



National Convention - Tamworth

National Executive 2018-19 announced

Zone Conferences - Learning and sharing skills

**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

## Contents

- 3 From the Executive
- 4 Message from The Smith Family CEO
- 5 News briefs
- 6 VIEW's National Convention – Tamworth
- 8 More from the National Convention
- 10 Community in Profile
- 11 Zone Conferences
- 12 Around the Clubs
- 14 Photos from VIEW National Convention in Tamworth
- 15 VIEW Gifts



everyone's family

VIEW is a national women's organisation with 16,000 members in 320 communities exclusively supporting the education charity The Smith Family. Members sponsor students, volunteer, fundraise and advocate to improve the life outcomes of disadvantaged Australian children and young people. As The Smith Family's largest community sponsor of *Learning for Life* students, VIEW supports the educational outcomes of more than 1,200 disadvantaged children and young people. Through its connection with The Smith Family, VIEW is proud to enable better futures for young Australians.

National President: Gwen Wilton

National Vice Presidents: Toni Thomas and Gloria Walter

National Councillors: ACT: Jan Roberts, NSW: Cecilia Bayliss, Jeanette Cassidy, Kathie Diskin, Elizabeth Doorey, Ellen Gray, Barbara Gullotta, Barbara Hyslop, Pat McRae, Yvonne White, QLD: Barbara Cameron, Lynette Masters, Annette Thiedeke, SA: Eila Harding, VIC: Patricia Brooks, Annette Schlafrig, Sunnie Watts.

National Manager: Maryanne Maher

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

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

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)

The contents of this magazine are subject to copyright. All expressions of opinion and advice are not necessarily the official views of VIEW Clubs of Australia or The Smith Family. All information is published in good faith. VIEW Clubs of Australia and The Smith Family accept no responsibility for any of the advice, opinions, representations or information contained in this publication.

ISSN 1444-3635  
The Smith Family  
ACN 000 030 179  
ABN 28 000 030 179

Front cover: Judith Reid (NSW), Rena O'Sullivan (WA), Kris Behets (WA) and delegates at the VIEW National Convention in Tamworth in September 2017.



# From the Executive

Gwen Wilton, Toni Thomas and Gloria Walter

As we head towards the end of our term as National Executive, Toni, Gloria and I would like to thank you all for your commitment and dedication to VIEW and the friendship extended to us during these amazing two years.

Looking back on our time, there are a number of activities we are extremely proud to have been part of.

At the start of our term, we made the decision to visit all Sydney Metropolitan VIEW Clubs to meet and establish a closer connection with members. Every VIEW Club we visited was a little different but we were overwhelmed by the warm welcome we received each time. A unique VIEW quality. Thank you to everyone who hosted us.

We are delighted to have seen the inauguration of five new VIEW Clubs: Oaklands in South Australia (SA); Woollahra in New South Wales (NSW); Dingley Cheltenham and Bairnsdale in Victoria (VIC), and Capes VIEW in Western Australia (WA). We wish these clubs all the best and congratulate those of you who have taken on leadership roles. VIEW's continual growth is vitally important if we are to continue supporting The Smith Family and making a difference to disadvantaged young Australians.

We introduced the Making a Difference Awards, culminating with the Honour Roll Presentation at National Convention.



L-R: National Executive 2016-17: Gloria Walter, Gwen Wilton, and Toni Thomas

Toni, Gloria and I were thrilled with the response to this Award and equally impressed by the number of amazing women nominated by their clubs. During our visits, we were delighted to have had the opportunity to meet some of these worthy recipients, true women of VIEW.

We are pleased to have deepened VIEW's connection with The Smith Family's Retail stores. Donating good quality clothes or volunteering in stores is another way you, our members, can support The Smith Family and contribute to improving the educational outcomes of disadvantaged children.

We have been humbled and moved by the stories we have heard first hand from *Learning for Life* students at the many events and gatherings we have attended. In particular, for Toni and I, meeting the young Indigenous girls participating in the *Girls at the Centre* program in Wagga Wagga was a highlight, as was attending the *Learning for Life* Graduation Ceremony, an opportunity the three of us experienced.

There are so many other great memories we will each treasure. Thank you all for your support during our term and all the best to the incoming National Executive for the years ahead. Long may VIEW Clubs continue to make a difference to the futures of young Australians in need.

