



**National Minutes
and
Information from National Leadership Team**

June 2024

MINUTES AND INFORMATION FROM NATIONAL LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING

Wednesday 12 June 2024

Microsoft Teams

Attendees: **National Executive:** National President Elizabeth Birch, National Vice Presidents Sandra Jankovskis and Lorraine Thomson

National Councillors:

Lyall Aldridge Brisbane and Surrounds ; **Hazel Austin** Central & Eastern Metropolitan Melbourne; **Angela Carroll** Hunter/Central Coast Region; **Rosemary Coleman** South Eastern Metropolitan Melbourne to the Mornington Peninsula & Gippsland; **Pam Evans** Sydney North Shore & Northern Beaches; **Dianne Fiddes** Lower Mid North Coast of NSW and Inland; **Jean Jennings** The Sunshine and Fraser Coast; **Jill Mason** NSW Northern Rivers; **Pat McRae** NSW South Coast Berry to Eden; **Bernie McSwain** Metropolitan Adelaide and Surrounds including Sunraysia; **Aletia Norman** New England and North Central NSW; **Janet Park** North and Western Metropolitan Melbourne & North and Western Country; **Elizabeth Terry** Central and Southern Sydney;

VIEW National Office National Manager Maryanne Maher, Business Analyst Olga Shkuropatova and Office Coordinator Linda Custer

Apology: **Frances Turner** Canberra and surrounding areas

The Smith Family: **Anne Hampshire** The Smith Family Research and Advocacy

Jo Booth The Smith Family Corporate Partnerships, Philanthropy

1	WELCOME
	<p>National President Elizabeth Birch welcomed all present and began the online meeting by acknowledging the traditional owners and custodians of the lands on which all National Councillors were located.</p> <p>Elizabeth began by giving a brief overview of activities since February when National Leadership Team last met. The Executive and National Councillors had been actively engaged in overseeing key projects including attending State based Smith Family and VIEW Leadership meetings, completing VIEW Area Development (Club Health) Surveys, participating in the Geographic Boundaries project as well as attending many VIEW events. There were a significant number of VIEW International Women's Day celebrations across the country many of which were promoted in April VIEW Matters Magazine available in hard copy and the online e-book version on the VIEW website to easily share with others.</p> <p>Elizabeth commented that many members may have seen the article about Bundaberg VIEW Club President Coleen Neboraczek which was published in The Smith Family's <i>Real People Real Stories (RPRS)</i> Autumn Edition – and sent to all Smith Family volunteers promoting VIEW.</p> <p>Elizabeth thanked those VIEW Clubs who posted their new 2024 Committee member photos on Facebook and Instagram, proudly sharing this information to others. She commented that VIEW Facebook continues to grow and be the main platform where VIEW members like to engage with each other and to profile VIEW in the community.</p>

	<p>Elizabeth also shared a speech given by Federal Member of Parliament for Cowper, Pat Conaghan in the House of Representatives and recorded in Hansard on 30 May relating to his recent meeting with NC Dianne Fiddes whom he described as a passionate advocate for the Lower Mid North VIEW Clubs to every VIEW Club member:</p> <p><i>....thank you for what you do in our community. Each life you have touched has been bettered by the experience, whether the children or the new members. I encourage anyone who wants to lend a hand while making some new friends to get involved. They're always looking for new members. Thank you, Dianne, for the chat in Kempsey. I look forward to hearing the updates...</i></p> <p>Elizabeth congratulated Dianne Fiddes for making such a positive and informative impression on her local MP and encouraged all National Councillors to make contact with their local MPs to promote VIEW this year. Anyone interested in reading MP Pat Conaghan's full speech can find this at https://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Hansard.</p> <p>Finally Elizabeth commented that she and National Vice President Sandra Jankovskis were delighted to attend the recent Inauguration of Lake Illawarra VIEW Club in Dapto NSW. Elizabeth congratulated the new Committee and all those involved in forming the Club. It was a terrific celebration including TSF leadership team and VIEW Club members from Macarthur, Southern Highlands & Illawarra region including Wollongong.</p>
2	MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING
	Minutes - National Council ratified the minutes of the February 2024 meeting. Moved Pat McRae Seconded Dianne Fiddes Accepted Unanimously
3	VIEW AREA DEVELOPMENT (CLUB HEALTH) SURVEY
	Business Analyst Olga Shkuropatova presented the national overview of results from VIEW Area Development (Club Health) Survey results. Each National/Zone Councillor will be provided the latest Area results and these recent results will also be shared with Geographical Boundary Project Teams.
4	GENERAL BUSINESS
4.1 Club Name Change	National Vice President Lorraine Thomson advised that requests had been received (accompanied by a copy of Club Minutes evidencing agreement of majority of members) for the following VIEW Club name changes: Blackburn Evening - Blackburn Queanbeyan Evening – Queanbeyan Carried Unanimously
4.2 Club Closures	National Vice President Sandra Jankovskis informed the National Council with regret that the following Clubs had closed since the February 2024 National Council meeting: NSW - Casino (NJ); Galston (NC), Helensburgh (NB), Kuring-gai (NC); Ingleburn (NB); Parkes Evening (NH); St Georges Basin (NG), QLD - Glasshouse Mountains (QB); Vic - Warragul Evening (VB)

