told us that she had once had to leave school to look after her younger siblings as her parents were unable to do so, due to ongoing health issues. You could feel the

admiration in the whole room for this young woman who had achieved so much against such adversity," one member recounted. Myra's presentation was followed by the event's keynote speaker, Rebecca Tomkinson, CEO of the Royal Flying Doctors Service WA, and some toe-tapping musical entertainment. Organisers were delighted with the funds raised, which will go towards helping the club sponsor 21 *Learning for Life* students.



Ian Moore with student, Myra.

# Raising VIEW's profile & impact

## First-ever Patron for VIEW

In an exciting first for the organisation, Her Excellency, Mrs Linda Hurley, wife of the Governor-General of Australia, has become VIEW's inaugural Patron.

The appointment is significant for VIEW as the organisation looks towards further growth, and increased awareness of its work with The Smith Family in communities across Australia.

Anne-Louise O'Connor, VIEW National President is delighted with the appointment.

"Her Excellency is a leader in the community and a champion for women working together, generously giving back to communities with genuine interest and care. With a long career in education, she is passionate about supporting young Australians in need to succeed at school – a purpose that has driven VIEW members to collectively become

The Smith Family's largest community sponsor of students on the *Learning for Life* program," says Anne-Louise.

"As an excellent networker and connector, Her Excellency's appointment with VIEW will lift our profile and further enhance our continuing growth as we look towards our next 60 years. We look forward to working with Mrs Hurley."

Mrs Hurley was a teacher in the public and private school systems for over 30 years, which is one of the reasons she chose to be part of the VIEW family.

"I'm honoured to be VIEW's very first Patron. I have long admired the work VIEW members do in their communities including their fabulous fundraising events, inspiring monthly lunches, fun-filled social activities and not least, generous sponsorship of students in need through The Smith Family.



Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley with Anne-Louise O'Connor.

"As a teacher, I've seen firsthand the transformational power education has on young people. It really does change lives, which is why what VIEW does to help young people is so important to me."



Heather Grant (left) with Janine Wilde.

## A win-win community partnership

A corporate-style partnership with a local retirement village provider gave Ocean Grove Day VIEW Club (VIC) the financial assistance it needed to start sponsoring students in its first year. Heather Grant, President of the club is now urging other VIEW clubs to consider similar partnerships.

"Ryman Healthcare was looking for a new sponsorship within the Ocean Grove community and we were just starting up

our VIEW club. We were both happy to develop a partnership," Heather explains.

Ocean Grove Day VIEW Club was formed in March 2020, just before the Coronavirus pandemic halted VIEW monthly meetings and fundraising activities. By October 2020, Ryman Healthcare and Ocean Grove Day VIEW had formalised a two-year partnership enabling sponsorship of the club's first two *Learning for Life* students. Members have since raised additional funds to sponsor two more students.

Janine Wilde, Sales Advisor for Ryman Healthcare Ocean Grove, was instrumental in setting up the partnership.

"Part of my role is to establish community partnerships. I was looking for something a bit different. When I started researching VIEW, I thought this is too good to be true," she says.

"Looking at what VIEW does in terms of education, it really appealed to me," Janine says. "I was also seeking a charity to be personally involved in. I've always been very passionate about giving back to the community, so this was the perfect match for me."

Janine says the partnership works on many levels. "VIEW gives me the opportunity to meet up with our demographic and also be part of an organisation that is all about family. We are also able to support a great cause," she says.

Club President Heather says other VIEW clubs can learn from her process.

"Janine and I came up with advantages for both organisations and saw how they matched up. Then we looked at what the commitment would be from both sides. For example, money, time and expertise from Ryman Healthcare. In return, we would display Ryman Healthcare banners at our meetings, use their logo in our newsletter and invite Ryman Healthcare speakers to meetings."

Ryman Healthcare also provides a prize in the club's monthly raffle and created a sponsorship target banner as a visible representation of fundraising efforts.

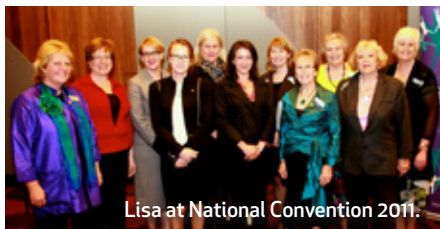
"The banner inspires our members to think about what we can do to raise funds for more students," Heather says. "I couldn't be happier with our partnership."

