

Viewmatters



VIEW Clubs of Australia

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

- Supportive and caring
- Locally focused while nationally active

- Inclusive and welcoming
- Diverse and respecting

- 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 over 18,000 women of VIEW to the provision of educational outcomes for Australia's disadvantaged children and families

National President: Lorraine Montgomery National Vice Presidents: Christine Newell, Dawn Byrne, Velda Atkinson National Councillors: ACT: Margaret Gooch. NSW: Robin Bosch, Vivienne Brown, Valmai Burnard (Deceased), Madge Doust, Sue Field, Lyn Gerstenberg, June Greentree, Joy Gregor, Cynthia Guyenette, Franci Morsink, Glenda Noble, Ros Sleeman, OLD: Jean Clarke, Ann. McKenna. SA: Erica Kakoschke. VIC: Kath Chapman, Trish Murphy, Robin Perros.

National Manager: Maryanne Maher

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The Smith Family believes that every child deserves a chance and that circumstances should never limit the achievement of potential. With research showing that education has the power to transform lives, not just minds, the national charity's *Learning for Life* program enables disadvantaged children and young people to get the opportunities they need to fully participate in their education and create better futures for themselves. For more information please visit thesmithfamily.com.au

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Front cover: 'Women of Inspiration' panelists: Bern Young, ABC Gold Coast's breakfast presenter; Amanda Gordon, clinical psychologist; Mandy Nolan, comedian and author; Lisa Newman, wife of the Queensland Premier; Dr Stephanie Dowrick, author and social commentator

From the Executive

National Vice President Dawn Byrne

'If you want something done, ask a busy woman.' So the saying goes when seeking a volunteer, and it is only too true when describing a VIEW Club member.

VIEW volunteering takes on many forms. It can be as simple as reading with a child through The Smith Family's Learning Clubs, which can be a very rewarding experience. Teachers appreciate the time our members volunteer each week, students benefit from the support and guidance they receive, and volunteers get great satisfaction from seeing students' reading improve.

One upcoming opportunity which many of you already participate in is Christmas wrapping in your local shopping centre. This activity not only provides a service for stressed Christmas shoppers, but offers great opportunities to raise awareness about VIEW and raise funds for The Smith Family.

Learning for Life students sponsored by VIEW

VIEW currently supports

1032

disadvantaged students at these levels:

Primary school

924

Secondary school

93

Tertiary



Members of the National Executive from left: Velda Atkinson; Christine Newell; Lorraine Montgomery (National President); Dawn Byrne

However, we often forget about volunteering in our own organisation. I would like to thank all of those members who have taken on leadership roles in VIEW – including Past Senior Office Bearers, National and Zone Councillors and Committee members.

The future of our organisation relies on our members being prepared to step up to these roles. Thank you to those who have already committed and I encourage those of you who have not to consider giving it a go! I know you will enjoy the challenge.

My two year term on the Executive is coming to an end. It has been

overwhelmingly rewarding, with a strong sense of achievement that, together with my fellow Executive and National Council members, we have strengthened the organisation's commitment to helping disadvantaged Australian children reach their potential through education.

As we hand over to the incoming Executive 2014-15 – Sue Field, Lyn Gerstenberg, June Greentree and Robin Perros – we feel confident they will continue to advance the organisation.



More than 18,000 women of VIEW Clubs 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
- 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 We look forward to hearing from you soon!

Message from The Smith Family CEO



Dr Lisa O' Brien addressing delegates at National VIEW Convention 2013

Dr Lisa O'Brien

My third VIEW National Convention offered a wonderful opportunity to meet a number of familiar faces and hear from notable Australian women. To engage such high calibre speakers reflects well on the profile of your organisation.

In my speech I referred to the Sport, culture and the internet: Are Australian children participating? research which showed that around half of all children living in Australia's most disadvantaged communities are not participating in sport and cultural activities outside of school hours.

I was delighted to see that one of your resolutions this year was Improving the educational outcomes of Australian children and young people through more equitable engagement in extracurricular activities. I commend you for drawing debate to this important issue - we know these opportunities are critical for children's overall education and development.

VIEW is unique in that it is the only national women's organisation solely focused on supporting and advocating for young disadvantaged Australians in need.