## VIEW for all

16,000 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!



# Message from The Smith Family CEO

Dr Lisa O'Brien

Thank you VIEW members for your commitment to child sponsorship. Your contributions towards supporting the education of children in need is very much valued by The Smith Family.



In June, I wrote to congratulate you on reaching the significant milestone of sponsoring 1,200 *Learning for Life* students. At the VIEW National Convention in September, I was not surprised to learn that this number is continuing to rise. Seeing VIEW's 1,215 sponsored students represented on colourful sticks waving at me while I delivered my speech there, is something I'll always remember.

Sponsoring so many students is an achievement you should all be proud of. At The Smith Family, we know that sponsorship is a very important enabler of better life outcomes for young Australians in need. Our own research tells us that supporting a disadvantaged student to participate fully in their education helps them to stay engaged in their learning and complete Year 12. With a strong education under their belts they can go on to a job or further studies that can improve their chances of breaking the cycle of disadvantage.

With 1.1 million young Australians living in poverty, your support for the *Learning for Life* program is vital. The Smith Family could not reach the number of students and families we support without VIEW's 16,000 members rallying behind us.

I was delighted to attend the National Convention in Tamworth recently. In my address I expressed The Smith Family's gratitude for everything VIEW does – from your volunteering

and fundraising efforts through to sponsoring students and using your collective voice to promote our work in communities where we do not yet have a presence. Because of your commitment, thousands of young Australians are benefiting from our deep and enduring partnership.

During my speech, I also spoke about The Smith Family's new five-year strategy and our ambition to reach even more disadvantaged children and young people with our programs. With VIEW by our side, I am sure we can help more young Australians to break the cycle of disadvantage and thrive. So, as I did in my Convention address, I ask you please for your ongoing help. Please continue with your volunteering, fundraising, sponsorship and advocacy efforts. The Smith Family needs you and disadvantaged young Australians need you.

Thank you again for all your contributions and support. I wish you all a safe and relaxing festive season and look forward to meeting many more of you in 2018.



Join Facebook

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

## News briefs

### VIEW's impact

*Learning for Life*  
sponsorships  
supported by VIEW

*As at October 2017*

# 1,215

disadvantaged students at  
these levels:

**927** Primary  
school

**268** Secondary  
school

**20** Tertiary  
/TAFE

### VIEW shoes get second home

VIEW members enthusiastically participated in The Smith Family's 'Share my shoes' campaign, collecting good quality shoes to donate to the organisation's Recycling Operation.

During the campaign, a mammoth 16,500 pairs of shoes were donated by VIEW and the general public. Thank you to VIEW members who helped with this campaign.



### Christmas wrapping

Don't forget to join in the VIEW tradition of providing gift wrapping services in shopping centres to raise funds for The Smith Family's learning and support programs for disadvantaged students. Gift wrapping stalls are a popular way for VIEW Clubs to raise funds, while also promoting the work of VIEW and The Smith Family in local communities. If your club plans to run a stall this festive season, please keep National Office informed about the funds you raise.

### Toy & Book Appeal

VIEW members are also encouraged to get involved in The Smith Family's Toy & Book Appeal, which provides new toys and books to children in need at Christmas time. Donations to the Appeal are used to purchase toys and books which are hand delivered to disadvantaged families before Christmas. To find out how your club can contribute, please call 1800 805 366 or email [view@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au).



### Fabulous Fountain Photos online!

A big thank you to everyone who participated in our Fabulous Fountain Photo competition. All entries and winners can be viewed on the VIEW Clubs Facebook page.

### People's Choice Credit Union Lottery

VIEW raised over \$16,000 in the 2017 People's Choice Credit Union community lottery! Well done and thank you to all VIEW members who sold tickets. This money is donated to The Smith Family's reading program, *student2student*, which helps students who are behind in their reading. This year, members in South Australia including Anne Strangway and Heather Pritchard (pictured), were lucky to secure stands at Castle Plaza and Colonnades Shopping Centres. Five of the winning tickets were sold by VIEW.



