

# viewmatters

November 2021



New VIEW Club in SA

Getting to know your leaders

An education legacy





## Our Vision

Women creating and leading a more inclusive society.

## Our Mission

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

## Our Guiding Principles

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



# Contents

- 3 From the Executive
- 4 Message from The Smith Family
- 5 News briefs
- 6 A lasting legacy
- 7 A new VIEW Club in Tonsley
- 8 VIEW Executive 2022-23
- 9 VIEW from Two
- 10 The Smith Family's new CEO and Chairman
- 12 Around the Clubs
- 14 VIEW in action!
- 15 VIEW merchandise



everyone's family



VIEW is a national women's organisation with 15,000 members in close to 300 communities exclusively supporting the education charity The Smith Family. Members sponsor students, volunteer, fundraise and advocate to improve the life outcomes of disadvantaged Australian children and young people.

As The Smith Family's largest community sponsor of *Learning for Life* students, VIEW supports the educational outcomes of more than 1,480 disadvantaged children and young people.

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

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

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

National Manager: Maryanne Maher

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Website: [www.view.org.au](http://www.view.org.au)

The Smith Family provides disadvantaged Australian children with tools and support to thrive at school. This help extends to the child's family and community with wrap-around support essential to breaking the cycle of disadvantage. Helping a child to do well in their journey through school brings a life time reward for them and their family. Investing in a child's education today will have a long-term impact that empowers

them into their working life. For more information please visit [thesmithfamily.com.au](http://thesmithfamily.com.au)  
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Front cover: Tonsley VIEW Club (SA) inaugural. Standing L-R: Wendy Talbot; Christine Thorne, Secretary; Kerry Clark, Vice President. Seated: Debra Sutton-Smith, President.



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

## From the Executive

As your National Executive, we are extremely proud of the strength and resilience VIEW members have shown to each other, The Smith Family and their *Learning for Life* students over the period of our leadership term.

Despite many disappointments as we faced cancellations and postponements, including 60th Anniversary celebrations, club birthdays, inaugurals and even VIEW's National Convention, we have so much to celebrate. We have much pleasure in sharing some of our reflections and memorable highlights.

During the year of our 60th Anniversary we, together with many members, were fortunate to be able to enjoy the warm hospitality of the Governors of New South Wales, Tasmania, Queensland and South Australia, in Vice Regal events. We also enjoyed another special celebration later in the year hosted by His Excellency the Governor General of Australia, David Hurley and Mrs Linda Hurley.

A silver lining for us during the COVID-19 lockdowns was the opportunity to speak to, and get to know, so many VIEW members who

we might not have otherwise had the chance to connect with.

Following on from the success of our Diamond Jubilee online raffle, our 2021 National Convention Raffle was also moved online, raising \$29,085.

Members also developed innovative and creative ways to fundraise for The Smith Family and ensure continued support of their *Learning for Life* students. We are delighted that, overall, VIEW Clubs is now sponsoring 1,498 students.

Amazingly, five new clubs have opened during our term, and we've significantly increased membership in some areas. Congratulations to Point Lonsdale and Ocean Grove Day in Victoria; Wangi Wangi in New South Wales, Maryborough in Queensland, and our latest addition, Tonsley VIEW Club in South Australia.

Our most exciting achievement has been the appointment of VIEW's first

ever Patron, Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley. Mrs Hurley is a great advocate for education and women in community. Their Excellencies recently connected with VIEW members virtually in Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia.

During our term Anne-Louise, Beryl and I have embraced our theme of 60+ Years of 'Strength and Support'. These characteristics exemplify the way our members have overcome the challenges experienced in the past two years.

We believe VIEW is stronger than ever. Thanks to the unwavering support from our members, we continue to connect with others in the community and make a lasting difference to the lives of disadvantaged students across Australia.

Thank you everyone, stay safe and Season's Greetings to you all!

**Jo Gray, National Vice President**

## What is VIEW?

VIEW is a national women's volunteer organisation supporting the education charity, The Smith Family. Connected through a common purpose, VIEW Club's 14,000+ members:

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

Find out more about VIEW by visiting [view.org.au](http://view.org.au), calling 1800 805 366 or emailing [view@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au)





## Message from The Smith Family

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate VIEW on another outstanding year supporting disadvantaged students and their families.