I would like to acknowledge the contributions of the outgoing Executive and National Council. Their dedicated leadership, volunteering and fundraising efforts have guided the organisation from strength to strength and has led VIEW past the milestone of sponsoring 1000 students. You can read more about the benefits of volunteering on page 11 and sponsoring on page 14.

This year your volunteering efforts tallied an impressive 50,000 hours nationally to help us deliver our

"I commend you for drawing debate to this important issue - we know these opportunities are critical for children's overall education and development."

learning support and mentoring programs. Thank you one and all.

I would also like to thank you for your fundraising and publicity efforts around our Winter Appeal which helped us reach our \$3.43 million target. I know that VIEW members will once again lend their support for our upcoming Christmas Appeal and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support.



Redcliffe Peninsula VIEW Club hosts its Back 2 School Day event

Back 2 School Day

This September, Back 2 School Day kicked off with school-themed events taking place in workplaces, schools, homes and clubs across the country.

More than 50 VIEW Clubs took part, holding book stalls,

showcasing school memorabilia, and hosting spelling bees, trivia and photo guessing competitions. A highlight was the Convention social dinner attended by 200 members with the theme 'Remember the days of the old school yard'.



News briefs



Celebrating service to community

Nyngan Evening VIEW Club member Judy Richards has been honoured with a Medal of the Order of Australia (OAM) for her services to Nyngan Jockey Club, where she has been Secretary since 1970. Judy was also recognised for her contribution to the Nyngan Evening VIEW Club, Agricultural Society, St Vincent de Paul and the Western Eisteddfod Society.



Toy & Book Appeal

It's that time of the year again when we encourage VIEW Clubs to support The Smith Family's Toy & Book Appeal. Last year VIEW members contributed more than \$55,000, allowing 1,100 children to enjoy something special under the Christmas tree. We hope we can rely on your support and generosity so that children can be included in the spirit of the season.

For more information about the Toy & Book Appeal, please call 1800 805 366 or email view@thesmithfamily.com.au

people's choice COMMUNITY LOTTERY

People's Choice Community Lottery

Congratulations to all South Australian, Victorian and ACT VIEW members who helped to sell 8000 People's Choice Community Lottery tickets raising \$16,000 for The Smith Family's peer to peer reading program, student2student. Well done to Anne Strangway of Adelaide West Club who won a \$100 Westfield gift voucher.

International Women's Day 2014

Due to last year's outstanding success we have again secured the Strangers Dining Room at NSW Parliament House for our International Women's Day luncheon on Thursday 6th March. Save the date! Invitations will be sent to NSW and ACT Clubs shortly.

We are currently investigating venues in South Australia, Victoria and Queensland and we would like to encourage members wanting to participate and assist to contact National Office at view@thesmithfamily.com.au or 1800 805 366 or your National Councillor.



Above, left: The Hon. Shelley Hancock, MP; Dr Lisa O'Brien; The Hon. Natasha Maclaren-Jones, MLC Above, right: Victorian International Women's Day celebrations: Margaret Hayes, Mordialloc/Chelsea VIEW Club; Ms Donna Bauer MLA

Vale NC Valmai Burnard

Sadly on 8th September National Councillor Valmai Burnard died suddenly. Valmai had been a member of VIEW for 26 years and was a valued member of Mudgee VIEW Club. Our thoughts are with her children Fiona, Louise and Mark, and her 12 grandchildren. Valmai will be remembered for her long-standing contribution to VIEW.

2013 VIEW National Convention



Convention opening – Left: Keebra Park State High School Choir. Centre: Luther Cora. Right: VIEW members enjoying the 'Women of Inspiration' panel

Close to 800 VIEW members from across Australia converged on the Gold Coast in mid-September for the 2013 VIEW National Convention. Jupiter's Hotel and Casino provided a vibrant and dynamic atmosphere for our superb line up of panellists, guest speakers and entertainers.

Day one of the 51st Convention opened with Luther Cora, a local Indigenous Yugambeh member, giving an awe-inspiring traditional welcome with his didgeridoo. This was followed by a vibrant performance from Keebra Park State High School students, who led the National Anthem.

Councillor Tracey Gilmore from the Gold Coast City Council welcomed VIEW members and friends, providing a brief history of the Gold Coast region before officially opening Convention.