# VIEW's National Convention – Tamworth

The VIEW National Convention returned to Tamworth from 15–17 September. More than 500 VIEW members from New South Wales, Victoria, Western Australia, South Australia and Queensland enjoyed speeches, debates, a pop-up Smith Family Retail store and social events, all in the spirit of fun, learning and giving back.

## Day One

The National Convention kicked off with a Welcome to Country from local Elder Yvonne Kent on behalf of the Kamilaroi/Gomeri Tribe. This was followed by a special rendition of the National Anthem, accompanied on guitar by Kevin Anderson MP, NSW Member for Tamworth. Guests were then welcomed to the New England region by The Hon. Barnaby Joyce, former Deputy Prime Minister and Member for New England, who recited Dorothea Mackellar's, *My Country*. The Hon. Tanya Davies, NSW Minister for Mental Health, Women, and Ageing officially opened the Convention, talking about her own experiences of growing up in disadvantage and receiving help for her education from a local couple.

Dr Lisa O'Brien, CEO of The Smith Family delivered her address, congratulating VIEW members on their commitment to child sponsorship. She was delighted to see VIEW's 1,215 *Learning for Life* students represented by colourful figures on sticks waving at her from the audience. At the end of her address, Dr O'Brien had the pleasure of introducing *Learning for Life* student, Ryan, to share his experiences of being supported by The Smith Family. See the break out box on page 9 for more about Ryan's story.

In her National President's Address, Gwen Wilton spoke about the Executive's theme – *Many voices, one VIEW, making a difference* – and how VIEW Clubs nationwide are making a significant contribution to the community. She talked about the many achievements and activities of the past two years, including the opening of new clubs, initiatives such as the Speakers' Bureau and the growing relationship with The Smith Family's Recycling Operation, all of which are vital for the future sustainability and growth of VIEW. Gwen concluded her speech with a lively



Attendees waving their coloured figures on sticks representing *Learning for Life* students

presentation recognising the 77 'unstoppable and invincible' women of VIEW who were recipients of the *Making a Difference* Award.

In the afternoon, guests enjoyed hearing from a panel of inspiring women who each shared their personal stories. The panel was chaired by ABC journalist Jennifer Ingall and featured singer and actress Natacha Curnow, voluntary euthanasia advocate and spokesperson for Dying with Dignity NSW, Shayne Higson, author Meg Keneally, and Tamworth local campaigner for medicinal cannabis, Lucy Haslam.



The Smith Family Board Chairman, Christine Bartlett with The Hon. Anna Bligh AC.



The Writers' Festival Panel members – Jane Hutcheon, Dr Anne Summers AO, Meredith Jaffe and Chris Taylor.

## Day Two

The Convention's second day opened with an address from The Smith Family's Chair of the Board, Christine Bartlett, who reflected on her own life and also her experiences as a Smith Family Board Member. She also spoke of VIEW's significant contribution to the sustainability of The Smith Family and of the Board's appreciation of this.

The Hon. Anna Bligh AC delivered the George Forbes Oration, speaking about her career, the importance of women in leadership and why organisations like VIEW need to ensure they remain relevant in today's society and not be weighed down too much by history or tradition. She complimented VIEW on being able to 'move with the times' and continue to make a difference.

After lunch, guests were treated to a fun and entertaining Writer's Festival session facilitated by Dr Anne Summers AO. The authors who joined the panel this year were Jane Hutcheon from the ABC's *One Plus One* and author of *China Baby Love*, together with Meredith Jaffe, author of *The Making of Christina*, and Chris Taylor, author of Australian romantic suspense thrillers including *The Sydney Legal* series.



Back: Lucy Haslam, Meg Keneally and Shayne Higson  
Front: Natacha Curnow and Jennifer Ingall.

### Save the Date

The next VIEW National Convention will be held on the Sunshine Coast (Twin Waters) in Queensland from 13-15 September 2019.  
Registrations will open in November 2018.

## Resolutions

VIEW resolutions offer members the chance to use their collective voice to speak out on issues of national importance. The following resolutions were debated and voted for unanimously during Convention. They are the topics VIEW members will lobby and advocate for in the coming years.

### Resolution One

VIEW Clubs of Australia call on State and Federal Governments to legislate regulatory systems which ensure patient access to cannabis and cannabis-related drugs to ease their suffering.