<p>4.3 Keeping Clubs Open</p>	<p>In light of the VIEW Clubs that closed in the last six months, VIEW Executive took the opportunity to give a presentation about the importance of Keeping Clubs Open and the process which is to be shared with all Councillors and Clubs.</p>
<p>4.4 VIEW Patron</p>	<p>National President Elizabeth Birch spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>VIEW's first Patron - Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley</p> <p>Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley accepted our invitation to be Patron of VIEW Clubs of Australian 2020.</p> <p>By tradition, Vice-regal patronage ceases when the Governor-General leaves office on 1 July 2024. Accordingly, Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley will relinquish her position as Patron of VIEW Clubs of Australia. National President Elizabeth Birch on behalf of VIEW recently wrote to Her Excellency thanking her most sincerely for being the first Patron of VIEW Clubs of Australia since 2020.</p> <p>She also thanked the Governor General, His Excellency, the Honourable David Hurley AC DSE (Retd) and Mrs Hurley for hosting a number of events for VIEW Club members during their term.</p> <p><i>... We have all benefitted from your genuine warmth, commitment, your openness and recognition of the important work that VIEW Clubs perform, as well as the social causes that VIEW members support through their voluntary work for The Smith Family, in assisting children experiencing disadvantage, gain better educational opportunities.</i></p> <p>Governor General Designate – Ms Samantha Mostyn AC</p> <p>Following her swearing in on 1 July 2024, Ms Samantha Mostyn AC will be appointed Australia's 28th Governor-General. She will be the second female to hold this position.</p> <p>The first female was Dame Quentin Bryce, AD, CVO who served as the 25th Governor-General of Australia from 2008 to 2014.</p> <p>Ms Mostyn is known for her exceptional service to the Australian community. She was awarded an AO in the 2021 Australia Day Honours for distinguished service to business and sustainability, and to the community, through seminal contributions to a range of organisations, and to women.</p> <p>In the recent King's birthday honours list 2024 Ms Mostyn received a Companion of the Order of Australia (AC) for Eminent service in the social justice and gender equity, sporting, cultural and business sectors to reconciliation and to environmental sustainability.</p> <p>VIEW National Executive presented a paper circulated prior to the meeting that VIEW Clubs of Australia consider inviting Governor-General-designate, Ms Samantha Mostyn AC to become VIEW's Patron following her swearing in on 1 July 2024.</p>

	<p>National Leadership Team held a short discussion about the advantages of inviting Ms Mostyn AC the next Governor -General of Australia to be VIEW Clubs of Australia next Patron.</p> <p>The National Leadership Team agreed to the proposal that VIEW Clubs of Australia invite the Governor-General Designate, Ms Samantha Mostyn AC to be Patron of VIEW Clubs of Australia.</p> <p>Carried Unanimously</p> <p>It was noted that given the complexity of the incoming Governor-General's program – which includes many constitutional, ceremonial and community aspects – VIEW Clubs of Australia may not be advised of the outcome until late July or early August.</p>
5	PROJECTS AND REGULAR UPDATES
5.1 Learning for Life Student Update	National Councillor Dianne Fiddes gave an update on the <i>Learning for Life</i> Student sponsored by National Leadership Team. All were pleased to hear from Dianne (the current student liaison) that via her correspondence with the student she was enjoying school, life and progressing to Year 11.
5.2 National Office Update	<p>VIEW and Smith Family (State based) annual planning meetings</p> <p>The Smith Family General Managers and (where possible) Team Leaders, have met with VIEW Leadership teams (Executive, National and Zone Councillors where possible) in their State*. The National and Zone Councillors are the key contacts for TSF Team Leaders.</p> <p><i>* As new TSF GM in WA has only just taken up the role on 1 May a meeting will take place with GM and WA Zone Councillor later in the year.</i></p> <p>These meetings enabled VIEW and TSF on a State basis to share key priorities and discuss potential guidelines to maintain strong connections for engagement and collaboration opportunities throughout the year. Discussions also included what had worked in the previous year and continuous improvements to enhance the partnership by sharing ideas and ways to work better together.</p> <p>One of those improvements is the new online process for VIEW clubs to Request Speakers TSF and <i>LfL</i> Students/Alumni which has now been implemented in NSW/ACT, Vic, Qld, SA and WA. See below.</p>

<p>New online process - Request for Speakers - TSF team and LfL students - NSW/ACT, QLD, VIC, SA & WA</p>	<p>VIEW members feel more connected to The Smith Family's work when they receive information about activities and programs in their community along with the sharing of stories about young people's success.</p> <p>To better facilitate this great connection, a new VIEW online process has been developed enabling VIEW Clubs or Councillors to request TSF Team members and/or LfL Student/Alumni to attend significant events in their Area (eg Area Gala, Zone Conference, IWD (Area or Zone event), Inaugural Meeting of a new Club, a significant decade birthday.</p> <p>If any requests for speakers are made directly to TSF Team members they will be redirected to this Request for Speakers new process to ensure that all requests are dealt with in an equitable and expeditious manner.</p> <p>VIEW Clubs or Councillors are asked to go to the website: VIEW.org.au/resources/forms and find and complete the relevant State Request for Speakers form (either online or print/fill form).</p>
	<p>Please note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This form must be submitted at least 3 months prior to the requested event. • TSF Team members and/ LfL Students or Alumni will only be attending significant VIEW events (see above). • Once submitted this request will be reviewed by VIEW National Office together with relevant State Smith Family team. • Despite all efforts being made, submitting this Request for Speakers form does not guarantee the attendance of TSF Team Members or LfL students/Alumni at the event. • Once submitted you will receive confirmation of your request and after review by VIEW National Office and State Smith Family Team you will be notified of the availability of a speaker in due course. <p>This request is subject to availability and capacity of Smith Family team members and LfL students/Alumni to attend your requested event. Note: TSF Team Members or LfL students may not be available for evening or weekend events.</p> <p>If you have not received notification two weeks prior to your event, please contact VIEW National Office (view@thesmithfamily.com.au).</p> <p>Please Note: Hobart VIEW Club to contact TSF GM in the first instance.</p>
<p>Reminder to Clubs – Re: Gifts for Guest Speakers</p>	<p>Guest Speakers do not need to be given gifts for speaking at your VIEW Club, especially if the Club has paid for the cost of their meal.</p> <p>A simple Thank you card is sufficient or if a gift is deemed necessary VIEW Merchandise makes a great gift and promotes VIEW at the same time.</p>