As you may know, I joined The Smith Family in August. Unfortunately, as this was during the NSW lockdown, this has hampered my ability to meet my new team and our wonderful partners, like VIEW, in person.

However, in September, I was delighted to meet with the VIEW National Executive, Anne-Louise, Beryl and Jo, virtually, prior to dropping in (albeit via Zoom) to the VIEW National Council meeting. This was an opportunity to introduce myself. I was glad to be able to acknowledge how VIEW members, despite this year's ongoing COVID-19 disruptions, have managed to continue providing vital sponsorship to our *Learning for Life* students. Thank you everyone – your support through these times is very much appreciated.

I have always felt strongly that everyone should have the opportunity to reach their potential. I am the first in my family to receive a tertiary education and I've seen personally how education can change lives.

That ability to transform lives is what inspired me to join The Smith Family as CEO. Much of my working and volunteering life has focused on supporting people in need and I feel privileged to continue this work at The Smith Family and work alongside each of you.

I have come onboard at an extremely challenging time. COVID-19 is having an adverse impact on many of the students and families we support, particularly in Victoria and New South Wales where residents have experienced long periods of lockdown. Many of our families have limited space for appropriate home-based learning, as well as limited or no access to the internet or technology, making it difficult for them to adequately support their children with their learning. While we know our families are doing their best, we also know it's very hard for them. Our staff are going above and beyond to support families, but sadly, many students we support are falling even further behind. The resolute support of VIEW is needed now more than ever so I thank you all.

Despite these challenges, I am very excited about 2022, which will be The Smith Family's Centenary year. This is a wonderful opportunity to showcase the generations of support provided by The Smith Family to Australian children and families. From my perspective The Smith Family is one of Australia's 'National Treasures' and I don't take for granted the trust placed in us by the wider community and our supporters, including valued partners like VIEW.

I'm looking forward to celebrating the work of VIEW's 14,000+ dedicated members who have helped us to reach this milestone. We have a bright future together and I look forward to meeting you, in person, in the not-too-distant future!

Stay safe

**Doug Taylor**  
Chief Executive Officer

*Editorial note: See page 10 for more about Doug Taylor and The Smith Family's Chairman, Nicholas Moore.*



Join VIEW's online communities!

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



# News briefs

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

# 1,498

disadvantaged students  
at these levels:

School	1,173
Senior School	293
Tertiary	32

## Online Raffle

Although the 2021 VIEW National Convention was postponed, the National Convention Online Raffle went ahead and raised \$29,085 for The Smith Family. What an amazing result!

Thank you to all VIEW members, their friends and family who purchased tickets. Visit our website at [view.org.au](http://view.org.au) to see all the winners, including Carleen Marley (below) who won this beautiful quilt.



## New Convention dates: 9-11 September 2022

Reserve your spot now! The 2022 VIEW National Convention will take place in Adelaide from Friday 9 September through to Sunday 11 September. Full details, including how to register, are available at [view.org.au](http://view.org.au). We are all looking forward to getting together for this wonderful event!



## Toy & Book Appeal

The Smith Family's Toy & Book Appeal is your opportunity to help bring a smile to a disadvantaged child's face this Christmas. In light of the ongoing uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic, The Smith Family has made

the difficult decision to not proceed with the Toy & Book Appeal in its usual format. This year, The Smith Family will provide a digital gift voucher to every child who would ordinarily receive a gift pack. That way, these families can ensure their children can still participate in the joys of Christmas.

As a VIEW member, you can support the Toy & Book Appeal by making a donation, which will be used to purchase digital gift vouchers and continue this wonderful tradition of gift giving to our families at Christmas time.

## Thank you to the VIEW National Executive 2020-21!

On behalf of all members, we thank Anne-Louise O'Connor, Jo Gray and Beryl Pike for their resilience, leadership and continuous enthusiasm for VIEW and The Smith Family over the past

two years. It's been a challenging time, but VIEW is stronger and more connected as a result of their hardwork and commitment to ensuring a strong future. Thanks for all your hard work!





# A lasting legacy

## Victorian students to benefit from VIEW bequest

Mrs Roberts left a generous portion of her estate to her much loved VIEW Club with instructions for the money to be applied to a local Smith Family project.