### Resolution Two

VIEW Clubs of Australia urge all State, Territory, and Federal governments to implement the five-point plan "Safety First in Family Law" to fix Australia's family law system as outlined by Rosie Batty on 15th June 2016 to the National Press Club as part of the Justice for Kids Campaign.

### Resolution Three

VIEW Clubs of Australia call on State and Federal Governments to regulate gambling advertising on television to ensure gambling advertisements are not shown during family viewing times.

### Resolution Four

VIEW Clubs of Australia call on Australian governments at all levels to address the disparity in educational outcomes for students with a disability and continue to support and resource these students to maximise their educational potential and transition to meaningful post school pathways such as tertiary education and/or employment.



# More from National Convention

## Kicking their heels up

### Convention's social events

The opportunity to have fun with like-minded women who want to give back to their community is one of the reasons many women join VIEW. For attendees at Convention, the fun social events are always a highlight. This year two social dinners were held on Friday night: *A Little Bit Country* and *The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*. Both dinners were full of colour, sparkle and energy and featured great entertainment which encouraged the guests to dance and sing the night away.

The spectacular City of Lights Gala Dinner on Saturday night saw all the guests descend on the Tamworth Regional Entertainment and Conference Centre for an evening of *Music through the Decades*. The event featured a fabulous line-up of talented vocalists and dancers supported by a nine-piece orchestra. On Sunday morning, the finale to Convention, the Grand Celebration, was held at the beautiful War Memorial Town Hall. This featured performances by Tamworth South Public School Choir and the Tamworth & District Highland Society Pipe Band, who also piped everyone from the Town Hall.

See page 14 for photos of all the colour and fun at the social events.



A spectacular gala dinner was held on Saturday night.



Tamworth & District Highland Society Pipe Band at the Grand Celebration.

## Congratulations to the Award winners

Convention is an opportunity for VIEW Clubs to recognise members who have gone above and beyond for the organisation. Our congratulations go to the following wonderful women of VIEW:

Zone Councillor Marlene Powell from South Australia – winner of the National President's Award for Excellence for her significant impact in advancing VIEW and its members during the past two years.

Past National President Lorraine Montgomery from New South Wales – winner of the George Forbes Award for her contributions to the advancement of VIEW nationally.

Look out for more information about these two women in the next edition of VIEW Matters.





Learning for Life student, Ryan with The Smith Family CEO, Dr Lisa O'Brien.

## Ryan, Learning for Life student

One of the special moments at National Convention is the opportunity to hear from a *Learning for Life* student. This year, tertiary student Ryan shared his experiences of being part of The Smith Family's sponsorship program.

"I started kindergarten and *Learning for Life* scholarship around the same time. The money allowed me to fit in with my peers as I had a proper uniform as well as books, pens and pencils. Even though I only knew their first names, my *Learning for Life* sponsors are a very significant part of helping me to obtain an education. I remember exchanging letters with them. We became quite close as the years passed. They remembered me each birthday and Christmas and I remember thinking that they cared. This helped a lot as they were able to reach out and support me through their letters.

I'm very grateful that my family has received *Learning for Life* scholarships. Without the extra money that the scholarship provides, I doubt any of us would have been able to attend further education. I plan to sponsor a child through the program once I'm earning a wage. Having a stranger who is willing to help you with educational expenses is a valuable motivator towards gaining an education. Every child, rich or poor, deserves the right to have a decent education."

## Introducing the VIEW National Executive 2018-19

VIEW National Executive 2018-19, was announced at Convention. Congratulations to Jan Roberts, who will be National President and Patricia (Pat) McRae and Annette Schlafrig, elected National Vice Presidents. The trio commence their roles in January 2018.

Jan Roberts has been a member of VIEW since 1986, joining Penrith VIEW Day Club (NSW) when her mother was Club President. Over the years, Jan has held various club and councillor roles, including Club President for Woden VIEW Club (ACT), Zone Councillor for AA01 and National Councillor for Canberra and Surrounding Area (AA). Pat McRae joined Bega Evening VIEW Club (NSW) in 2005 and enjoys the learning, friendship and fun VIEW brings. She has been a Zone Councillor for NG03 and National Councillor for NSW South Coast Berry to Eden (NG). Annette Schlafrig joined Mulgrave VIEW Club (VIC) in 2008 and Boronia Day VIEW (VIC) in 2016. She has held positions including Club Secretary, Assistant Secretary, President, VA02 Zone Councillor and National Councillor for Central & Eastern Metropolitan Melbourne (VA).