Contact VIEW National Office if you are considering a corporate partnership.



## Reflections on a special leader

**D**r Lisa O'Brien, The Smith Family's CEO for the past 10 years, stepped down in March. She has been instrumental in strengthening VIEW's bond with The Smith Family. We asked current and past members of the VIEW National Executive to reflect on Lisa's leadership, achievements and impact on VIEW.



### National Executive 2010-11:

"Lisa truly valued the role VIEW women played in financially supporting these students to achieve their goals. Her hard work, warmth and friendly greetings

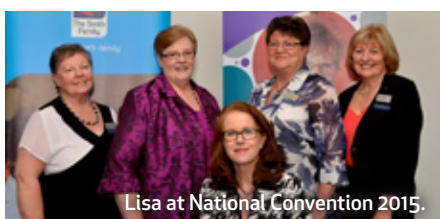
were greatly appreciated. She inspired the women of VIEW to work even harder until the magic goal of 1,000 students receiving support was achieved."



### National Executive 2012-13:

"Lisa always welcomed us very warmly and expressed genuine appreciation of VIEW's support of The Smith Family. She showed genuine sincerity in caring for the wellbeing of the children supported by the *Learning for Life* program and her

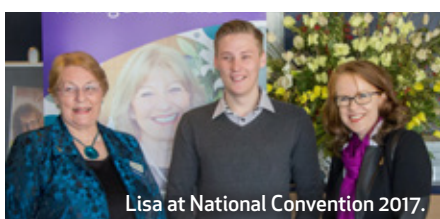
passion for the work of The Smith Family was always very evident. One special memory I have is when she stepped in at short notice to our panel of "Women of Influence" at the 2012 National Convention - we were privileged to meet Lisa, the Woman and Lisa, the Mum."



### National Executive 2014-15:

"Lisa certainly gave us inspiration to increase our footprint in the communities in which we worked and to grow our support for our *Learning for Life* students. She always made sure

to spend the day with us at National Convention so that all members knew how much we meant to The Smith Family and to her personally. She was a truly inspiration leader"



### National Executive 2016-17:

"VIEW's image was greatly enhanced during Lisa's leadership primarily because of the value she placed on our organisation and the support our

members give to The Smith Family. VIEW members responded to her sincerity and warmth and respected the time she gave to everyone and everything she did. She will be greatly missed"



### National Executive 2018-19:

"We have always been impressed with Lisa's ability to connect with supporters, staff, volunteers and VIEW members and her genuine interest in members' individual experiences and connections

with The Smith Family. We thank Lisa for her dedication, her leadership and particularly for strengthening the connection between The Smith Family and VIEW."



### National Executive 2020-21:

"The one stand-out we have all been touched with, and impressed by, is the genuine warmth, sincerity and passion Lisa has, not only for The Smith Family and the *Learning for Life* program but also for VIEW, always acknowledging

and thanking us for the work we do in supporting our *Learning for Life* students. Her presentations at VIEW National Conventions have been so inspirational and she has always shown a willingness to spend time talking to as many members as possible."

# Other VIEW news

Dawn Potter, President of Maryborough VIEW Club with fellow members.



## New Queensland VIEW club

When Dawn Potter was given a leaflet at her local shopping centre by women dressed in purple shirts, one sentence in the pamphlet struck a chord with her: "All money raised by us (VIEW) goes towards helping disadvantaged Australian children."

On arriving home, she immediately 'googled' VIEW Clubs of Australia. Inspired by what she learnt, Dawn was determined to start a VIEW club in her local area of Maryborough on the Fraser Coast of Queensland.

Fourteen months later, and as Inaugural President, Dawn proudly opened Maryborough VIEW Club in

November last year. The club is the first new VIEW Club in Queensland in 10 years and the fourth new VIEW Club to be opened nationally in 2020, the organisation's 60th year.

The inaugural meeting had 40 foundation members, guests from Gympie, Hervey Bay and Fraser Coast VIEW Clubs, members from the local community and The Smith Family.

Although the VIEW National Executive were unable to travel to Queensland for the celebration, the new members were warmly welcomed to VIEW by The Smith Family's Queensland General Manager, Alan Le May. Local Councillors, Paul Truscott and Daniel Sanderson were also on hand to congratulate members, saying the

new VIEW Club would benefit the whole community. Other guests included Margaret Elliot, National Councillor; Jean Jennings, Zone Councillor; and past VIEW National Councillor Lyn Masters.

