



National Convention wrap-up

2016-17 Resolutions

Club news and events

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

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

#### Our Purpose

- VIEW empowers women through its Voice, Interests and Education of Women.
- VIEW provides support and friendship for women throughout communities nationally.
- VIEW actively raises awareness of and participates in the work of The Smith Family.

#### Our Guiding Principles

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

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everyone's family

VIEW is a national women's organisation formed in 1960 by The Smith Family as a service to women and the community. Through strong VIEW networks, women are empowered to achieve new skills and confidence and give voice to issues of national concern. Communities benefit through the commitment of the 17,000 women of VIEW to the provision of educational outcomes for Australia's disadvantaged children and families.

National President: Robin Perros.

National Vice Presidents: Sue Field,  
Lyn Gerstenberg, June Greentree.

National Councillors: ACT: Jan Roberts. NSW: Robyn Bursill, Kathie Diskin, Elizabeth Doorey, Beverley Giglio, Barbara Hyslop, Marian Kingham, Laura O'Brien, Lola Shaw, Toni Thomas, Gloria Walter, Gwen Wilton. SA: Marjorie Schultz. VIC: Mary Daly, Sunnie Watts, Jennie Wynd.

Caretaker National Councillors:  
NSW: Madge Doust, Cynthia Guyenette.  
QLD: Lyndsay Basford, Jean Clarke.

National Manager: Maryanne Maher

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The Smith Family steps into a disadvantaged child's life while they are still at school, to help them get the most from their time there. By supporting a child to participate in education, The Smith Family prevents them experiencing a lifetime of poverty. By investing in a child's education, we can break a cycle of disadvantage. For more information please visit [thesmithfamily.com.au](http://thesmithfamily.com.au)

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# From the Executive

June Greentree  
National Vice President

Being a member of VIEW means so much to so many. Other than the fun and friendship that it brings, I know the primary reason many of us join VIEW is to make a difference in our community and help disadvantaged children in Australia create a better future for themselves.

One of the ways we achieve this is by volunteering our time and talents to The Smith Family and in our local communities. Many members volunteer at local schools to help with reading clubs, breakfast clubs and homework clubs that support disadvantaged students with their education. By volunteering at community expos, holding information stalls and booths, hosting cake stalls, running Christmas wrapping stalls and holding BBQs at local stores, many clubs raise awareness of VIEW while also raising vital funds for The Smith Family. Members also give up valuable time to help at sporting events, fun runs and participate in our very own *Walk with VIEW* community event, to promote VIEW to others in the wider community.

The impact of all these activities is far-reaching. Each year, collectively VIEW Clubs donate more than a \$1 million towards The Smith Family's learning and mentoring programs



and sponsor (currently) 1,150 students on the *Learning for Life* program. These contributions make a real difference to children and families in need. Everyone should be proud of the contribution VIEW makes to helping children in need break the cycle of disadvantage.

To continue to make this impact, VIEW needs your help. I encourage you all to consider nominating yourself or someone else for a leadership role, whether in a Development Team, as a National or Zone Councillor or for a club committee position. The future of VIEW relies on members being prepared to step up to these roles. From my experience, I know it's incredibly rewarding. You will find the journey very special, and you will make wonderful friends along the way. It will also equip you with new skills, provide the opportunity to meet people with common interests, give you great satisfaction, be loads of fun and provide many fulfilling activities.

Robin, Sue, Lyn and I thank you for your support during our tenure. We have enjoyed our time as the VIEW National Executive and wish the new leadership team 2016-17 all the very best. To all members, we wish you and your families a safe and relaxing festive season.

Above: National Executive 2014-15 (from left): Sue Field, June Greentree, Lyn Gerstenberg and Robin Perros (seated).

## VIEW for all

17,000 women of VIEW know their organisation is unique, offering the opportunity to:

- meet regularly with other women of all ages and from all walks of life;
- discuss and exchange ideas;
- form lasting friendships while learning new skills and developing new interests; and
- actively support and participate in the work of The Smith Family.



