

“Making Connections Makes a Difference”

NP Marg, NVPs Elizabeth and Evelyn warmly welcome our first opportunity to communicate with you this year. 2023 is looking very exciting for us all and has begun with great gusto.

How wonderful to have achieved our milestone of 1,600+ students on the *Learning for Life* program sponsored by VIEW Clubs. You are amazing! Just imagine, if every club took on just one additional student this year...what a fabulous impact that would have!

Around the States:

(SA) VIEW held their annual “Up, Up and Away” function on 20 January. Members were updated on state and club achievements in 2022, and Graham Jaeschke General Manager SA outlined what the future holds for The Smith Family in South Australia.

(QLD) VIEW Queensland Leadership team met with The Smith Family Team Leaders on 3 February. VIEW received high praise from The Smith Family Teams for our work. It really is heart-warming to know how much The Smith Family appreciates what we do and the financial and volunteering support our members give them.

(ACT) The National Executive were delighted to travel to Canberra for the Yerrabi VIEW Club Inauguration on 16 February.

A fun *Meet and Greet* the following day held in Gungahlin, gave us the opportunity to meet other members who could not attend the Yerrabi inauguration. We enjoyed learning about the aspirations of the Canberra and surrounding clubs and their hospitality was exceptional.



VIEW Executive at Meet & Greet Gungahlin

(WA) Marg attended two IWD functions in WA, one held by West Coast VIEW Club and the other by First Wave VIEW Club.

In between she also found time for a meeting with Rockingham Sound Day VIEW Club, a *Meet and Greet* with members representing five of the seven

WA VIEW Clubs in Scarborough, and an informal chat with Emma Davidson, The Smith Family’s new General Manager WA. Members in the West are enthusiastic about what they do, and Marg was overwhelmed by their hospitality.



Rockingham Sound Day VIEW Members

(VIC) Evelyn visited Victoria for IWD functions at Ocean Grove Day and Drysdale VIEW Clubs. (Area VC—Nth/W Country Vic & Nth/W Metro) Both Marg and Evelyn attended Ballarat Evening’s 27th Birthday, with the fun cruising theme. There was also a trip to Pakenham which saw her, and Marg meet with delightful VIEW members from Area VB—Sth/E Metro Melb to the Mornington Peninsula and Gippsland. The trip was rounded out with a meeting of Mulgrave VIEW Club (Area VA—Central & East Metro Melb). On the 24 March Marg enjoyed the opportunity to welcome the 5th VIEW Club to the Bellarine Peninsula, Leopold VIEW Club is now official, with over 40 members.



Meet & Greet Victoria

Anton Leschen, The Smith Family's General Manager Victoria invited the VIEW Leadership team plus a number of members from clubs across the state to a Planning Workshop on 16 March. He spoke about what is happening in the state, National Manager VIEW Maryanne Maher and Marg spoke about VIEW in Victoria and other interesting facts.

Marg then travelled to meet the Bairnsdale VIEW Club members and attend the *Girls at the Centre* program at the Bairnsdale Secondary College and learnt of a new Girls Innovation Group activity. This was followed by a Committee dinner and a *Meet and Greet* on 23 March. What an amazing, dynamic group the Bairnsdale members are!

(NSW) Elizabeth spoke at the Harrington Evening VIEW Club's International Women's Day function with National Councillor Dianne Fiddes and keynote speaker Amy Beck, Group Captain Commander RAAF Base Williamstown. She was an engaging speaker and fascinating woman who stood up to gender bias in the armed forces.

(NATIONAL)

At the National Council meeting on the 13-14 February National Councillors had the opportunity to hear from consultant, Heather Barton. Heather was engaged by VIEW to conduct the VIEW Governance review. She held numerous conversations about VIEW and conducted a VIEW survey of members. Councillors voted and agreed on five recommendations to take effect immediately and two to be reviewed during the year. Please go to view.org.au for details.



A Guiding Vision for 2023: A great vision for this year was presented to the members of Ocean Grove Evening VIEW Club by their new President, Lea Preece which we want to share with you all. Lea has suggested the following 3 P's be the guide for the action of members in 2023.

PRIDE... in our club and in what we do to assist children living with disadvantage and the support we give to The Smith Family.

PARTICIPATION... in the meetings, interest group activities and social outings, attending other club functions to celebrate and have fun.

PERFORMANCE... How do we perform as individuals in our club? Do we offer support at meetings and fundraising events? How does our club support national VIEW objectives and The Smith Family?

Clubs in the Pipeline:

Whittlesea (VIC) is developing nicely with women invited to the second interest meeting.

Campbelltown (SA) will be hosting an interest group meeting soon.

Two more potential clubs in the near future. How wonderful! Spread the word!

Fundraising: A few fundraising ideas you might like to try...

- Members bring along a grocery item to be sold for \$2.00 or nominated price.
- Members bring along pamper items and these are put together in hampers to be auctioned off later in the year at a Pamper Auction luncheon.
- Individually boxed chicken sandwiches with champagne as a Chicken and Champagne lunch.

Guest speakers: Have you thought of inviting a journalist, photographer or the Editor of your local newspaper?

The local MP makes a great advocate for VIEW and The Smith Family. The local Councillor can also tell you all about Community grants to apply for.

Your VIEW Website: Now that AGM's are over it is important that Club information on the VIEW Website is updated. Include the name of the person who is currently holding that position and a generic email address. Photos add colour and vibrancy as does listing your upcoming speakers, events and outings.

Wishing you all a very successful and happy year.

An advertisement for the VIEW National Convention in Hobart. The top left features the text 'Experience HOBART with us...' in white on a blue background. Below this is a photograph of a harbor scene with buildings and boats. To the right of the photo, the dates '8-10 September 2023' are listed. Further right, it says 'VIEW National Convention comes to Hobart for the first time ever!' in red. Below that, it lists 'Excellent Speakers, fun Social Events and Gala Dinner...' and 'Registration open...'. At the bottom right, it says 'You certainly don't want to miss VIEW's first convention in Tasmania!'

Don't forget to book for National Convention in Hobart 8-10 September.

Hobart is proving a very popular destination for our members and we look forward to you joining us...

VIEW National Executive,
Marg, Evelyn and Elizabeth