After consultation with VIEW National Manager Maryanne Maher, The Smith Family leadership and a panel of senior VIEW leaders, it was agreed that the best use of the bequest would be to put it towards scholarships for Victorian students.

“We considered a number of ways to use the funds, and decided on scholarships ultimately providing five years of support – two years in senior school and three years at university or TAFE,” says Anne-Louise O’Connor, VIEW National President and member of the panel.

“We thought students who were sponsored in their senior years may be encouraged to continue onto further education if they knew they would have continued financial support.”

Students awarded the Mavis Roberts Strathmore VIEW Club Scholarship will receive financial assistance to help cover the cost of their education, as well as support from a Smith Family *Learning for Life* Coordinator.

The bequest came as a surprise to VIEW National Manager, Maryanne Maher, who

recalled another generous bequest from the same VIEW Club, more than 10 years ago.

“In 2010, when Mavis Roberts was President of Strathmore VIEW Club, the club received a bequest of \$80,000 from the estate of former member, Coral Kelsall. After consulting with The Smith Family, the club decided the bequest would be used to provide 10 Victorian Tertiary *Learning for Life* students with financial assistance and support to go to university or TAFE for three years,” Maryanne says.

“I believe that Mavis’ involvement in the distribution of Coral Kelsall’s bequest influenced her decision to leave this bequest,” Maryanne adds.

Leaving a bequest or part of your estate to VIEW Clubs as an education legacy is a very special way to continue your support of disadvantaged young Australians, VIEW Clubs and The Smith Family.

If you would like to discuss how you can leave a gift in your Will, please contact Jakki Travers National Manager, Gifts in Wills, The Smith Family at [jakki.travers@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:jakki.travers@thesmithfamily.com.au) or VIEW National Office at [view@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au) or 1800 805 366.

A \$50,000 bequest from a Strathmore VIEW Club (Victoria) member will be used to support several Victorian students to complete Years 11 and 12 and then pursue tertiary education for three years.

Strathmore VIEW Club closed in 2018, however one of its former presidents, Mavis Roberts had the foresight to see the club’s support for The Smith Family and disadvantaged students endure.

## Patron virtually visits with VIEW members

VIEW members in Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia were paid a virtual visit by VIEW Clubs Patron, Her Excellency Mrs Linda Hurley in September and October. Mrs Hurley was joined by her husband, the Governor General of Australia, His Excellency General the Honourable David Hurley AC DSC (Ret’d), who became The Smith Family’s inaugural

Patron in May this year.

The pair have been virtually visiting communities and meeting with organisations across Australia over Zoom while under stay-at-home orders.

The meetings were a good opportunity for Their Excellencies to learn more about VIEW and The Smith Family. Some of the topics discussed included

VIEW’s history, membership and the fundraising activities in which members participate. The VIEW members also shared stories about their involvement with The Smith Family, including volunteering as tutors at Learning Clubs, assisting with the *Student2Student* reading program and helping with the Christmas Toy & Book Appeal.

Mrs Hurley thanked the members for all their efforts and finished each of the meetings by singing a song she had written especially for VIEW!

In August, following the postponement of the VIEW National Convention – where she was scheduled to deliver an





## A new VIEW Club in Tonsley

Overcoming the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, Tonsley VIEW Club (SA) was inaugurated at a colourful luncheon on 7 October. It is VIEW's 19th South Australian club.

It was COVID-19 restrictions, in fact, that initially inspired the establishment of Tonsley VIEW Club. Four VIEW Clubs already exist in the area; three of which have memberships of around 100. However, social distancing rules were

making it difficult for these larger clubs to meet, and two were forced to change venue.

A smaller club was seen as a more desirable option for women wishing to join VIEW in a post-COVID world – so Tonsley VIEW Club was born. Located on a main arterial route and easily accessible from many surrounding suburbs, Tonsley was the obvious location for the new club. In the Tonsley Hotel, it also had a great venue for meetings.



To get the new club off the ground, the SA Development Team of Jan McFarlane and Jennie Lee recruited nine women from surrounding clubs to act as Helpers in the lead-up to Tonsley's inaugural luncheon. Forming a temporary committee, they spread the word about the new club and in March helped organise a successful Information Session Morning Tea. The event was attended by 58 women, 40 of whom were new to VIEW. From those encouraging beginnings, the club now boasts 50 members, a remarkable achievement for such a young club.