<p>JUNE - The Smith Family Winter Appeal</p>	<p>The Smith Family’s 2024 Winter Appeal campaign commenced at the beginning of May 2024, and runs until the end of June. Currently income results are slightly behind expectations.</p> <p>Clubs and Councillors are reminded to donate any funds surplus to expected running costs to the Winter Appeal.</p> <p>Clubs can also assist with this appeal by downloading the current Media Release – localising it and offering it to local media (https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/-/media/files/view-clubs/resources/media-releases/mr-view-club-winter-appeal-2024a.docx).</p>
<p>Future of VIEW Working Group</p>	<p>By now all Clubs will have received one hard copy of the Club Handbook 2024-25 and all members are aware that an online copy of the Club Handbook 2024-25 can be accessed anytime on the VIEW website. The Councillor Handbook 2024-25 (for Zone and National Councillors) is also available on the VIEW Website.</p> <p>The Club and Councillor Handbooks are updated every two years. Any feedback or improvements to the Club and/or Councillor Handbooks should be forwarded via email to Lyn Geer (lyngeer@bigpond.com).</p>
<p>Club Bank Statements required as at 30 June</p>	<p>As advised in January, to finalise VIEW Clubs Audit for the period ending <u>30 June 2024</u> auditors request that each VIEW Club provides a copy of their bank statement for <u>30 June 2024</u> to satisfy The Smith Family financial reporting obligations. Please see “<i>VIEW Club Cashbook request for Audit 2023</i>” memorandum sent in January 2024.</p> <p>All Clubs are asked to provide a copy of their Club’s bank statement as at <u>30 June 2024</u> by Tuesday 5 July 2024.</p> <p><u>If you are unable to obtain statement as at 30 June 2024 by the due date, please provide your May 2024 statement.</u></p> <p>How to send this Statement?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide the PDF or readable image file via email to view@thesmithfamily.com.au (preferred method). Please ensure your Club’s Name is clearly stated. • Send a hard copy via post to GPO Box 5348 SYDNEY NSW 2001. <u>Please Note: postage can take up to a week to arrive.</u> <p>If you have any questions please email view@thesmithfamily.com.au.</p>
<p>Making a Difference Awards 2024-25</p>	<p>VIEW Clubs are encouraged to nominate deserving members for a “Making a Difference Award”. Relevant information and details are available on the website (http://view.org.au/resources/forms/). The current quarter closes on 30 June. Winners will be part of the Honour Roll at National Convention 2025 in Brisbane.</p>

<p>AUGUST – Nominations for Club Committees</p>	<p>VIEW Club Members are reminded that now is the time to be approaching other VIEW members who will take their place as the 2025 Club Committee.</p> <p>It is important that all members be offered the opportunity to contribute to the running of their club and consider joining their Club Committee. In order to retain vitality, and share responsibilities it is preferred that Committee members not be elected to the same position for more than 3 years in succession. They are eligible for election to another position.</p> <p>Many VIEW members are ideally suited and capable of taking office. In the event of a ballot, there are times when a member may need to hand over the reins to another. This is all part of the process of keeping a Club alive. Once a new Club Committee has been elected, members should support them wholeheartedly.</p> <p>Clubs are not required to have a 10 person Committee and alternatives are available (see Club Handbook 2024-25 p29).</p>
<p>VIEW Matters magazine (Nov)</p>	<p>Clubs are encouraged to submit articles for VIEW Matters November 2024 edition. Articles will be accepted up until beginning of September 2024.</p> <p>Please send your article with complimentary high-resolution photos to view@thesmithfamily.com.au.</p>
<p>Remember photo size does matter</p>	<p>When it comes to selecting a photo to send through to VIEW Matters – check the size of the happy snap you are sending through. Bigger is definitely better in this case. Why? Photos that are too small a file size can often appear blurry or pixelated when reproduced.</p> <p>Photos of a larger file size, or higher resolution if you prefer, make for a better outcome in print and present your VIEW Club in a more flattering light. In an ideal world, look for a file size of at least one megabyte (1MB) for a JPG/JPEG file as your starting point.</p> <p>If your phone, tablet, or computer asks if you want to resize your picture, always select the highest quality option available.</p> <p>Even though it is easier to email a photo when it is put into a Word document – please don't do this. When you place a photo into a Word document the size of the photo becomes quite tiny and doesn't reproduce well. Instead, attach your photo to an email.</p>
<p>SEPTEMBER - Blue Illusion National Fundraising Day</p>	<p>Thursday 19th September 2024 is Blue Illusion National Fundraising day on behalf of VIEW and The Smith Family. Clubs/Members are asked to promote and/or attend your local Blue Illusion store on this day with 7% of funds raised going to support The Smith Family programs.</p> <p>Clubs are encouraged to make contact with their local Blue Illusion store manager now.</p>

VIEW Marketing Materials	<p>New colourful VIEW posters (A4 and A3), brochures, and essence cards are available for clubs to order to promote VIEW in their community to others, on community notice boards, in libraries, information centres, with Real Estate agents, etc so that others become aware of VIEW in their community and join us.</p> <p>To order complete the Stock Order form on view.org.au and email to VIEW National Office view@thesmithfamily.com.au.</p>
VIEW profile Banners	<p>Each Area will receive a new VIEW Profile Banner shortly. The National Councillor will keep this and will lend it to Zones and Clubs for events. Please contact your National Councillor if you would like to use this banner when you are hosting an event.</p>
Order Personalised Club Banner	<p>Clubs are encouraged to have a personalised Club banner for their use at meetings, and events. Clubs can request a personalised Club Banner from National Office.</p> <p>Note: VIEW Club banners are not available for order through National Office, Clubs need to contact their local print suppliers, eg Officeworks. National Office only provides the print file.</p> <p>To cover the cost of this banner, VIEW Clubs are encouraged to apply for a community grant.</p>
VIEW Clubs Celebrates 65th– Blue Sapphire Anniversary in 2025	<p>In 2025 VIEW Clubs will celebrate its 65th Blue Sapphire Anniversary. Currently we are planning to celebrate this significant milestone on a national basis. Any suggestions or innovative ideas on ways to celebrate this milestone please contact view@thesmithfamily.com.au.</p>
VIEW National Convention 5-7 September 2025	<p>The first interest meeting for VIEW National Convention 2025 was held in Brisbane with representatives from 14 Area QA VIEW Clubs. Themes were chosen and venues have been booked with the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre (BCEC) in South Bank hosting Conference days 1 & 2 and Gala Dinner. Convention Dates 5-7 September 2025. Registration Packs available shortly. Any suggestions for speakers, sponsors, or significant raffle prizes - contact Convention Convenor PNP Lorraine Montgomery – montylf@gmail.com.</p>
Club Development – Help us build new VIEW Clubs	<p>Queensland - Rockhampton PNP Jan Roberts is working with TSF Team Leader Elizabeth Shaw to establish a VIEW Club in Rockhampton. Promotion will commence shortly with an interest day to follow. Contact: Jan Roberts 0438 405 986 / DevelopmentQLDVIEW@gmail.com</p> <p>South Australia – Adelaide East On 6 June, Adelaide East held its latest Interest meeting. They continue to slowly attract new members. Several of the new members are thinking about taking on committee positions and others have nominated. Members are keen to get this club up and running before the end of the year. Contact: Bernie McSwain 0401 984 776 / bernicherry@yahoo.com.au</p>