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



# Community in profile

Spotlight on Area NG: NSW South Coast from Berry to Eden

## VIEW in Area NG

As at October 2017

943

members

21 VIEW Clubs

57 Learning for Life students sponsored



The high tea's edible teacups and saucers were a hit!

## Mollymook

Mollymook VIEW Club celebrated its 7th successful Jazz High Tea in mid June at the Dunn Lewis Centre in Ulladulla. Guests danced in colourful 1930's costumes to the lively jazz music of the Pigeon House Jazz Band, thoroughly enjoying the theme, *High Tea at the Ritz*.

The event, which attracted 144 guests, is Mollymook VIEW's major annual fundraiser. Funds raised go towards supporting the club's four *Learning for Life* students. Guests attending represented VIEW, Hospital Auxiliary, Probus, U3A, various church groups, Men's Shed, Red Cross, Lions and Rotary.

At this year's event, great attention to detail was given to the table decorations and dressing the wait staff accordingly. Cakes decorated as teapots and tea cups were a highlight on the tables, as were the bone china cups, saucers and teapots used to serve the afternoon tea.

Prizes were awarded for the best dressed male and female, with Club President, Margo Lester, making the presentations to Mollymook VIEW member Jocelyn Lavering and guest, Keith Davis. The prizes of a magnum of champagne were generously donated by Mollymook Fines Wines.



Guests dressed in 1930's costumes



Best dressed competition winners: Jocelyn Lavering and Keith Davis.



President Glen Pisanos (left) and National Councillor Pat McRae (back) with new club members.

## Narooma

What better birthday present can a VIEW club ask for than new members? Members of Narooma VIEW Club (NSW) can't think of anything else! The club was delighted to celebrate their 39th birthday in June with 11 newcomers who had joined over the previous three months.

Narooma President, Glen Pisanos, and her dedicated committee have focused on ensuring that each member always feels welcome and is very much a valued part of her club.

Glen says the committee has also worked hard to raise the profile of VIEW in the Narooma community.

Being 'out there' has included: hosting a promotional stall at the National Busking Competition; providing a second-hand book stall weekly during the Christmas and New Year period and afterwards, monthly in a busy local caravan park; involvement in the local Cancer Council volunteer driving service and Relay for Life; knitting rugs for Moruya Hospital Rehabilitation Ward; hosting a Spring time *Walk with VIEW*; and attending Quota Club Trivia Nights. Many of these activities help to raise funds that go towards supporting two Smith Family *Learning for Life* students. The club's extra social activities include breakfasts, lunches, and going to movies together.



# Zone Conferences

## Every VIEW Club has something to share

VIEW Zone Conferences give members from different VIEW Clubs the chance to come together to learn and share skills. During 2017, Zone Conferences have been held across the country to upskill members in different aspects of running clubs, growing membership, managing donations and organising fundraising activities.

In May this year, VIEW members from the South Coast of NSW came together for the NG01 Zone Conference which focused on '*Caring and Sharing*'. The event featured a speech from local *Learning for Life* mother, Deborah, who shared her experiences of being supported by The Smith Family and her Smith Family Partnerships Coordinator, Ann Green, who also attended. The special tips shared by representatives from each club were another highlight of the event. Read some of the tips below.

Shona Gibson, Delegate from Berry Evening VIEW Club talked about the progress of women and shared tips on how VIEW women can use their 'voice'.

Anne Dickens, President from Culburra Beach VIEW Club shared her club's secret to maintaining and supporting its large membership of 100 women. Top priorities for the club's committee include promoting inclusiveness, giving visitors a warm welcome and ensuring the welfare of all, and in particular, its ageing members.

Kangaroo Valley VIEW Club is located in a small community but has very special appeal to its members. Janelle Brangwin, President said the committee works hard to ensure the club is welcoming and hospitable while providing a variety of social activities for members to enjoy.



*Learning for Life* mother, Deborah, with *Learning for Life* Partnerships Coordinator Ann Green and Past National Vice President, Lyn Gerstenberg.