Inaugural President, Debra Sutton-Smith, says her vision for Tonsley VIEW has been shaped by the organisation's core values. "I would like to foster a caring and inclusive relationship within our club from the beginning. I want all our members to feel that they can contribute to the running of the club, and that their input is valued."

She also has bold ambitions for what the club can achieve. "I would like to see our membership increase to around 60 or 70 and to sponsor two or three students through our fundraising."

As well as working towards sponsoring students imminently, Debra hopes to foster a younger, next-generation VIEW Club through close links with nearby Tonsley Innovation Precinct. She is also aiming to attract a more inclusive membership, including women from multicultural and indigenous backgrounds.

Congratulations to the SA Development Team for establishing another new club and best of luck to Debra and the Tonsley VIEW Club committee!

address – Mrs Hurley recorded a video message for VIEW members.

Watch the video by clicking this QR code.





# VIEW National Executive 2022-23

## Meet the new leadership team

In September, VIEW National Office was delighted to announce VIEW's new National Executive for 2022-23. Congratulations to Margaret Woodhouse National President, Evelyn Berg and Elizabeth Birch, National Vice Presidents.

With more than 40 years of service collectively to VIEW, this leadership team comes with experience, passion, creativity and skills that will be vital in driving our organisation forward. We warmly welcome them to their roles.



### Margaret (Marg) Woodhouse

is a founding member of Ocean Grove Evening VIEW Club (VIC), serving as Vice President, Secretary and Newsletter Editor at various times. Being part of

VIEW has taught her to think outside the box. "The roles of Zone and National Councillor have developed me in ways I could never have imagined. I look forward to learning more about VIEW and the relationship with The Smith Family."



### Evelyn Berg

joined Tumut VIEW Club (NSW) in 1995, and soon became Club President. In 2000, she joined Runaway Bay VIEW Club (QLD) after moving interstate. She held roles including Program Officer,

Secretary, President and Co-President before joining the National Council. "I have enjoyed raising funds for The Smith Family and *Learning for Life* students. I'm excited to bring my passion as well as zest for fun and friendship to the Executive."



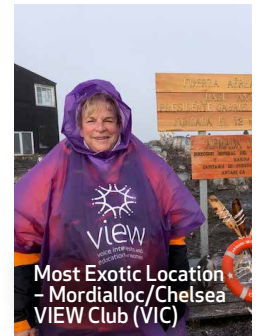
### Elizabeth Birch

joined Yamba Evening VIEW Club (NSW) in 2013, after retiring from nursing and moving to Yamba. She has been Program Officer, Delegate and Vice President. Elizabeth is passionate

about enabling VIEW to make a greater impact. "I was inspired to join because of VIEW being a major sponsor of Australian children in need through The Smith Family. I have made friends, enjoyed social outings, and fundraising activities."

## Purple Poncho Competition

Thank you to everyone who sent in a photo for our Paint the Town Purple photo competition featuring the VIEW purple poncho! We announced the winners in September. Congratulations to these clubs and members - check out all the entries on the VIEW website.





# 2021 VIEW resolutions

Although we had to postpone the 2021 VIEW National Convention, resolutions voting still took place, resulting in three new resolutions being carried. Resolutions are policy issues VIEW members agree to champion in their communities over the next two years.

The 2021 Resolutions, in order of preference, are:

- Social and affordable housing for women and children
- Reduce the use of plastic to assist our environment nationally
- Better support for students to prepare for their post school futures

Over the coming months, members of the VIEW Resolution Sub-Committee will send letters to Government Ministers, Non-Government

Organisations and relevant Statutory Authorities, calling for more action on these important issues. VIEW Clubs are encouraged to actively participate in contacting their local MPs and community organisations in support of these resolutions. For consistency in messaging, template letters for clubs and members to personalise are available from National Office by emailing: [view@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au)

## VIEW from Two: Anne and Janice

South Australian VIEW members, Anne Strangway and Janice Spraakman have known each other for more than 10 years. Their journey with VIEW has followed a similar path and for the past two years they have shared the National Councillor role for South Australia (SA).