	<p>Victoria - Kyneton Two interest meetings have been held at the Kyneton Bowls Club with next meeting scheduled for 17 June. To date, twenty -three women have attended one or both of the interest meetings, and five have joined. Contact: Lyn Geer 0409 145 073 / lyngeer@bigpond.com</p> <p>Western Australia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Busselton VIEW Club will hold its inaugural event on 18 July. Busselton currently has thirty new VIEW members. • Bunbury - First interest meeting for Bunbury will be held 19 July <p>In WA contact: Mary Deakin 0427 335 158 / randm.deakin@yahoo.com.au</p> <p>NSW/ACT Lake Illawarra VIEW Club held its inaugural meeting in May opening with approximately thirty new members. (<i>refer Item 6.5 VIEW in community -Raising Awareness and Promoting VIEW</i>)</p> <p>If members have friends or relatives living in the above mentioned States and areas, please encourage them to consider joining VIEW. Alternatively, if any members know of an area that would benefit from a VIEW Club, please contact your local Development Team or National Councillor.</p>
<p>5.3 Governance Project: Geographic Boundaries</p>	<p>National Manager Maryanne Maher updated National Leadership Team on: Geographic Boundaries project. Currently all Area Project Team leaders (except two Areas) have been briefed and teams are working together collating information required to make their recommendations later in the year. She thanked all members of the project teams for being part of this exciting project.</p> <p>In most Areas we have encouraged the National and Zone Councillors to be part of the Geographic Boundaries Project team but not to be the Team Leaders. In some Areas – the National Councillor was either the Team Leader or a co-lead.</p> <p>There are many tasks involved and templates to complete and once completed by all Areas – recommendations and suggestions will need to be reviewed by the Working Group and collated. The VIEW Executive mentors are following up with Project Team leaders ensure projects are on track.</p> <p>At this stage it will be unlikely that due to the nature and size of the project that it will be completed by January 2025 initially indicated in the project timeline. It is more likely to be completed in June or at the latest November 2025.</p>
<p>5.4 MP Letters</p>	<p>National President Elizabeth Birch reminded National Leadership Team of the importance of making contact with Local, State and Federal members of Parliament in their Area as a way to promote VIEW Clubs in their communities National Councillors were encouraged to send out their MP template letters provided by National Office and to update their reporting document on a regular basis with a view to sharing their results at the October National Leadership Team meeting.</p>

6	SUB-COMMITTEES AND WORKING GROUPS - REPORTS
6.1 External Relations	<p>National Manager VIEW Maryanne Maher/Elizabeth spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>National President Elizabeth Birch attended the online ERA Advocacy, Policy and Advisory Council (ERA APAC) quarterly meeting on 2 May 2024.</p> <p>Equal Rights Alliance (ERA)</p> <p>Helen Dalley-Fisher, Convenor - Equality Rights Alliance (ERA) announced that she would be resigning as Convenor of ERA.</p> <p>Since starting 2012, she has seen ERA evolve from an organisation taking its first steps into professional advocacy to one of the leading voices for gender equality in the country.</p> <p>She said her time as the Convenor of the Equality Rights Alliance had been a singular and deeply rewarding experience.</p> <p>She also acknowledged the many committed and talented staff who have worked with her over the years and said that it had been a privilege to lead them and to learn from them.</p> <p>She also thanked YWCA Australia for its long-term commitment to the ERA program.</p> <p>National Women’s Alliances – tender process opening in May</p> <p>ERA received information from Office for Women about the future funding arrangements for the National Women’s Alliances.</p> <p>The key information is:</p> <p>The contract period has increased to 4.5 years. The current contract has been extended from June to November 2024, which explains the half year. This increase in the term of the contract is a significant positive step.</p> <p>Funding has increased slightly from current, levels. The total pool of funding over 5 years with 6 Alliances, equates to \$394,814 per year.</p> <p>The tender identifies 6 priority areas which are identical to the current alliance areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Women's Safety Alliance • Equality Rights Alliance • Harmony Alliance • The National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Women's Alliance • The National Rural Women's Coalition • Women With Disabilities Australia.

	<p>including continuing to combine women’s leadership and women’s economic security as a single priority area.</p> <p>There is a clear invitation to tender for multiple priority areas.</p> <p>ERA member meeting in Melbourne on 3-5 July. The first day and a half will be a mini conference on key themes in gender equality in Australia.</p> <p>An ERA logo/tile with a link to their website has been placed on VIEW website (https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/about-us).</p>
<p>6.2 Resolutions</p>	<p>Office Coordinator Linda Custer spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Resolutions 2022-23 – Promotion to Local Member/NGO’s Clubs wanting to promote the 2022-23 resolutions to their local or State MPs are able to do so by using the template letters available on the VIEW website - https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/about-us/resolutions.</p> <p>Templates are easy to use, just download and personalise these letter/s with Club contact details. Clubs are reminded that they need to send a copy of the letter to their Zone/National Councillor and record in the Club monthly minutes.</p> <p>Resolutions 2024-25 – Call out for Motions Clubs are now invited to submit their motion/s as potential resolutions 2024-25. Submissions will be accepted up to 29 November 2024.</p> <p>Remember <i>The ultimate goal of VIEW resolutions is to raise issues of local and national importance that matter to women.</i></p> <p>To find out more information about this please go to https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/about-us/resolutions.</p> <p>Resolutions Sub-committee 2024- 25 - Looking for members! PVNP Evelyn Berg has agreed to Chair Resolutions Subcommittee 2024-25. National Councillor Angie Carroll has joined this subcommittee.</p> <p>The Resolutions Sub-committee welcomes members interested in being part of this sub-committee.</p> <p>The role includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow through Resolutions with governments and non-government organisations enabling VIEW to profile the organisation appropriately and strengthen public understanding of the work VIEW does in communities. • Reiterate biennial resolution process. • Reinvigorate debate in clubs. • Promote resolutions to all members. <p>For further information see Club Handbook 2024-25 page 23.</p> <p>Any members interested in joining the Resolutions Subcommittee 2024-25 please contact Evelyn Berg. 0418 653 642 / evelynm2016view@outlook.com.</p>