Join VIEW today by calling VIEW National Office on 1800 805 366 or email: [view@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au)  
We look forward to hearing from you soon!



Women of all ages enjoy being members of VIEW around Australia.

# Message from The Smith Family CEO

Dr Lisa O'Brien

In September I had the pleasure of attending the VIEW National Convention at the Novotel Northbeach in Wollongong. I thoroughly enjoyed it and I congratulate the organising committee for hosting such an inspiring and thought-provoking event.



*Learning for Life*  
sponsorships  
supported by VIEW

As at 11 October 2015

1,150

disadvantaged students  
studying at these levels:

957 Primary  
school

166 Secondary  
school

27 Tertiary  
/TAFE

I was able to congratulate VIEW on its 55th anniversary and I had the great pleasure of introducing Paul Ell, a former *Learning for Life* student from Nowra, who received a standing ovation for his inspirational speech on the theme, 'Everyone has the right to rise'. Paul talked about the power of the *Learning for Life* program and its ability to change a young person's life for the better. Raised by his grandparents in a disadvantaged community in NSW, The Smith Family supported Paul throughout high school and his tertiary studies – providing crucial financial assistance as well as access to opportunities and learning support which he may not have otherwise had. This support helped Paul to succeed at school and university. However, as he said, it was the "intangible benefit" of knowing that someone in the world cared about him and his potential which had the greatest impact on his ability to do his best.

This year I was delighted to see the colourful visual representation of the 1,150 students nationally supported by VIEW. Seven hundred red and blue balloons in bunches of 10 were suspended by weights throughout the Novotel. The effect was simply stunning and it didn't stop there. On the morning of conference day two, VIEW members, dressed in VIEW purple and carrying more than

450 balloons, took part in a special *Walk with VIEW* along the Wollongong foreshore to raise awareness for both VIEW and The Smith Family.

Another first this year was the pop-up Smith Family retail store run by the Recycling Operation during the two conference days. Attendees had the opportunity to shop for clothes and accessories and were also provided with donation bags and encouraged to donate new or good quality clothes for our stores. A great initiative!

I would like to thank and commend National President Robin Perros and her Vice Presidents, Sue Field, Lyn Gerstenberg and June Greentree for their leadership, commitment, dedication and tireless work for VIEW over the past two years. My thanks also go to the 2014–15 National Councillors who have also worked hard to support VIEW and The Smith Family.

Finally, thank you to every VIEW Club member for your dedication and commitment to our cause. For 55 years, VIEW and The Smith Family have shared the common purpose of helping disadvantaged children. We can't do our important work without you. By supporting their education, you are making a lasting difference on the futures of disadvantaged young Australians.



Join Facebook

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

## News briefs



### Toy & Book Appeal 2015

Christmas is fast approaching and The Smith Family needs your help for its annual Toy and Book Appeal. Financial hardship means many children from disadvantaged backgrounds may not receive a gift at Christmas. To ensure these children don't miss out on the joy of Christmas, each year The Smith Family delivers thousands of new toys and books to those in need. Donations to the Toy & Book Appeal are used to purchase toys and books within the age and gender categories most in need. This year, The Smith Family aims to deliver more than 43,500 new toys and 29,000 new books to children in need around Australia. To find out how your club can contribute, please call 1800 805 366 or email [view@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au). All clubs will have received the Toy & Book Pack with information and the donation form in the August mail out. Please contact National Office if your club requires an additional pack.

### Shopping day success

The third VIEW Blue Illusion national shopping day was held on 24 September in stores across the country. Once again, this initiative was well supported by VIEW Clubs, raising \$28,569 for The Smith Family through the donation of a percentage of the day's sales. Members and guests enjoyed styling workshops and fashion parades before purchasing new season outfits. The event also provided the opportunity to shine a light on the work VIEW does to support the education of young Australians in need and encourage others to join us. Thank you to Donna and Danny Guest, founders of Blue Illusion, and their staff across Australia, for generously supporting VIEW and The Smith Family.



Sandy King (left) from Marion VIEW Club (SA) and Sue Judd, model.