### Anne:

Before I met Janice, I attended a fundraiser fashion parade where she was the MC. I was impressed with the way she carried this off in such a delightful way.

Soon after, I sat next to her at another function. We got on very well and found that we had a lot in common, and interestingly, we were both Funeral Celebrants.

Years later, in 2015, as Development Team Leader, I was instrumental in starting a new club in Prospect, SA. Janice was one of the members who helped me and this is where our friendship began. We both went on to be Zone Councillors together,



then shared the SA National Councillor role.

I consider Janice as Yin and me as Yang. We are opposites in some ways, but these opposites make up the whole, and we complement each other. When planning functions, for example, Janice is

the creative and artistic one who loves to attend to the décor, whereas I enjoy the administrative side of things and like to plan the program.

Janice is a great person to bounce things off. If I come up with an idea, I run it by her and mostly she agrees. Other times, she gives good insight into why she feels the idea won't work.

She is a very caring person who treats people with respect. We have had some

tricky situations over the years and Janice has the knack of dealing with people in the nicest possible way. She can also come up with a solution to any problem. She is both wise and witty with a delightful personality. I don't know anyone who doesn't like Janice!

### Janice:

I met Anne at a birthday lunch for Southern Vales VIEW Club (SA). We sat at the same table and shared various faces as the entertainers went on far too long and the President was having a huge challenge trying to get them to end. We were smiling with her not at her.

We became a duo at the start of our term as joint SA National Councillors 2020-21. We believed that sharing the role was beneficial to all. Anne lives on

the western side of town and I live on the south. Sharing the role means we cover nine clubs each.

Our nicknames are either "Abbot and Costello" or "Brains and Brawn"! Anne is better with the rules, regulations and finances, and I love all the planning creative side of events and liaising with members. This, along with our quirky sense of humour, all melds beautifully. We bounce off each other and when one of us is feeling less than inspired, the other is there to gee her up.

I'm really proud of how we pulled off a fantastic Gala event this year – despite COVID-19 disruptions. It finally happened on our third attempt! After the trials of COVID-19, we decided that the day would be all about fun and friendship. Everyone who attended certainly appreciated this.

Anne is definitely a quiet achiever but will always put her point forward if needed. I know that we will be special friends for life.

# New faces leading The Smith Family

There have been some leadership changes at The Smith Family. Doug Taylor joined as Chief Executive Officer in August 2021 and Nicholas Moore joined as Chairman of the Board in November 2019. Both were due to speak at the VIEW National Convention in September this year. With the event postponed, we asked them a few questions by email.



## DOUG TAYLOR, CEO, THE SMITH FAMILY

**Q: How important are community organisations such as VIEW in rural and regional Australia?**

**Doug:** VIEW Clubs are vitally important for every community. The purpose of bringing women together to build relationships and make a difference is so important and I'm committed to supporting VIEW to thrive.

I spent much of my childhood in country NSW and love living in a rural community. VIEW's work in rural and regional communities is particularly relevant today because we know that as the cost of living in our cities increases, many more people are needing to relocate. This means VIEW Clubs have a great opportunity to attract new members but also support many families with limited means.

**Q: As the first in your family to go to university, what influenced that decision?**

**Doug:** My parents encouraged me because they knew that it would open up new opportunities in life. They were not able to attend university themselves

and wanted to create more choices for myself and my two brothers. I was not the best student and took a while to settle into my tertiary studies. But I worked at it and in the end completed two bachelor's degrees and one with honours. I've gone on to complete post graduate studies and continue my

involvement with tertiary institutions. I suspect some of my teachers would be a little surprised, but hopefully it's a reminder that if you persevere and chip away at things, in time you will reach your goals.

**Q: Why do you believe it is so important to support education?**

**Doug:** Education is one of the most important 'levers' we have for building a

great society. A good education creates a stronger awareness of the needs of all people; opportunities for people to find meaning and purpose in life; a means for financial security; and is the

great leveller to ensure that people can find new pathways in life. For The Smith Family, education has become the means by which we ensure every child gets their best chance in life.