<p>6.3 Community Grants</p>	<p>National President Elizabeth Birch spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>VIEW Clubs have been diligently applying for Grants; which are being used to support of a variety of VIEW Club activities. These range from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promotional events encouraging local women to join VIEW • venue hire • purchasing equipment for use at Clubs e.g. microphones, laptop computers, banners, etc. <p>Some examples of successes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aspley VIEW Club received \$2,500 from 2023-24 Volunteer Grants • Geelong Day VIEW Club Day received \$1100 from 2023-24 Volunteer Grants. <p>Please let the Committee know if you have been successful by contacting them at june3@iinet.net.au or 0412 617 085.</p> <p>Clubs looking for potential grants can contact the Grants Committee who has a list of Grants that may be available and is continually being updated. It is also recommended to keep a look out for any local Community Grants.</p> <p>When applying for a Grant using The Smith Family as the auspicing organisation it is recommended that the amount is at least \$1,000. Clubs may wish to include items such as a Square Reader, mobile phone to use with the Square Reader in order to meet that amount. Grants for smaller amounts can be obtained from other organisations without being auspiced e.g. local Football Club.</p> <p>Clubs are reminded that information on the process can be found in the Club Handbook 2024-25 page 21 – which is located on the VIEW Website – view.org.au - https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/-/media/files/view-clubs/resources/organisational-information/handbooks-and-guidelines/club-handbook-2024-25---final.pdf and that initial approval for any grant needs to be sought from National Office allowing at least 10 working days for the application to be reviewed and approved.</p> <p>Clubs are also reminded that Venue Hire is also suitable for a Grant Application. If your Club is currently paying for room hire, please consider approaching the venue to waive the cost. The Room Hire Waiver Request form is available on the VIEW website. www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/resources/forms</p>
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<p>6.4 History Working Group</p>	<p>National Vice President Sandra Jankovskis spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Zone and National Councillors are reminded that Inaugural Minutes from new clubs need to be sent to the History Working Group together with the relevant History Reporting form for archiving. (https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/resources/forms).</p> <p>The VIEW Archives and databases can only be maintained with the co-operation of clubs and councillors sending the relevant information as soon as it is available.</p> <p>Thank you to the Clubs who have sent their inaugural minutes for archiving. This is an important part of archiving our history and we urge all clubs to send in a digital copy via email.</p> <p>If you have a story about your Club or your time as a VIEW member, please contact the History Working Group.</p> <p>Calling interested archivists or historians – Join the History Working Group.</p> <p>Looking for: Councillors or members with a passion for historical record keeping or former Librarians or All Members with knowledge of digital record keeping are welcome.</p> <p>Scope: Compile VIEW archival information to provide an enduring record for future reference. Respond to search requests for information about members, past events, and milestones in the history of the organisation. Creating a digital archive.</p> <p>Please contact view@thesmithfamily.com.au if you are interested or would like to contact the History Working Group to find out more.</p>
<p>6.5 VIEW in the Community – Raising Awareness including promoting VIEW</p>	<p>National Vice President Lorraine Thomson spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Events held during the 1st half of the year</p> <p>International Women’s Day (IWD) 8th March. The theme for 2024 was ‘Inspire Inclusion’ and VIEW Clubs across Australia organized a broad range of celebratory events – Some were larger Area and Zone events while others were smaller club events.</p> <p>Where possible the VIEW National Executive were pleased to be able to share in the spirit and fun of IWD and meet with National and Zone Councillors, VIEW members, local Members of Parliament, and other Women’s service organisations, The Smith Family Team members, <i>LfL</i> Students/alumni, special guests and many other female friends and potential new members:</p> <p>Events were held around Australia including:</p>

Western Australia - First Wave and West Coast VIEW Club events.

NSW - Macarthur, Southern Highlands & Illawarra region including Wollongong (Area NB) and Western Sydney region (Area NE), NSW Northern Rivers (Area NJ), Lower Mid North Coast of NSW and Inland (Area NK), at Harrington VIEW Club, combined Great Lakes and Forster/Tuncurry Evening VIEW Clubs

Vic - South Eastern Metropolitan Melbourne to the Mornington Peninsula & Gippsland (Area VB).

Read IWD Article in VIEW Matters Magazine April 2024 including VIEW photo collage on last page. – thank you for all members who completed the events form and sent in photos of your IWD events. We were also pleased to be able to promote several events on VIEW national Facebook page.

Zone Conferences

A number of Zone Conferences have been held or are being planned for this year.

The purpose of Zone Conferences is for members to exchange ideas, learn new skills and gain knowledge about VIEW and The Smith Family.

Suggested program ideas are –

- Growth and development of VIEW Clubs
- Club Committee duties and responsibilities
- Local club issues and concerns
- Information about The Smith Family

Advantages/Benefits

- Sharing knowledge and promoting friendship amongst Clubs by planning, in consultation with Clubs, combined Zone functions or activities. •
- Assists in strengthening and growing VIEW in the Zone
- Provides clear communication for all Clubs in the Zone,

Refer to Councillor Handbook 2024-25 page 13.

Zone Councillors are reminded to complete the [Councillor Summary of visit](#) form with photos and information so we can share on VIEW website and Facebook pages. Please note that this form will become known as the Senior Leaders Event Reporting form.

NSW Lake Illawarra VIEW Club Inauguration

On Friday 17 May over 100 VIEW members from around the Macarthur, Southern Highlands & Illawarra region including Wollongong gathered to celebrate the opening of Lake Illawarra VIEW Club. Lake Illawarra makes 14 VIEW Clubs for the area.