### The Smith Family Recycling Operation

This year VIEW Clubs in NSW and the ACT joined forces with The Smith Family's recycled clothing business (known as the Recycling Operation) to help promote Smith Family retail stores and the need for clothing donations from the wider community. Drawing on their connections in the community, VIEW members supported National Recycling Week, volunteered in stores, collected donated clothing and even helped to paint the store in Woden (see photo)! In return, VIEW promotional material has been displayed in all Smith Family stores helping to raise our profile and attract members. A great mutually beneficial collaboration!

### New website!

VIEW National Office is working on a new website for VIEW! The Smith Family's digital partner, Isobar has developed a new website that will showcase VIEW Clubs and help to attract members. Work is still in progress, but we expect the new site to go live in early 2016. We are grateful for the pro bono support from Isobar for this project.

**people's  
choice**  
CREDIT UNION

### Lottery tickets

Thank you to all VIEW members who sold raffle tickets in this year's People's Choice Credit Union Community Lottery. Together, we raised \$20,000 from the sale of 10,000 tickets – an amazing feat! All the funds raised through this initiative go towards The Smith Family's *student2student* reading program, to help primary school students who are behind in their reading skills.



# VIEW National Convention 2015

More than 650 VIEW Club members enjoyed three days of inspiring speakers, conversations and social events at the VIEW National Convention in Wollongong.

This biennial event was held from 11–13 September in Wollongong with VIEW Club members coming from all parts of the country to meet other members, learn more about The Smith Family, be inspired by other women and have fun.

## Day One

After a warm Welcome to Country by Auntie Narelle Brown of the *Dharawal* people, guests were welcomed to the City of Wollongong by Lord Mayor Gordon Bradbery OAM. In her opening address, The Smith Family CEO, Dr Lisa O'Brien spoke about the value The Smith Family places on its partnership with VIEW. She thanked all members for their financial support, volunteering efforts and for helping to spread the message about the importance of long-term educational support for disadvantaged children.

National President, Robin Perros gave attendees a detailed overview of

VIEW's achievements and activities of the past two years, from the growing number of *Learning for Life* students now sponsored by VIEW Clubs to our extensive media reach, new clubs, significant national and local events and the impact of VIEW members as great connectors in their communities. Robin reminded attendees of her theme 'Connecting Women, Inspiring Futures'. Attendees particularly enjoyed the new videos featuring VIEW National Councillors sharing their thoughts about the organisation. These videos are aimed at promoting VIEW to new members and will be available on the VIEW website in the near future.

There was a superb line up of speakers this year, a true testament to the pulling power of our organisation. The Forum of Women featured a panel of inspirational speakers including Debra Oswald, writer for stage and television; Susannah Fullerton, President of the

Jane Austen Society of Australia; Jean Kittson, comedian and author; Margaret Pomeranz, director, producer and film critic; and facilitator Ticky Fullerton, ABC journalist and broadcaster. Each guest shared entertaining stories from their very different lives and experiences. Jean Kittson had people rolling in the aisles, quoting from her new book '*You're still hot to me – The joys of Menopause*'.

## Day Two

Early in the morning, 200 members gathered outside the Novotel Northbeach with 450 red and blue balloons for a special *Walk with VIEW* along the Wollongong foreshore to the lighthouse (see front cover and page 14 for photos). Back at the conference, The Smith Family Deputy Chairman, Christine McLoughlin, addressed the delegation expressing her appreciation for all of the fundraising, events and initiatives that VIEW members undertake nationally to support the education of children in need. Christine talked of the importance of community and of people, particularly women, banding together to effect positive change. "It was growing up in the town of Berrigan, in the Riverina, that I got to see first-hand the true sense of what 'community' is all about... there is no doubt that...the women were the backbone of my small country town," she said.

The George Forbes Oration given by Emeritus Professor Gillian Triggs,



The Forum of Women panel – L-R: Susannah Fullerton, Jean Kittson, Margaret Pomeranz and Debra Oswald.