National President Lorraine Montgomery reflected on her President's theme of 'Reaching out', highlighting the proudest memories of her two-year term which included reaching the 1000th *Learning for Life* student sponsorship, launching VIEW onto social media via Facebook and opening three new clubs in NSW, VIC and WA, with an additional club in SA to open before the year's end.

Chief Executive Officer of The Smith Family, Dr Lisa O'Brien, commended VIEW's ongoing support to The Smith Family's *Learning for Life* programs.

The 'Women of Inspiration' panel comprised Dr Stephanie Dowrick (author and social commentator), Amanda Gordon (clinical psychologist), Lisa Newman (wife of Queensland's Premier) and Mandy Nolan (comedian and author), and was moderated by Bern Young, an ABC Gold Coast journalist who had interviewed National President Lorraine Montgomery on her radio program the week before Convention. Speeches ranged over topics serious and amusing, taking the audience on a

rollercoaster ride that was as imaginative as it was informative.

Amanda Gordon discussed what inspires her to reach out to others and help them follow their own aspirations. Her parting message was that there were '86,400 seconds in a day which you never get back, so spend them wisely!'

Lisa Newman talked about what inspires her to be involved with community, and how she inspires others to become involved as well. She believes 'you can change the world, one person at a time'.

The audience were in fits of laughter from the moment Mandy Nolan started to speak on: 'The question isn't who's going to let me; it's who is going to stop me', a quote from American novelist, playwright and philosopher Ayn Rand.

Dr Stephanie Dowrick wrapped up the session by weaving all messages of the day together in a meaningful conclusion. She involved the audience in a reflective affirmation leaving us with the statement that we all 'need to learn to give gratitude for the unique gift of life'.

The largest VIEW Expo to date had 30 stall holders from the Queensland Coastline showcasing their local arts, crafts and specialty products.



Back row: National Vice President Velda Atkinson; Mandy Nolan (panellist); Bern Young (facilitator); Amanda Gordon (panellist); National Manager VIEW Maryanne Maher; Dr Stephanie Dowrick (panellist)

Front row: National President Lorraine Montgomery; National Vice President Dawn Byrne; The Smith Family CEO, Dr Lisa O'Brien; National Vice President Chris Newell

An inspirational address by the Governor of Oueensland

Two talented string quartets from Trinity Lutheran College welcomed VIEW members to day two.

The Chairman of The Smith Family, James M. Millar AM, spoke of our real heroes, the children we strive to help. James said that 'when hope is gone, imagination dies and that is unacceptable'. He explained that there are more than 600,000 Australian children living in households where no one has a job.

James thanked members of VIEW, who make it possible to directly help more than 100,000 of those children. He encouraged VIEW members to continue their good work with increased zeal.

Her Excellency Penelope Wensley AC, Governor of Queensland, gave a magnificent George Forbes Oration, informing the audience that she was no stranger to VIEW. She said: 'My mother was one of the first members of a VIEW Club anywhere – in St. Mary's in NSW.' And today women in her family in Queensland are active members.

She spoke of her own career as a diplomat, adroitly weaving in the adventures of *Alice in Wonderland* in the spirit of fun, and because at the end of Alice's remarkable journey she finds her 'voice' in a new way.



National President Lorraine Montgomery and Her Excellency, Penelope Wensley AC, Governor of Queensland

Upon receiving a standing ovation from the audience, Her Excellency commented to National President Lorraine Montgomery that she felt 'very much at home with the members of VIEW.' Lorraine said: 'It was truly a great honour and privilege to host the Governor of Queensland at 2013 National VIEW Convention.'

The afternoon session continued with an informative *Learning for Life* presentation by The Smith Family's Acting General Manager (Qld), Tania Kihl, *Learning for Life* student Courtney Cotter and her mother

Leonie. This was followed by the much anticipated results of the resolutions debate (see box) and the welcoming of new Executive for 2014–15.

Convention concluded with the announcement that the 2015 VIEW National Convention would be held in Wollongong, on the south coast of NSW. By the sounds of the excitement and comments from members, we can look forward to making it equally successful!

Resolutions

VIEW women use their VOICE to debate and vote on issues of national importance. This year VIEW members voted to pass all three resolutions put forward for:

- 1. low income superannuation
- 2. recognising the role of community organisations in supporting an equitable education for all Australian children
- 3. improving the educational outcomes of Australian children and young people through more equitable engagement in extracurricular activities.