**Q: Considering the challenging times we are currently living in, what message do you offer VIEW members?**

**Doug:** I have been impressed by what I have heard about the resolve of VIEW Club members to stay connected with

each other and continue to support our young people and families. This is so important because we know that so many students have struggled with their education through COVID-19. As students start returning to school, we are conscious of their disrupted

education. We will be working hard to support them to catch up their learning. It's great to know that we will continue to have the support of VIEW members with this vitally important work.

**Q: How do you spend your time on the weekends?**

**Doug:** My spare time typically includes time with my wife and children. I have

two daughters; one in high school and one in university. I enjoy exercise, gardening and listening to and reading about all manner of issues.

Much of my time is also spent volunteering on various boards, including WorkVentures, The Australian Centre for Social Innovation and Warakirri College.





## NICHOLAS MOORE, CHAIRMAN, THE SMITH FAMILY

**Q: You have been Chairman of Opera House Trust and PCYC NSW. You are the current Chairman of Screen Australia and now The Smith Family. Based on this experience, how important is volunteering in building community?**

**Nicholas:** It's the best thing we can do. Giving in any form is noble, but nothing beats giving your own time to others.

Paying for professionals is of course very sensible, however, the knowledge, experience, and most importantly, the passion an individual can bring will make a contribution that is not only unique, but always very much appreciated by the beneficiary.

**How did your parents shape you and influence your education?**

**Nicholas:** My parents were great teachers through their own example, and they always emphasised the importance of formal education, themselves assisting the schools

through volunteering and fundraising. Although neither of them had attended university, they worked hard to ensure all their children were able to complete year 12 and continue on to complete tertiary education.

It is of course important to recognise that raising children and encouraging a

love of learning is hard work. Whilst we naturally learn to walk and talk, learning to read, learning maths and science, and all the other matters requires concentrated effort, and we should never underestimate the work involved in teaching children these skills.

**Q: As the CEO of Macquarie Group, one of the strategies you pursued was to develop infrastructure funds (long-term investments). Do you see education as a long-term investment? How important, then, is The Smith Family's role in supporting the education of disadvantaged children?**

**Nicholas:** One of the biggest impacts I had as a manager was helping employees look at the long-term and not be distracted by short-term challenges that always seemed to be present.

The long-term stories have largely been very positive. Infant mortality

**Nicholas:** The sustainability and success of any society is wholly dependent on the capability of its people, and in particular, their ability to work together. Thus, investing in our people is the most important long-term investment we can make.

Parents are our most important teachers; however, schools are an essential part in developing the skills we

need to be good and productive citizens. Schools are particularly important for children whose home life may be less available to provide the support necessary for them to flourish.

The Smith Family provides support to families to allow their children to participate fully in the educational opportunities provided by schools and other vocational pathways.

**Q: Considering the challenging times we are currently living in, what message do you offer VIEW members?**

**Nicholas:** One of the biggest impacts I had as a manager was helping employees look at the long-term and not be distracted by short-term challenges that always seemed to be present.

The long-term stories have largely been very positive. Infant mortality

has decreased and life expectancy has increased. The cost of almost everything tangible (except land) has gone down and our income as a society, and on average, has gone up.

Importantly, it is not just material prosperity that has increased but also a whole range of other measures. Many have argued convincingly that humankind is not only getting richer, but surprisingly, we are getting kinder as well.

Our world is far from perfect and much still needs to be done, but we seem to be heading in the right direction, and we should all be ambitious in playing our role to address disadvantage wherever it is found. For the team at The Smith Family, there's an absolute focus on working with the families we support to make the most of their education opportunities to create a bright future and we appreciate the support of VIEW in this mission.

# Around the clubs

## Cosy crocheted gifts!

Members from Adelaide Hills VIEW Club (SA) have been busy making beautiful crocheted rugs for their 10 *Learning for Life* students. The rugs were sent to the

students with personalised handwritten messages of support on delightful stationery. What a lovely gift to keep the students warm, cosy and motivated!



## Five Dock member drive

Just before Greater Sydney was locked down in late June, Five Dock Evening VIEW Club (NSW) had a successful time at a local community interest day event. The members handed out VIEW brochures, had lots of meaningful conversations and invited several interested women

to come along to the club's next meeting. Sadly though, COVID-19 restrictions have meant gathering for meetings is not allowed. Well done to the members for getting back out there! Perhaps they can book it in again early next year?