L-R: Emeritus Professor Gillian Triggs, President of the Human Rights Commission with Christine McLoughlin, Deputy Chairman of The Smith Family.



L-R: Authors Kate Grenville, Sarah Hopkins and Geraldine Doogue participated in the Writer's Festival.

President of the Australian Human Rights Commission, was a special highlight of the day. Professor Triggs spoke about women, education, the function of the Commission and her role. Her address was inspiring, moving and a source of motivation for all VIEW members present. It was the perfect forerunner to the Resolutions Debate and voting sessions which followed. See the breakout box (right) for the Resolutions results.

Following a seafood buffet lunch on the glorious sunny decks overlooking North Beach Wollongong, this year we introduced a Writer's Festival session. Three prominent Australian authors Geraldine Doogue, Kate Grenville and Sarah Hopkins were interviewed by Melinda James, ABC Illawarra journalist. The authors stayed briefly to sign books and speak with members, which was appreciated by attendees.

Day Two's sessions concluded with presentations from National Vice Presidents, Sue Field, Lyn Gerstenberg and June Greentree. The VIEW Executive for 2016-17 was announced (see page 9) and VIEW Awards in recognition of dedication and commitment to the organisation were presented. Congratulations to Past National Vice President Lyn Geer, who received the George Forbes Award; Past National Vice President Jillian Smith, who received the National President's Award; and Anne Strangway, who was awarded the Special Commendation for development in South Australia. Full details of the Awards winners will be included in the next issue of VIEW Matters.

We are pleased to announce the 53rd VIEW National Convention will be held in Tamworth in 2017.



From left: Greensborough Evening VIEW Club (VIC) members Jan Gorst, Janeece McPherson (Assistant Secretary) and Judy Allender.

# Resolutions

One of the most important activities of Convention is the Resolutions debate and voting session. This year four motions were debated, with all four being unanimously accepted by members and Resolutions One and Two taking priority. The resolutions will be the focus of advocacy and lobbying work by VIEW Clubs over the coming two years. Stay tuned for initiatives and activities to support these resolutions.

## RESOLUTION ONE

VIEW Clubs of Australia urge that more funding be made available to create a centralised data distribution centre and find more effective ways to combat the incidence of domestic and family violence.

## RESOLUTION TWO

That State and Federal Governments look at improving Aboriginal uptake of education with particular emphasis for Aboriginal girls to assist in closing the gap in educational performance between Aboriginal and other Australian young people.

## RESOLUTION THREE

VIEW Clubs of Australia calls on State and Federal Government to recognise the health impact of high sugar content in processed foods and to regulate the "added sugar" content of these products.

## RESOLUTION FOUR

VIEW Clubs of Australia urge the Federal Government to address the problem of obesity, particularly among young children, through a comprehensive national education strategy which focuses on a back-to-basics practical approach.



# More from VIEW Convention



The Procession of the VIEW Executive at the Convention Grand Finale.

## Fun and friendship at Convention

Convention is also a time for celebrating and socialising with fellow VIEW members from across the country.

On Friday night, two social events *'Let's go Cruising'* and *'Midnight in Paris'* saw members in wonderful costumes dance the night away in a relaxed and fun environment.

On Saturday evening a truly spectacular Gala Dinner of *'Emeralds, Elegance and Entertainment'* was held in UniHall, University of Wollongong. WIN News Presenter, Geoff Phillips, was the perfect Master of Ceremonies entertaining guests with his stories and anecdotes. Live entertainment from talented local performers Scott Radburn, with Charlotte Rhiane, Rohan Herring, Trent Bowater, Cheryl Radburn and Shannon Brown, included a tribute to the *'Wizard of Oz'* and a broad range of tunes from Frank Sinatra to opera that kept the crowd singing along. Nobody will forget the hilarious skit with the ever expanding brother of Pavarotti.

Convention drew to a close with a Grand Finale in the Wollongong Town Hall on Sunday morning with the award winning BlueScope Youth Orchestra, Peter Nickolas, who played the magnificent pipe organ, soloist Briannah Gorden and Venerable Juedi Shi from the Nan Tien Temple who spoke about gratitude.