Learning for Life student Courtney Cotter

Learning for Life tertiary student Courtney Cotter and her mother Leonie shared their personal story and highlighted the power of the Learning for Life program and its ability to transform the lives of children and young people.

In 2007, while in year 12, Courtney applied for sponsorship through The Smith Family and was successful with her application and commenced studies in Law and Business in 2008



Learning for Life student Courtney Cotter and her mother Leonie Cotter

Courtney completed her double degree in 2013 with thanks to the support she's received through the *Learning for Life* program. Leonie Cotter concluded by saying what a privilege it was to be invited to speak at the VIEW Convention and that she was keen to join a VIEW Club in the future.

Harmony on the coast

Glitz, glamour and spectacular entertainment marked Convention this year. The superb line up of school ensembles, harmonious acapella groups, theatrical performers and swing bands set the scene for a truly entertaining Convention.

Members took a trip down memory lane at the Friday night socials.

'Remember the Days of the Old Schoolyard' was packed with old schoolies including the Fonz, with a guest appearance from Elvis. Everyone enjoyed listening and dancing to the old rock 'n' roll favourites.

Others channelled the 1940's 'In the Mood' theme as members danced the night away with crooner Craig Martin and his big band embracing up-tempo swing rhythms.

It was a night of the arts indeed for the 2013 Gala Dinner. A 40 piece male acapella group, The Blenders, opened the evening with their harmonic voices and colourful sequined vests. They sang sentimental ballads from the sixties and seventies. Guests sipped champagne under the tiered chandelier and admired the decorative masks, the red roses on the black and white tables, and the candelabras on stage.

Actress Sandy Gore gave a wonderful and moving presentation about how as a shy, introverted girl, she was encouraged by a nun who supported her to fulfil her dreams. Sandy's career has spanned 40 successful years as an actress.

A world class performance of Andrew Lloyd Webber's masterpiece 'Phantom of the Opera' was performed by The Spotlight



Top: 'A Night of the Arts' Gala Dinner
Below from left: Macarthur Evening VIEW Club, Harmony in Paradise Choir



"Actress Sandy Gore gave a wonderful and moving presentation about how as a shy, introverted girl, she was encouraged by a nun who supported her to fulfil her dreams"

Theatrical Company – 'Music of the night' received a standing ovation.

The evening concluded with 50 lucky raffle winners being announced.

Six hundred VIEW members, partners and friends attended the Grand Celebration service at the Southport Sharks Events Centre. Celebrant Rosanne Sinclair gave a memorable address to our theme of 'Reaching Out', followed by a 30 member choir performing 'You raise me up'.
Convention concluded with a heartfelt farewell from NP Lorraine Montgomery as members said goodbye to new VIEW friends, in particular the first timers to Convention.

Change in the new National Executive



The outgoing National Executive, from left: National President Lorraine Montgomery; National Vice Presidents Chris Newell; Dawn Byrne; Velda Atkinson.

Members of the 2012-13 National Executive will end their term of office on 31st December, handing over the reins to a new Executive team. 'Thank you to the outgoing National Executive for their significant contribution over the last two years. Lorraine Montgomery as National President has steered the organisation through some challenging times, implementing sustainable cost savings initiatives, progressing and advancing the organisation,' said Maryanne Maher, National Manager, VIEW.

'A clear highlight during her term has been VIEW exceeding its goal of supporting more than 1000 students on the *Learning for Life* program, making VIEW the largest single community sponsor. Lorraine has been ably supported by National Vice Presidents Christine Newell, Dawn Byrne and Velda Atkinson and the National Council who have shown great commitment and constant devotion to hard work and the betterment of VIEW.'

National Executive

2014/15

National President (elect)
Robin Perros from
Waverley VIEW Club (Vic),
in her acceptance speech,
thanked the outgoing
Executive for their
leadership and guidance
and looked forward to
working with her Executive
team to continue to
progress the organisation
with a focus on promoting
VIEW and thereby
increasing membership.
The future looks bright.



From left: National Vice Presidents Sue Field, Lyn Gerstenberg, June Greentree; National President Robin Perros

The incoming National Vice Presidents are all from NSW: Sue Field from Figtree Evening VIEW Club, Lyn Gerstenberg from Nowra Evening VIEW Club and June Greentree from South West Rocks VIEW Club. They have all served as National Councillors this year, displaying strong leadership skills. They are active and longstanding VIEW members and have taken up many roles during their memberships.