## Multiplying members

Tilligerry VIEW Club (NSW) has had 15 new members join in 2021 – all were introduced to VIEW by word of mouth! Tilligerry VIEW is in a small community in the Port Stephens area, so welcoming 15 new members (six of whom are pictured right) is a big achievement! It takes the club's membership to 54. Well done to the membership team.



## Zone Fiesta

More than 100 VIEW members from nine clubs on the Sunshine Coast (QLD) came together for a Zone Fiesta on Bribie Island. Guests heard from *Learning for Life* student Hannah, who spoke about her dream to become a nurse. Thanks to support from The Smith Family, Hannah has enrolled in a pre-nursing program at the Mater Hospital. Completion of this program will qualify her for entry into a Bachelor of Nursing at Queensland University of Technology, getting her one step closer to achieving her dream.





## Perth Clubs give warm welcome

The Presidents of seven VIEW clubs in Perth (WA), as well as Past Councillors, came together in July to warmly welcome the new Smith

Family General Manager for Western Australia, Anjie Brook and Regional Programs Manager, Julie-Ann Gray. The group got to know each other over a delicious lunch, with each president sharing information about their club. In return, Anjie and Julie-Ann shared insights into how they

came to work at The Smith Family and their prior experience. For everyone, it was a highly enjoyable – and beneficial - luncheon! For many years, VIEW Clubs in WA have enjoyed an excellent relationship with The Smith Family's local leadership team. It's exciting to see this continue.



## Meet and greet

Planning is well underway for a new VIEW Club in Bundaberg, Queensland and what a lovely group of women we have attracted so far! Two meetings have been held, with 14 women coming along to the first meeting. Attendees have included several existing VIEW

members who have relocated to Queensland and are looking to make new friendships. If you live around Bundaberg and are interested in finding out more about VIEW, contact Jean Jennings on [jeanjennings06@gmail.com](mailto:jeanjennings06@gmail.com) or 0425 253 064.



## Black Pepper VIEW scarf!

An amazing \$4,446 was raised from the sale of an exclusive 60+ VIEW scarf, designed by Black Pepper. The scarf was available in September, with 10% of each sale going to The Smith Family! Thank you Black Pepper!





# VIEW in action!

Photos of our National Convention Online Raffle winners and Purple Poncho competition entries.



Wonthaggi Evening VIEW Club (VIC)



Delisse Crawford - 17th prize



view Myall River VIEW Club (NSW)



Linda Cleaver - 26th prize



Heather Manners - 10th prize



Margaret Cameron - 1st prize



Bayswater City VIEW Club (WA)



Noela Gibson - 14th prize



Janice Bricknell - 7th prize



Valerie Leiner - 2nd prize



Tamworth Peel Evening VIEW Club (NSW)



Maryborough VIEW Club (QLD)



# VIEW Christmas SALE!

Take advantage of great discounts on VIEW merchandise until 15 December 2021!

VIEW merchandise - up to 50% off



Luggage tags **\$2.00 each**



Pack of 10 notecards **\$8.00**



Backpack **\$3.00**



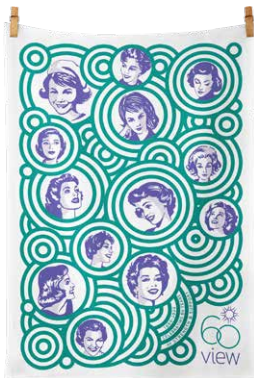
Shoehorn **\$2.50**



Nail file **\$2.50**

Not pictured: Hairbrush **\$3.50**, Keyring **\$5.00**, Lapel pin **\$2.50**

60th Anniversary items - 20% off



Tea towel **\$9.50**



Spectacle cleaner **\$4.00**



Pin **\$6.50**



Fan **\$4.00**

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

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

# Age 7 is too young to give up on learning.

*“I’ll never be good at anything.”*

Jai\*, age 7

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

Without the learning support they need, many fall so far behind, they feel like they’ll never catch up.

For over 60 years VIEW Club members have helped children like Jai catch up, keep up and thrive.

**Change the course of a child’s life this Christmas.**

**Please donate today.**



 **The Smith Family**

 **1800 024 069**

*everyone’s family*

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