Leonie Green TSF Head of State and Territory Operations and Fiona Coluccio TSF General Manager NSW/ACT were delighted to attend the opening of a new club. They wished the Lake Illawarra VIEW Club and new members well and thanked all of the VIEW members for their ongoing support.

Lake Illawarra is the first VIEW Club to open in 2024 and the first in NSW since Wangi Wangi (Hunter/Central Coast) in 2020.

	<p>National President Elizabeth Birch congratulated Helen Theuns Lake Illawarra President, Dianne Martin (Lake Illawarra Secretary) and Vanessa Beattie who with Dianne had been the driving force behind the formation of this new Club. She was delighted to welcome the new committee and members to VIEW.</p> <p>Paul Ell (<i>LfL</i> Alumni) was the guest speaker and talked about his journey as a <i>LfL</i> student and of the opportunities that were opened up to him while on the <i>LfL</i> program in high school and his tertiary scholarship which assisted him while he attended Wollongong University.</p> <p>Paul Ell, now a Senior Associate with local Nowra law firm RMB lawyers generously presented a cheque to the Lake Illawarra President Helen Theuns, on behalf of his law firm, so that Lake Illawarra VIEW Club could support a third student on the <i>Learning for Life</i> program.</p> <p>Decade Birthday Celebrations Congratulations to all clubs and members who have celebrated significant birthdays during the last six months:</p> <p>All Events and Activities Please remember to send through the Event - Notification for Insurance one month prior to holding your event/activity. Refer Club Handbook 2024-25 p6.</p> <p>Submit your VIEW Club Details or News to the Website Working Group for updating your webpage including a couple of photos.</p> <p>Add your main photos to your Facebook page where VIEW National Office can like and share.</p>
<p>6.6 VIEW in the Community promoting VIEW and The Smith Family – Speaker’s Bureau</p>	<p>National Vice President Sandra Jankovskis spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Speakers Bureau 2024 has seen a substantial increase in requests for Speakers Bureau information and the Speakers Bureau kit has been sent to a number of members throughout the country. Requests for speakers have been received from Rotary, Soroptimists, Quota, Lions and various groups to inform them about VIEW and the work we do with The Smith Family. In addition to the speech, PowerPoint slides, student stories, presentation tips, etc the kit now includes VIEW Key Messaging to equip speakers with up-to-date information and enable them to answer any questions following their presentation.</p> <p>The speech has been updated and well suited to all audiences. National Councillors are reminded that their presentation is better suited for club use and are asked to advise clubs accordingly and, where appropriate, arrange for a presentation.</p> <p>Please contact PNP Gwen Wilton if there is an opportunity to promote VIEW and The Smith Family to an external audience or for advice on either a speaker in the area or an updated USB with current facts and figures so that audiences are fully engaged and informed.</p>

Reports:

- **Jeanette Cassidy, PNC Sydney Northern Beaches** presented to Hornsby Soroptimists International on Wednesday 29 November. Despite one of the worst weather events in the area, there were approximately 20 members in attendance including one from Scotland and were very interested to learn about the work of The Smith Family and VIEW and especially hearing student stories.
- **Anne-Louise O'Connor, PNP** presented to Raymond Terrace Lions Club on Wednesday 9 February. There were 23 members present, 14 of which were women. She was accompanied by **Angie Carroll, NC Area NA**, who added some information about Raymond Terrace VIEW Club, gaining a new member for the club. They were all very interested about the work of The Smith Family and how VIEW is connected.
Anne-Louise has also been invited to address Women's Shed, Branxton on 20 June with a full report following this engagement.
- **Lyn Masters, PNC Qld**, presented to AVEO Bridgeman Downs Retirement Village in Brisbane on Tuesday 20 February. Approximately 40 residents attended and created a great amount of interest. Two residents were members of Aspley and Pine Rivers VIEW Clubs. In addition to the speech, Lyn showed student videos as well as an instructional video on communication with sponsored students. Lyn received a donation of \$358 to be forwarded to The Smith Family.
- **Anne Comery, PZC, NSW South Coast** presented to Narooma Rotary on Thursday 22 February. There was a small group of 15 members in attendance and the presentation was well received.
- **Robyn Garard, PNC Area QA** presented to the residents of Figtree Village Murrumba Downs on 27 March where she is also a resident; several residents support students and were keen to know more about The Smith Family programs as well as the work VIEW does. Robyn ensures there are always VIEW and TSF brochures available and contact details for the nearest VIEW Club.
In addition, **Robyn** has also been asked to address St Pauls Retirement Village in Caboolture and will forward a full report after this engagement.
- **Frances Turner, NC Canberra & Surrounds** presented at an International Women's Day Breakfast at The Grove Retirement Village Ngunnawal ACT on 8 March. There were approximately 50 guests, her topic was 'Inspire Inclusion' and VIEW vision 'Women creating and leading a more inclusive Australian society' and VIEW's work with The Smith Family and in the community. At the conclusion she was presented with a substantial donation for VIEW.
- **Toni Thomas, PNVP**, presented to Seniors Group Nepean Valley (part of Penrith RSL) on 19 April. They were very interested in the work of VIEW and The Smith Family and enjoy meeting regularly for guest speakers and friendship and kindly made a donation to The Smith Family.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earlier in the year, Toni was asked to speak to her granddaughter's class at Blue Mountains Grammar, aged 8-10 yrs. They were surprised to hear about disadvantaged students with no access to computers (because they all had laptops). Toni answered questions and handed out brochures. The students appeared shocked that 1 in 6 children experience disadvantage and wrote an essay about what they had learned. <p>Please forward contacts and/or details for speaking engagements to National Office and/or PNP Gwen Wilton, gwenwilton@bigpond.com. (12 Antill Street Picton NSW 2571).</p>
<p>6.7 VIEW in Community – Promoting VIEW via Website and Social Media</p>	<p>Office Coordinator Linda Custer spoke to a paper circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Website VIEW National Office and Website Working Group continue to update the VIEW Website.</p> <p>VIEW National Office working with The Smith Family website team engaged extra help to bring across historical Club posts. This has now been completed except for a few clubs. We all want the VIEW Website to be as accurate and welcoming as possible, but this does take some time. We thank clubs for their patience during this transition.</p> <p>VIEW Club individual webpages are a great promotional tool. These pages let potential members know who you are, what you do and most importantly how to contact you.</p> <p>It is important to update your page on a regular basis. Not only does this keep members informed but can be of interest to and attract new members.</p> <p>Club Pages Changes and Updates Clubs are reminded that updates for venues, meeting dates/times, and contact details are required to be notified to VIEW National Office (view@thesmithfamily.com.au) before advising the Website Working Group.</p> <p>Where do you submit your updates/additions? VIEW Clubs should continue to submit their photos/stories to the Website Working Group and the best way to do this is to use the online form - https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/find-a-club/submit-view-club-details-or-news or email the Working Group at viewwebsite@thesmithfamily.com.au.</p> <p>Photos for Website Clubs are reminded that there is limited space for their photos on the website and are asked to ensure that photos are submitted in a landscape (sideways) format to show them at their best. To share a large number of photos Clubs are encouraged to post them on their Club's Facebook page.</p> <p>Regional News and Events National and Zone Councillors are encouraged to complete their Event reports (https://www.thesmithfamily.com.au/view-clubs/resources/forms) and send this with a couple of photos of their events to their Executive Mentor and National Office, which will then be shared on the website or Social Media.</p>