Leading in the VIEW tradition of guest speaker, Nancy Bates OAM, retired editor of the Fraser Coast Chronicle newspaper and local Maryborough entity, spoke about her work in a very male dominated business.

With the addition of Maryborough VIEW Club, There are now 38 clubs in Queensland with more than 2,508 members. Collectively, members sponsored 277 *Learning for Life* students and contributed more than \$300,000 in financial support to The Smith Family in 2020.

## Making Connections

Senator the Hon. Marise Payne, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Women, has had a good dose of VIEW recently!

In February, VIEW members from the NSW Far South Coast met exclusively with Senator Payne in Batemans Bay. Other VIEW members also joined the Senator at community meetings in Bega and Merimbula with other organisations.. A month later, the Senator met Elizabeth Birch, VIEW National Councillor and member of Yamba Evening VIEW Club, at an International Women's Day event organised by Kevin Hogan MP,



Senator Marise Payne, Veronica Northcott (Bega Evening VIEW Club); Vivien Hughes (Eden Day VIEW Club); and Pat McRae (Bega Evening VIEW Club) at the Merimbula meeting.

Federal Member for Page. All these opportunities presented the chance for VIEW members to pose questions to the Senator while also spreading

the message about VIEW's role in communities, its value to women and the important connection members share with The Smith Family.



# VIEW from Two

NSW members Elizabeth Birch and Wendy Hunter have a lot of love for VIEW. The pair support VIEW clubs in the upper Mid North Coast and Clarence Valley region of NSW.

## Wendy, VIEW Advisor:

I'm a member of Nambucca Macksville Evening VIEW Club. I've been a member for 26 years, serving on the club's committee as President, Vice President, Delegate and Publicity Officer. In 2003, 2004 and 2005, I was a Zone Councillor and in 2008-09, a National Councillor. In 2010-11, I was honoured to be a National Vice President. I'm now a VIEW Advisor, assisting National Councillor Elizabeth with supporting clubs in our area.

This is quite a big area with 13 clubs across three zones. I live in the

south and help Elizabeth by looking after Macksville, Nambucca Valley to Bellingen and Urunga, the Coffs Harbour area and surrounds.

I really do love VIEW. Living in a small town, I enjoy getting out and meeting other women. I'm always encouraging our members to join the committee, or take on other leadership positions, as it is incredibly rewarding to guide your club and support The Smith Family and *Learning for Life* students.

Elizabeth and I keep in regular contact. I've learnt a lot from her because things have changed since I was part of National Council.



## Elizabeth, National Councillor:

I joined Yamba Evening VIEW Club in 2013 and went straight onto the committee as the Program Officer. Then I became Delegate and Vice President, before Zone Councillor in 2018-19 and now National Councillor in 2020-21.

Wendy, and I chat on the phone, regularly communicating about what's going in our area and supporting the clubs, especially at the start of the year which is a busy time for new secretaries and treasurers.

We work well together and I value her many years of experience and knowledge about VIEW which is incredibly helpful. She is always ready and willing to assist whether that be visiting clubs for presentations or meeting with club Delegates to pass on information.

Unfortunately due to COVID, in the northern end of the region, I was only able to visit three clubs in 2020 - Urunga, Bellingen Valley and Korora. I'm now planning visits to the other

clubs. After being a voice on the end of the phone and providing email support for the past year, I'm definitely looking forward to meeting all the members personally.

Part of our role is raising awareness and promoting VIEW and our activities

to others. In all of my leadership roles I have enjoyed meeting other VIEW women. The opportunity to broaden one's skills by taking on a committee or other leadership role is something I always encourage - it can be enjoyable and so much fun!



# Around the clubs

## A window VIEW

Throughout the month of March, people walking down the main street of Moonah, near Hobart couldn't miss Hobart VIEW Club's (TAS) promotional display in the window of Boniwell Blinds. The family owned and operated business

kindly donated their window space so the VIEW club could display the VIEW banner, merchandise and VIEW Matters magazines to passers-by. What a great way to attract some interest and new members!



## Sensory gift

When members of Twin Towns Evening VIEW Club (NSW) were unable to provide their usual weekly breakfast program for children at Centaur Primary School, the club decided to invest their funds in a much-needed sensory tool for

students. Representatives from the club, Zone Councillor Jill Mason and Past National Councillor Rosie McDermott visited the school recently to present the rainbow bridge. Clearly it was an immediate hit with the children!