Albatross Tours were honoured to be a major sponsor of the VIEW National Convention and look forward to hosting Shirley Smith from Harrington Evening VIEW Club the winner of our wonderful, European White Christmas tour in 2014.

For every VIEW member, partner, family member or even 'friends of VIEW' who travel on any of our unique European Summer tours, Albatross will donate \$150 to The Smith Family. In addition, if you book our tours through one of our key recommended travel agents, such as National Seniors Travel (1300 88 37 50), they will also give you a 5% tour discount.

Visit our website today www.albatrosstours.com.au/view or you can also contact us on info@albatrosstours.com.au or call 1300 135 015.

Come share our love of Europe!! Managing Director, Euan Landsborough



Community in profile

Spotlight on Brisbane, Gold Coast and Darling Downs Region



Above: Aspley VIEW Club members having fun at National Convention from left: Dorothy Caruana; Annette Draper; Margaret Wells; Sandra Rayfield (President); June Walker; Lyn Watson; Glenys Phillips

Left: Kenmore Evening VIEW Club members Jean Clarke; National Councillor QA, Coralie Ellis; Beverley Woodcroft and Linda McLean with students at the launch of the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program

Aspley is the biggest VIEW Club in Queensland with over 200 members.

Despite its size, Aspley has an atmosphere of fun, friendship and productivity, with an amazing trading table each month and regular fundraisers such as Bunnings barbecues, a fashion parade and an annual ball to support 25 *Learning for Life* students.

'I believe the reason for the members' success is their wonderful ability to make everyone feel welcome and they communicate well with their large membership. Their skits and entertainment, at birthdays and Christmas events, all provided by members, is legendary, says National Councillor Jean Clarke.

Kenmore Evening VIEW Club has a membership of over 80 and is the oldest club in Brisbane, celebrating its 23rd birthday this year.

'This Club is led by a committee who support each other and they foster fun and friendship through a range of

interest groups on books, walking, playing mah-jong and an annual weekend away for members,' says Jean.

Their fundraising efforts include a famous annual High Tea, Bunnings barbecues and a fashion parade all helping to raise funds for the Club's seven *Learning for Life* students, including a tertiary student.

Members of Kenmore Evening recently responded to a request from Carole Park State School for volunteer supervisors to support its Kitchen Garden Program, which had received funding from the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Foundation. In this program, Year 4 and 5 students garden, harvest and cook.

The initiative is part of a program being introduced in primary schools across the country that aims to educate students in the health benefits of fresh, seasonal food and how they can grow and prepare it.

"This Club is led by a committee who support each other and they foster fun and friendship through a range of interest groups"

'Kenmore Evening Club's commitment to education as part of The Smith Family and the skills and interests of members made for a good fit with the program,' Jean says.

'Both these clubs continue to proactively provide a range of voluntary assistance in their local communities and to The Smith Family, and as their National Councillor I feel very privileged to be involved with both clubs'.

Coffs Harbour promotes Winter Appeal



Members from six VIEW Clubs promoting The Smith Family's Winter Appeal – Bonville-Boambee; Coffs Harbour Day; Coffs City Evening; Korora; Woolgoolga Day and Woolgoolga Evening

Publicity Officers for the VIEW clubs in Coffs Harbour got behind The Smith Family's Winter Appeal this year by organising a media opportunity with members from other clubs nearby for the Coffs Coast Advocate newspaper. The clubs successfully pitched the

story idea to a local journalist and managed to arrange a photo opportunity within 24 hours, resulting in a great piece of media coverage promoting the Winter Appeal and the role of VIEW in supporting The Smith Family.

Many other clubs also got behind the Winter Appeal this year to help The Smith Family reach its \$3.43 million target with some wonderful fundraising and publicity opportunities. A tremendous effort!



Lyn Gerstenberg with a student

Lyn encourages members to help volunteer shortfall

National Councillor Lyn Gerstenberg enjoys volunteering at her Bomaderry Public School *Learning Club* so much that she wants other members to share this enjoyment by volunteering their local *Learning Club*.

Learning Clubs provide a safe and supportive environment for local school children to develop their learning potential and increase their confidence.