Guests at the Convention Gala Dinner.



Gala Dinner entertainers.



## VIEW National Executive 2014-15

Thank you and farewell to the VIEW National Executive 2014-15, National President, Robin Perros and National Vice Presidents, Sue Field, Lyn Gerstenberg and June Greentree, who have shown wonderful dedication in leading the organisation for the past two years. We owe them a great deal for giving up their time, and appreciate their enthusiasm and commitment to advancing VIEW.



National Executive 2014-15.



VIEW National Executive 2016-17 Elects:  
Gloria Walter, Gwen Wilton  
and Toni Thomas (seated).

## VIEW National Executive 2016-17

We are pleased to announce and welcome the incoming VIEW Executive 2016-17 who commence their roles in January 2016.

Congratulations to **National President, Gwen Wilton** and **National Vice Presidents, Toni Thomas** and **Gloria Walter**.

Gwen Wilton, National Councillor Macarthur, Southern Highlands and Illawarra region including Wollongong (Area NB), has been a member of VIEW since 2003, following in the footsteps of her mother who had been a keen member. Toni Thomas, National Councillor Blue Mountains, Lithgow, Richmond/Windsor and St Marys (Area NN), first joined VIEW in 1967 and has been involved in VIEW in a number of different locations including Grafton, Lismore and the Blue Mountains. Gloria Walter, National Councillor Sydney South West (Area NE), joined VIEW in 2009.

# Community in profile

Spotlight on Area NL: Riverina, MIA, Snowy Mountains  
Foothills and south to Victorian border

## VIEW in Area NL

As at September 2015

573  
members

19 VIEW  
Clubs

41 *Learning for Life*  
students sponsored

### Corowa VIEW Club

VIEW Clubs meet in all places in their communities, from bowling clubs to the dining rooms of their local pubs. But there are few clubs who can say they hold their meetings in a whisky and chocolate factory that was once a flour mill. That's the case for the members of Corowa VIEW Club who meet monthly at The Corowa Whisky & Chocolate Factory.

Chocolate is a common theme for Corowa VIEW Club's members. The club recently had a social outing to another local chocolate venue where they enjoyed artisan handmade chocolates and other local produce.



Committee members from Batlow VIEW Club.

But chocolate isn't the only thing members are concerned with. Fundraising activities by the members such as BBQs at the local supermarket and monthly raffles have allowed them to sponsor a *Learning for Life* student.

Corowa VIEW Club members feel very fortunate to live in an area where there are so many local attractions to provide appealing venues for social outings.

### Batlow VIEW Club

High in the foothills of the NSW Snowy Mountains, Batlow VIEW Club has been successfully functioning for 25 years. The fresh mountain air of the area adds to the vitality of the members of this small club which continues the tradition of meeting in an atmosphere of friendship, happiness and dedication to the philosophy of The Smith Family. This year members were very pleased to host the Zone Conference for their area.

Batlow VIEW Club's major fundraiser is a monthly trading table where members sell surplus supplies from their vegetable gardens, home-made jams, biscuits, eggs and other items. The money raised goes towards supporting two *Learning for Life* students. An interesting guest speaker at each luncheon offers all members a chance to up date their knowledge and understanding of a variety of topics that provoke questions and discussion.

Batlow VIEW members at their trading table.





# Connecting in Community

## Prospect VIEW Club inaugural

In a great show of support for VIEW, members from nearly every South Australian club came together in May to celebrate the inauguration of the state's newest club, Prospect VIEW Club. Based in Adelaide, the club is the third to be opened by the enthusiastic South Australian Development Team in the last two years – a great achievement!

South Australian VIEW members were joined by VIEW National President Robin Perros, VIEW National Manager Maryanne Maher and special guest Rachel Sanderson, State Member for Adelaide for the function at the Bombay Bicycle Club. Travis Barty, The Smith Family's *Learning for Life* Team Leader for Port Adelaide and Enfield shared important information about how VIEW and The Smith Family work closely together in South Australia to support the education of children in need.