Social Media

Social media update - Jan-May 2024

Our social media engagement has continued to grow. We now have 2,507 followers on Facebook (up from 2,372 in November 2023). Facebook continues to be the main online community where VIEW members like to engage with each other and the organisation. Instagram is also growing but at a slower rate – there are now 335 followers on our Instagram account.



Lake Illawarra inaugural

147 reactions
61 comments – WOW!
5 shares

Posts about new clubs opening or in formation are always popular. This post also included a local Councillor who was tagged in the post to help increase the reach. With 61 comments, this has got to be a record for VIEW!



National Volunteer Week thank you message

94 reactions
5 comments
41 shares

We personalised this post with a photo of VIEW members in the recognisable VIEW polo shirt – which are very eye-catching.

It was great to see Clubs sharing this post to their own pages where their members were sure to see it.



Convention interest meeting!

96 reactions
16 comments
14 shares

Convention is such a uniting activity for the whole of VIEW and it is great to see excitement already building for the 2025 event in Brisbane. This post did well because members are always excited about Convention and we had lovely photos of happy, smiling, hard working members to share.



Recognising VIEW Club committees

109 reactions
15 comments
12 shares

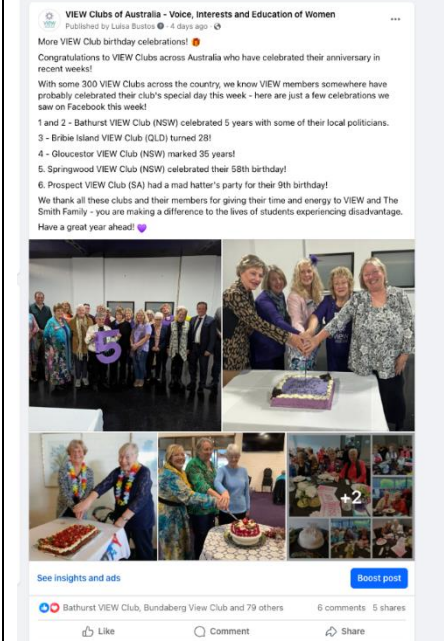
This was a new style of post introduced in 2024 that was quite popular. It was a good way to recognise and show our appreciation to those members who have stepped up to work on committees while also showing the scale and reach of VIEW Clubs as an organisation. The photos of happy VIEW members made these posts engaging.



Media clippings

43 reactions
6 comments
10 shares

Although this style of posts doesn't generate quite the engagement of posts with photos of VIEW members, they still get good engagement and are a good way to tag other organisations and extend the reach of the post to outside our own VIEW community.

 <p>VIEW Clubs of Australia - Voice, Interests and Education of Women Published by Luisa Bustos · 4 days ago</p> <p>More VIEW Club birthday celebrations!</p> <p>Congratulations to VIEW Clubs across Australia who have celebrated their anniversary in recent weeks!</p> <p>With some 300 VIEW Clubs across the country, we know VIEW members somewhere have probably celebrated their club's special day this week - here are just a few celebrations we saw on Facebook this week!</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 and 2 - Bathurst VIEW Club (NSW) celebrated 5 years with some of their local politicians. 3 - Birnie Island VIEW Club (QLD) turned 28! 4 - Gloucester VIEW Club (NSW) marked 35 years! 5. Springwood VIEW Club (NSW) celebrated their 50th birthday! 6. Prospect VIEW Club (SA) had a mad hatter's party for their 8th birthday! <p>We thank all these clubs and their members for giving their time and energy to VIEW and The Smith Family - you are making a difference to the lives of students experiencing disadvantage. Have a great year ahead!</p> <p>See insights and ads Boost post</p> <p>Bathurst View Club, Bundaberg View Club and 79 others · 6 comments · 5 shares</p> <p>Like · Comment · Share</p>	<p>Birthday celebrations</p> <p>80 reactions 6 comments 5 shares</p> <p><i>Our community loves to celebrate other clubs and posts about birthdays and fundraisers are always popular. The cakes, decorations and smiling faces show the fun side of VIEW!</i></p>
<p>How you can help</p> <p>We are always looking for members to profile in our popular "Meet a Member" series. If you know a member with a lovely VIEW story, please send her details (email and phone) to Luisa or view@thesmithfamily.com.au. Luisa will contact the member and see if she is happy to participate.</p>	

<p>LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT</p>	
	<p>Anne Hampshire The Smith Family Head of Research and Advocacy spoke to the National Leadership Team on Education Dashboard South Australia (EDSA). Below is a brief summary of the presentation given.</p> <p>This data sharing project provides SA <i>LfL</i> team with access to more timely and complete data on <i>LfL</i> students/families to better inform their practice and support of families and work with schools contributing to improved student outcomes.</p> <p>An ongoing partnership between The Smith Family and the South Australian Department for Education has seen this data access dramatically improve for <i>Learning for Life</i> students in South Australia since 2021. Through this data exchange partnership, The Smith Family has gained access to key educational data in real time for students on their program via a Department of Education-hosted dashboard.</p> <p>Providing timely, targeted support has the potential to positively alter students' pathways through school for better overall educational outcomes. Currently, the dashboard provides data for over 4,700 <i>Learning for Life</i> students in South Australia. The potential for this to expand to around 10,000 in the state over the next 5 years as The Smith Family seeks to offer the program to more students.</p> <p>The Smith Family is working with other states to implement a similar dashboards.</p>