## School essentials

Many disadvantaged students start the first day of the school year without the stationery essentials they need. For members at Twin Waters VIEW Club (QLD), knowing this gave them the incentive to get packing during the Christmas holidays! Members packed 147 primary school bags, 65 high school bags and 67 library bags with stationery items for local school students. What a huge effort!



Ilan Moore with WA VIEW members in April.

## A farewell in WA

In April, members from VIEW Clubs in Western Australia (WA) were sad to farewell long-term General Manager for The Smith Family WA, Ian Moore. Ian has been a great supporter of VIEW's work in the west, attending many events and speaking at functions including recent International Women's Day luncheons. Ian shared this reflection of VIEW:

*"As a child growing up in the UK, I attended many meetings with my grandmother and other local women for the National Federation Women's*

*Institute, an organisation similar to VIEW. I immediately felt welcomed and at home with the wonderful women of VIEW. The Smith Family is incredibly fortunate to have such a passionate group of women committed to our cause. My time spent with VIEW members has been a wonderful and unique highlight in the role of General Manager WA. I will miss working with them very much."* Thank you Ian, we wish you all the best in the future.





## A VIEW Guard of Honour

Hervey Bay VIEW Club (QLD) members could not have been more delighted when their President, Heather Ramm, recently wed her long-time partner, David Walpole. The members were so thrilled for the happy couple they decided to surprise Heather on her wedding day with a VIEW Guard of Honour. All wearing their purple VIEW shirts and carrying purple VIEW umbrellas, members lined up to congratulate Heather and David after the ceremony. Heather said the surprise absolutely made her day!

## Popularity contest

Congratulations to Tamworth Evening VIEW Club who received \$1,000 from The Greater Bank's Community Partner Program in January this year. Every month, The Greater Bank offers \$5,000 to community organisations located in the areas of their branches. Organisations apply to be part of the initiative, with three applicants vying for community votes each

month. Tamworth Evening VIEW Club received almost 3,000 community votes, coming a very close second to Gunnedah RSPCA. "We were incredibly happy with \$1,000. That money will assist our current students and enable us to sponsor a 7th student," said Tamworth Evening VIEW Club member Jill Morphett and Treasurer Elizabeth Henderson (pictured).



## Getting back out there!

WA Westerns Suburbs VIEW Club (WA) has been on the recruitment trail. Members joined other community groups and organisations at Floreat Forum in late February to promote their club and the work they do to support The Smith Family and disadvantaged

students. Members reported chatting to many interested people about the values and philosophy of VIEW and the club's important ties with The Smith Family. "It was a lovely balance of work and fun, which is what makes membership of our club rather special," said one member.

## 30-year service!

Congratulations to these 12 members of Boronia VIEW Club (VIC) who each received a 30-year service pin at the club's March birthday celebration meeting. Jennie Wynd, VIEW Advisor (pictured far right), was on hand to make the presentation of this wonderful achievement!





# VIEW social events

Photos from VIEW events across the country including International Women's Day, club birthday celebrations and member gatherings.



Forster/Tuncurry (NSW) IWD event



Bribie Island VIEW Club (QLD) IWD event



SA Gala event



Southern Peninsula VIEW Club (VIC) 2nd birthday celebration



SA Gala event



Sunbury Macedon Ranges VIEW Club (VIC)



First WAVE VIEW Club (WA) IWD event



Southern Sydney (NSW) IWD event



Maclean VIEW Club (NSW)



Tamworth (NSW) IWD event



# VIEW 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Limited edition merchandise



1



2



3



7



4



5



6

## 60th Anniversary

- 1. Fan - \$5 | 2. 60th Sydney 2020 Pin - \$5
- 3. Tea towel - \$12 | 4. Spectacle cleaner - \$5
- 5. Pin - \$8 | 6. Shopping bag - \$5

## Other merchandise

- 7. Purple poncho - \$10

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

To order any of these VIEW gifts, please email: [view@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au)

# Big heart. Big dreams.

But without extra learning support those dreams may be out of reach.

*“Maybe kids like me don’t get to be vets.”*

Lucy\*, age 8

**1 in 6 children like Lucy live with disadvantage.**

Without the things they need for school, many struggle with their learning and fall so far behind that it’s almost impossible to keep up.

**With support from VIEW Club members around Australia, Lucy can strive for her dreams.**

**Please donate today.**



[The Smith Family](#)

📞 1800 024 069

*everyone's family*

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