Robin Perros welcomed Prospect VIEW Club President, Jane Prentice, her Committee and all the new members. She congratulated the Development Team and encouraged the new club to thrive and grow in the future. "South Australia is really leading the way in the development of new VIEW Clubs. I'm sure you will all get a great deal of satisfaction from your membership of our wonderful organisation."



National President Robin Perros with Jane Prentice, Prospect VIEW Club President.



Anne Strangway, Development Team Leader (left) with Marlene Powell from Southern Vales VIEW Club (SA).

## Wollongong Pathways Scholarship

A new partnership between VIEW Clubs and the University of Wollongong College (UOWC) shows how VIEW members connect and inspire members of the wider community to help support the education of disadvantaged students.

In a unique arrangement, a three-year \$10,000 scholarship has been awarded to a young disadvantaged school leaver from the Wollongong area to attend the UOWC to help them prepare for university. UOWC is a pathway college giving school leavers who are unable to go directly to university the skills they need to study at university.

The opportunity came earlier this year after Marisa Mastroianni, Group Chief Executive Officer of UOWC, attended the VIEW International Women's Day

function in Wollongong with special guest and long time VIEW supporter, Wendy Machin, Deputy President of NRMA, who was the event's keynote speaker. Marisa was inspired by the work of VIEW and the *Learning for Life* program after hearing from a sponsored student who shared her story on the day. Marisa was motivated to provide funds for a scholarship to recognise the work of VIEW Clubs and support a disadvantaged local young woman.

Ellen Mearing was selected for the scholarship, which is modelled on The Smith Family's Tertiary Sponsorship Program. Ellen was supported by The Smith Family from 2009 to 2014 and is now studying a Diploma of Nursing at UOWC with aspirations to undertake a Bachelor of Nursing further down the track. Through



Scholarship student Ellen Mearing.

the scholarship Ellen will receive financial assistance to help cover the costs of her tertiary education, and be matched with a mentor who will provide career and study advice. Support from a Smith Family *Learning for Life* program coordinator will also help Ellen stay engaged with her studies.

Thank you to Marisa Mastroianni, the University of Wollongong College and VIEW members for enabling this outcome.

# Around the Clubs

## Author afternoon tea

Blackwood Hills VIEW Club (SA) recently hosted an afternoon tea with local author, Fiona McIntosh, whose latest book *'The Last Dance'* was published earlier this year. 170 VIEW members and their guests enjoyed an entertaining talk by Fiona, who described her travels and research for each of her books. In the spirit of *'The Last Dance'*, which is set in the 1930s, guests were also treated to piano music from the era performed by a local pianist. More than \$2,500 was raised for The Smith Family from the raffle organised for the day. The event was a great success for Blackwood Hills VIEW Club, which has 73 members and sponsors three *Learning for Life* students.



Fiona McIntosh (right) with organisers of the event, VIEW members Kath Riddle (centre) and Pam Rosie (left).



VIEW member Annelies Bunnik (right) enjoying the afternoon tea with her guests.

## Sewing afternoon in Cootamundra

Cootamundra Day VIEW Club (NSW) has experienced a decline in members, but that hasn't stopped the vibrant club from contributing to The Smith Family in many different ways. In addition to sponsoring three *Learning for Life* students, members recently spent an afternoon sewing library bags and reading mats for disadvantaged students from Wagga Wagga.



Lumen Christi Catholic College students receiving their much-needed library bags from Merimbula Evening VIEW Club members.

## Library bags and convict bonnets

Members of Merimbula Evening VIEW Club (NSW) have been busy supporting local school children at Lumen Christi Catholic College by making 75 colourful library bags. Pat Ingram, a long time supporter of The Smith Family, donated the bags and VIEW members Rose Barker and Susan Stephenson added useful pockets and handles to encourage the children to take books home to advance their reading skills. Many members have also given up their time to make convict bonnets in honour of the 25,566 female convicts who were deported to Australia between 1788 and 1853. Inspired by Dr Cristina Henri whose project *'Roses from the Heart'* is a memorial to female convicts, the VIEW members made the bonnets for a recent VIEW dinner where Cristina shared the story about her project honouring the role convict women played in the early settlement of Australia.