Carleen Maley, Joyce Smith and Sue Cotterill at the stationery centre setup at the NG03 Zone Conference earlier this year.

Nowra Day VIEW Club's Secretary Llois Shorten passed on tips to make the role of secretary more enjoyable, including encouraging other club secretaries to 'never try to do everything' and to have a 'pass around book' which contains information from National Office, invitations and details of coming events. Other useful ideas included using a template for meeting notes and emailing as much as possible.

Dot Winspear, Treasurer from Nowra Evening VIEW Club talked about using electronic cashbooks and the overwhelming advantages of choosing this method over a manual cashbook.

Carole Cassidy, Delegate from Shoalhaven Heads Evening VIEW Club focused her presentation on why being a club delegate is rewarding and fulfilling. Her reasons included gaining a better insight into the function of VIEW Clubs and learning more about the work of The Smith Family.

Deborah Hanlon, St Georges Basin VIEW Club's President shared her reasons for being very proud, nominating great faith in her committee and members as one of the main reasons she has found the role so enjoyable.

From Sussex Inlet Day VIEW Club, Christine Keeble, President, talked about how the club has successfully increased membership in recent years. Acting upon members' ideas and suggestions, building interactions with neighbouring clubs and being receptive to National Office initiatives have all helped to grow the club.

Representing Shoalhaven Heads Evening VIEW Club, Past National President Lorraine Montgomery spoke about the importance of good publicity and shared examples of eye-catching newspaper articles and bold messaging. Lorraine also encouraged greater use of club webpages and Facebook for profiling and sharing VIEW stories.

*What tips will you take back to your club?*

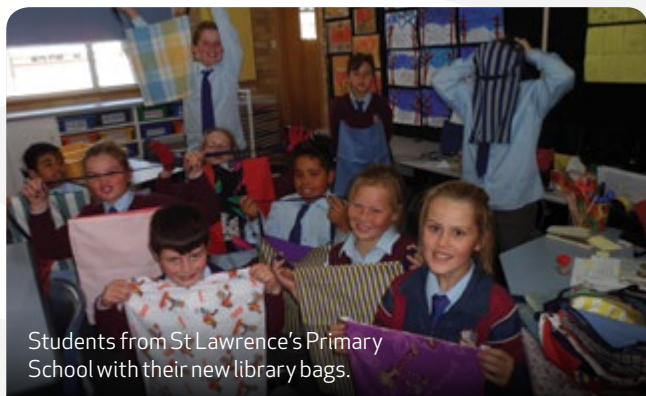
# Around the Clubs



Marlene Gordon, Zone Councillor (far left) and Gwen Wilton, National President (far right) with members of the Capes VIEW committee.

## New club in WA

Capes VIEW Club (WA) was officially inaugurated early in 2017. Situated in Dunsborough, close to Cape Naturaliste, the club first started attracting members in 2016. The club has already had a plethora of interesting speakers attend the monthly meetings to share entertaining stories. Members have also moved full steam ahead with fundraising initiatives, taking on a monthly Bunnings sausage sizzle and regular raffles at interest meetings to raise funds. The committee is aiming to start sponsoring two *Learning for Life* students in the near future. Prior to the establishment of Capes VIEW Club, many local people had no idea about VIEW or The Smith Family. The club's committee feels it is an honour to be able to help disadvantaged students while also providing fun activities and interesting speakers for members.



Students from St Lawrence's Primary School with their new library bags.

## Library bags donation

When their local primary school requested new library bags for students, members of the Coonabarabran Evening VIEW Club (NSW) jumped at the chance to get together one afternoon to sew 50 bright and colourful bags. The library bags were given to students from St Lawrence's Primary School in Coonabarabran, who were very excited to receive them.

## Members head back to class

Members from VIEW clubs in the Illawarra region in NSW gathered at Dapto High School recently to receive media training. The training showed members how to navigate the VIEW website and how to promote their club's activities. Dapto High school is a Smith Family partner school. The school's Principal, Andrew Fitzsimons greeted the VIEW members and gave a short talk about how Dapto High School and The Smith Family partner in the community to support disadvantaged students.

Food served at the training session was prepared by hospitality students at the school and VIEW members were asked to assess their performance. The training ended with a tour of the school and an invitation for members to return for future events.