	<p>Jo Booth, The Smith Family Relationship Manager for Officeworks spoke to National Leadership Team.</p> <p>She provided insight into partnership including targets, challenges and opportunities, shared examples of interactions between Officeworks & VIEW Clubs, challenges and opportunities and asked National Leadership Team for suggestions and feedback on the best way forward for VIEW Club & Officeworks interactions.</p> <p>After speaking with the National Leadership Team Jo will now draft some guidelines and processes for the relationship between VIEW, The Smith Family and Officeworks going forward.</p> <p>Clubs/members are asked to hold off from making contact with their local Officeworks Store until after the guidelines and processes have been agreed and circulated.</p>
8	OTHER BUSINESS
	National Councillors shared highlights/success stories from their area.
Reintroduction Frequently Asked Questions and Answers	<p>Frequently Asked Questions – (FAQs)</p> <p>VIEW National Office have compiled a list of commonly asked Questions and their Answers into presentation slides for Councillors to provide to Clubs.</p> <p>Some members may recall that we used to provide a section at the end of National Minutes with answers to some commonly asked questions. We have reintroduced three (3) Questions and Answers to these National Minutes.</p>
VIEW National Office Team Change	<p>National Manager Maryanne Maher announced that Olga Shkuropatova will be leaving the VIEW National Office team in July. Olga will join The Smith Family's Growing Careers Project team as a Project Coordinator.</p> <p>Olga began as a volunteer with VIEW in December 2009 – she became a part-time employee from October 2010, then a fulltime employee and since 2018 has been working 4 days with VIEW and 1 day with the State and Territory Office...</p> <p>Olga will be sadly missed by VIEW National Office, VIEW Executive, National Leadership Team, Clubs and all the VIEW members she has helped and assisted over her many years in VIEW She is multi-talented and a lovely, kind and considerate person.</p> <p>She also managed two Key VIEW projects – practically at the same time! VIEW website migration to TSF and VIEW Access database migration to TSF CONNECT2 both of these were significant projects.</p> <p>We owe a great deal to Olga's tenacity and strong work ethic...</p> <p>Olga has been one of the key organisers of National Convention, she is always in the background making sure that Convention runs smoothly from drafting the registration pack, contract administration, through to satchel packing, gala dinner seating, and the gruelling final pack up... and always has a smile on her face! VIEW National Office wishes Olga all the best with her new position at The Smith Family in the GCP team and is presently in the process of hiring a new team member.</p>

Date of Next Meeting:	Due to Geographical Boundaries project and travel to areas at an appropriate time, the next National Leadership Team meeting will be moved from Wednesday 16 October 2024 to Wednesday 23 October 2024 . The meeting will still be held via Microsoft Teams
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS	
Q1. What is Digital Learning Essentials and how does it support students?	<p>Digital Learning Essentials As at June 2024 VIEW Clubs have already contributed \$300k towards – The Smith Family’s Digital Learning Essentials program- which is amazing!</p> <p>The <i>Digital Learning Essentials</i> program provides an extra level of support to ensure young Australians in need can overcome the digital inequality caused by poverty.</p> <p>It provides <i>Learning for Life</i> students with a Laptop, Internet - <i>Reliable home internet access for online learning and education support programs</i>, Digital Skills - Support to improve digital literacy and online safety skills in order to navigate the internet safely and securely with Tech Support - Access to support helpline and knowledge centre to manage ongoing technical queries.</p> <p>This is not just essential for students and their education, but also for parents and their interactions with their child’s school.</p>
Q2. What is the best practice for charging members 1.9% for payments via Square Reader?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members are required to pay 1.9% transaction fee if using this payment facility. We ask Clubs to incorporate this fee when accepting payments from members via Square. • To simplify fee calculations some Clubs are charging members 2% or \$1 to cover this fee. • The 1.9% transaction fee from processed transactions is deducted by Square prior to being transferred to the Club account. • Transactions received from Square need to be recorded in the Club Cashbook and a receipt must be issued.
Q3. Australia Post doesn’t accept cheques any longer. How can Clubs pay for their PO Box?	<p>As Australia Post no longer accepts cheques and Clubs can’t use EFT or pay via BPay for their PO Box, we recommend Clubs use their Club Petty Cash facility even though it exceeds \$100.</p> <p><u>Please note:</u> Petty Cash Form needs to be completed and receipt/tax invoice from Australia Post must be attached to the form.</p> <p>During the annual audit we have noticed that some Clubs reimburse VIEW members who have paid by using their personal debit/credit card – this is acceptable if Club follows the correct process. All supporting documents (receipt, invoices) must be provided to the Club Treasurer prior to reimbursement for audit purposes.</p>

Summary of Decision at National Leadership Team Meeting
June 2024

Agenda Reference	Area of Work	Decision, Policy and/or Procedure
4.1	General Business	Club Name Change
4.2	General Business	Club Closures
4.4	General Business	VIEW Patron
5.2	Projects and Regular Updates	National Office Update
5.3	Projects and Regular Updates	Governance Project: Geographic Boundaries
5.4	Projects and Regular Updates	MP Letters
6.1	Sub-Committees and Working Groups	External Relations
6.2	Sub-Committees and Working Groups	Resolutions
6.3	Sub-Committees and Working Groups	Community Grants
6.4	Sub-Committees and Working Groups	History Working Group
6.5	Sub-Committees and Working Groups	VIEW in the Community – Raising Awareness including promoting VIEW
6.6	Sub-Committees and Working Groups	VIEW in the Community promoting VIEW and The Smith Family – Speaker’s Bureau
6.7	Sub-Committees and Working Groups	VIEW in Community – Promoting VIEW via Website and Social Media
8	Other Business	Reintroduction Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
8	Other Business	National Office Team Change
8	Other Business	Date of Next Meeting
	Frequently Asked Questions	