Guests at the Woollahra VIEW Club (NSW) Literary Lunch. Back row from left: Shirley Fyander; Lucy Tully; Marcia Taylor; Madge Doust; Robyn Thompson, Zone Councillor Ellen Gray and Olwyn Raymond. Seated: National Vice President Sue Field and Past National President Lorraine Montgomery.

## Woollahra VIEW Club

The proposed new Woollahra VIEW Club (NSW) recently held a very successful Literary Lunch at the Gadens Community Café in Woollahra, with 28 women attending. New and prospective VIEW members heard from well known award-winning local author Larry Writer, who talked about his latest book *'Dangerous Games'*. Woollahra VIEW Club plans to make Literary Lunches a regular item on their calendar.

An outing to the Sydney Conservatorium of Music to hear talented young musicians perform as part of The Smith Family's *CONverge* program with the Conservatorium, was next on their list of activities. They were joined by other VIEW members from Five Dock, Lugarno Evening and Harbourside East VIEW Clubs (NSW).

Woollahra VIEW Club is looking forward to welcoming many more members from Sydney's eastern suburbs and surrounding areas to its club. Please contact Marcia Taylor on 0404 127 921 or roy.mar@optusnet.com if you would like more information about joining this new club.

## Birthday book launch

Ulladulla Evening VIEW Club (NSW) celebrated its 25th birthday in July by launching its very own book to raise funds for The Smith Family. *'A VIEW from the Heart - Recollections and stories from Conjola to Kioloa'* features stories and anecdotes about the community written by 60 locals. VIEW members spent eight months collecting and editing submissions, with encouragement and support from local publisher Garry Evans. At a special cocktail event to launch the book, guests included Shoalhaven City Council Mayor Joanna Gash, National Vice President Lyn Gerstenberg and Past National President Lorraine Montgomery. Members from the club are delighted that the book's first print run has sold out. A second print run is now on order. Books can be purchased from the Harbour Bookshop, Ulladulla or by contacting Ulladulla Evening VIEW Club. Proceeds from the sale of books go towards The Smith Family's learning and mentoring programs supporting disadvantaged Australian children to achieve their educational goals.



National Vice President Lyn Gerstenberg; Joanna Gash, Mayor of Shoalhaven City Council; Helen Wilford, Ulladulla Evening VIEW Club President; and Sue McMahon, Ulladulla Evening VIEW Club.

## Happy 40th Wollondilly

More than 120 NSW VIEW members and guests, including visitors from Picton Day VIEW Club, Camden VIEW Club, Macarthur VIEW Club and Dapto VIEW Club, celebrated a 40th birthday milestone for the Wollondilly Evening VIEW Club earlier this year. Two founding members, Marie Ferry and Helen Elsworthy received their 40-year badges from National Vice President Sue Field and National Councillor Gwen Wilton. Members presented Gwen with beautiful hand-made reading rugs that will be distributed to the *Learning for Life* program coordinator for distribution to local schools. Proceeds from the night raised \$1,000 towards sponsoring students on The Smith Family's *Learning for Life* program.



Wollondilly Evening VIEW Club members presented National Councillor Gwen Wilton with reading rugs.



Helen Elsworthy and Marie Ferry from Wollondilly Evening VIEW Club.

# Walk with VIEW

This year, *Walk with VIEW* has become one of VIEW's most successful national initiatives, raising our profile in local communities across the country. We are particularly proud of the recent Wollongong *Walk with VIEW* held in conjunction with the VIEW National Convention. This was one of the largest events so far and a truly grand spectacle to behold!