VIEW members visiting Dapto High School for media training with hospitality students serving food.



## Helping at school

VIEW members from Tuggeranong Evening VIEW Club (ACT) enjoy helping in the Learning Support Unit at Namadgi School, Kambah. The VIEW members assist by reading with students and participating in arts and crafts activities. The students and teachers at Namadgi appreciate the assistance provided by the VIEW members.

Above: L-R: Robyn Copland, Namadgi School Deputy Principal; VIEW volunteers Annie Brown-Bryan, Christine Foot, Jan Westcott, Maureen Smith; and Faeza Samnakay, Namadgi School Learning Support Unit teacher.





Jennie Lee, Oaklands VIEW Club President with fellow VIEW members.

## Celebrating a great first year

Oaklands VIEW Club (SA) celebrated its first birthday in September. The club has already reached a membership of more than 90 enthusiastic members who enjoy participating in a book club, walking group and coffee mornings, as well as outings to exhibitions and other local attractions. A significant highlight on the club's first year was raising enough funds to sponsor their first *Learning for Life* student in June. Well done!

## Mick's Angels in Marion

When The Smith Family's Family Partnerships Coordinator from Port Augusta in South Australia, Mick Pengalse, asks for help from the local VIEW Club, our members always respond! Known affectionately as Mick's Angels, members from Marion VIEW Club (SA) recently donated an amazing array of pens, pencils, textas, exercise books and backpacks following a request from Mick for stationery to distribute to students in need. Three sisters were excited to receive their stationery. Their mother was very grateful for the gifts and support from VIEW and The Smith Family. "It takes a village to raise kids and I'm proud to say that Port Augusta families have the Marion VIEW Club - Mick's Angels - as part of that village," she said.



These sisters loved receiving stationery packs from Marion VIEW Club members.

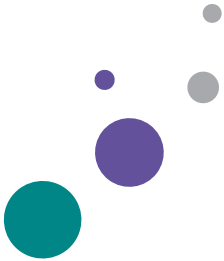
## Learning Club volunteering

Every week, members of Crookwell Evening VIEW Club (NSW) volunteer at a Smith Family after hours Learning Club at Crookwell Public School. The initiative was set up by Crookwell VIEW Club member, Lyn Green, who is also a part-time teacher at the school. With the support of the school's Principal Greg Atfield, a group of children now have the chance to work with adults and peers to practice and consolidate basic maths skills. The children also benefit from being able to work in an informal setting with friends, where competition can be fierce in some of the fun learning games.

Students from Crookwell Public School Learning Club, which is supported by VIEW members.







# VIEW National Convention in Tamworth

Photos from the social dinners







\$15 ea

VIEW Umbrellas with new Spots design



\$2.50

VIEW Lapel Pin



VIEW Backpack

\$5



\$12

VIEW Notecards includes envelopes



VIEW Shoehorn



\$7



\$8

New VIEW Pen design

VIEW Travel Hairbrush



\$7

VIEW Keyring



\$10



\$5

VIEW Nailfile



\$10



VIEW Travel Pack



\$12

VIEW Xmas Cards includes envelopes

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

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

[view@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au)



# JOYSPREADER Charity Gifts 2017

You can give something truly thoughtful this year that also helps change the life of a child in need – a Joyspreader Charity Gift.

The impact of each gift lasts long after Christmas day. It helps to fund a range of learning and mentoring programs that give disadvantaged Australian children the skills and opportunities they need to build better futures for themselves.

**Be a Joyspreader and help a child feel included this season, because it's only Christmas when we share it.**



## Ready to Read

Our *Let's Read* program encourages families and caregivers to share the joy of words, stories and books every day with young children.

**\$20**



## 1-2-3 Numeracy

Numeracy is a vital building block for learning. Our innovative *Let's Count* program helps parents, carers and educators develop numeracy skills in three to five year olds.

**\$25**



## Links to Learning

Having access to targeted learning resources helps disadvantaged children improve their confidence and begin to enjoy learning.

**\$35**



## Sharing Christmas Joy

Our *student2student* program provides reading support to primary and early secondary students.

**\$50**

**Be a Joyspreader this Christmas!**

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**



*everyone's family*