## *Learning for Life* graduate Paul Ell

Paul is a former *Learning for Life* student who was supported by The Smith Family throughout high school and while studying at the University of Wollongong. He graduated earlier this year and in July started working with RMB Lawyers in Wollongong. Extremely grateful for the financial assistance and learning support he received from The Smith Family to help with his education, Paul recently gave an inspiring speech at the VIEW National Convention in Wollongong where he received a standing ovation. He had this to say about VIEW:

"Truth be told, coming to speak to the VIEW Club members very much has the same feeling as visiting

family – I can't get out of the room without getting my cheeks pinched and without being asked the same questions like: Are you taking care of yourself? Do you make sure that you eat enough?"

Paul is a great advocate for The Smith Family and a shining example of how education support can help a child succeed. In his speech, Paul explained what makes The Smith Family sponsorship program so important to him:

"So many kids are simply looking for someone who believes in them and wants them to succeed in life. That's why The Smith Family places such a strong emphasis on mentorship opportunities and proven peer-to-peer learning experiences. Combine that with that extra financial support they need to give them a fair shot at life,

their lives can be dramatically turned around...Through the transformative power of education we can make sure that everyone has the right to be somebody, the right to step out from the shadows and the right to rise."



Former *Learning for Life* student, Paul Ell spoke at the VIEW National Convention.



All money raised from the sale of VIEW merchandise goes towards helping to change the lives of disadvantaged young Australians through education.



# Merchandise

## VIEW Nailfile \$5

Great for gifts. Fits into any handbag or travel case. (Glass 11mm x 2mm) Note not shown to size



## Spectacle Cleaning Cloths \$5 each or both for \$8

2 designs, sold separately or together, (microfibre, 16cmx16cm, sawtooth edge)

## VIEW Lapel Pin \$5

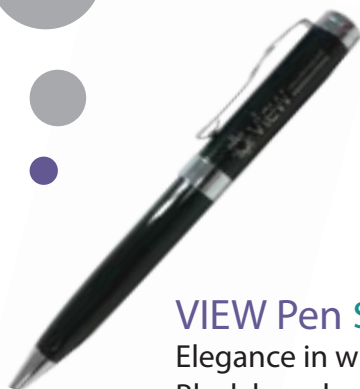
Brushed silver lapel pin featuring the VIEW logo. Available from your National Councillor (11mm)



New  
merchandise  
coming in  
2016

## VIEW Pen \$8

Elegance in writing. Black barrel with silver engraved VIEW logo



## VIEW Apron \$22

Purple drill with white Logo, multi-use pocket (86cm x 70cm)

To order any of this VIEW merchandise contact National Office  
via email: [view@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au)

# JOYSPREADER Charity Gifts 2015



Our Joyspreader Charity Gifts help disadvantaged children directly. By purchasing a gift from this range, you will help to fund life-changing learning and mentoring programs that help children make the most of their education and their future. You'll receive an attractive printed card to include your own message.

You – and the person receiving your gift – will not only be spreading the joy, but know you've made a real difference to a child in need.

## 1-2-3 Numeracy

\$19



Without numeracy, children are lost in a sea of meaningless numbers, lacking the ability to make sense of their world. This gift enables children to become problem solvers and helps parents foster numeracy skills in 3 to 5 year olds.

## It Takes Two

\$35



For children who struggle with reading, it's easy to fall behind. This gift helps pair them with a similarly-aged reading buddy who gives them advice and encouragement as the duo reads the same book.

## State of the Art

\$65



When money is tight, creativity is often forced to take a back seat. This gift gives disadvantaged children the opportunity to discover and put their creativity to use, increasing their self-belief. They will delight in art workshops and creative courses, unleashing potential and building confidence as they go.

## Licence to Mentor

\$85



For a disadvantaged student, there's nothing like a mentor who can pass on the benefit of their own know-how on the difficult terrain of study and career. Help match a student with a positive role model to help build their future aspirations.

The best gift is the hope of a better future.

View the full range of Joyspreader Charity Gifts at [thesmithfamily.com.au/joyspreader](http://thesmithfamily.com.au/joyspreader) or call 1800 024 069

**JOYSPREADER  
CHARITY GIFTS  
ARE 100% TAX  
DEDUCTIBLE**