'You really do see children make improvements,' she said. 'You get so much satisfaction watching these kids grow in confidence and ability as they work through their school projects, and I really encourage other members to get involved. At one school I was delighted to see an eight-year-old boy's reading ability improve by 200 percent.'

Lyn started with Bomaderry Public School in June and has since volunteered at two other schools.

To find out about volunteer opportunities with The Smith Family in your area, call 1300 397 730.

Around the clubs

Reminiscing with centenarian



Picton VIEW Club Inaugural president and centenarian Anne Middleton with current members Fay Cavenagh; Doreen Tindall; Julie Bacon and Joanne Gray at Camden House Hostel

Picton VIEW Club's first ever president, centenarian Anne Middleton, received a special visit recently from current Club members. Anne fondly reminisced about the Club she helped start back in 1965, and the members relished the opportunity to learn about the Club's history.

Trivia tests brain and wits

Brain power, wit and bribery skills were all put to the test by Gunnedah Evening VIEW Club at a trivia night where healthy team rivalry and competiveness shone. With a dead heat for first place and a tie-breaker, a mix of old heads and youth proved the winning combination.



Gunnedah Evening VIEW Club winning team

Celebrating friendships and the Bayswater inauguration

Bayswater City VIEW Club Committee attended the Autumn River Festival, a free community event, to promote their new Club. The Club has been very active in making new friendships, with 25 members officially joining the Perth-based Club at the inauguration in July.



Bayswater City VIEW Club members at the Autumn River Festival

Elvis has left the building



VIEW members dress up for Elvis meets Christmas in July celebration

Sixty eight members and friends of Mudgee VIEW Club enjoyed lively musical entertainment, fancy dress and the opportunity to view a special collection of Elvis memorabilia as part of an 'Elvis meets Christmas in July' luncheon. In the spirit of Christmas, members donated cash and stationery to The Smith Family for students supported through the *Learning for Life* program.

Rainbow Day inspires students



Tuncurry Evening VIEW Club prepare lunch for students

For the 7th year Tuncurry Evening VIEW Club visited Great Lakes College Tuncurry Campus to talk with Year 7 female students as part of the school's annual Rainbow Day. Members gave students advice on a range of life skills, including how to develop positive self-esteem and healthy relationships, and provided a scrumptious lunch prepared by the Club. Mel Horne, Relieving Head Teacher Welfare at Great Lakes College said: 'The school is extremely appreciative of the VIEW Club's continued contribution to this important day. It is great to see our girls mixing with such wonderful and friendly women. Their promotion of the importance of community and selfless volunteering is invaluable for our girls to witness'.

Share our story

If you need any help promoting VIEW and The Smith Family in your local community, contact your National Councillor or Media Liaison for advice. National Office can also provide you with brochures and posters. Remember to share your copy of VIEW Matters with friends and local community groups. Why not leave copies at your local Council, Community Centre, medical practice etc?

If you're interested in joining VIEW, there are 353 clubs across Australia to choose from. Existing members are eager for you to join them! For details of clubs in your local area contact the VIEW National Office on 1800 805 366 or email view@thesmithfamily.com.au

Leave an education legacy

Your legacy can live on and make a lasting difference with a bequest to The Smith Family. When you include The Smith Family in your Will, you will be leaving the gift of a better future for disadvantaged Australian children in need.

For more information about making a bequest please visit: www.thesmithfamily.com.au/bequest or call Judy Tanna on (02) 9085 7150.

Vintage fashion parade

It was a fashion show with a difference as Dubbo VIEW Club members paraded recycled clothing and accessories from The Smith Family's Dubbo retail store. The concept of the fashion parade was to inspire members to support The Smith Family by purchasing clothes from the store and provide a few style tips along the way.



Fashion parade models from left: Helen Wheller; Ann Northey; May Mc Ardle; Toni Leggart Photo: Dubbo Mailbox Shopper

Sponsorship benefits all

Recently VIEW celebrated the milestone of sponsoring 1000 Learning for Life students through VIEW Clubs. In fact, our support is far greater, with many more students being sponsored by individual members and through friends and family of VIEW.

Learning for Life sponsorship supports students by providing financial support for education essentials and matches them with Learning for Life Workers who link them to learning opportunities in their community.

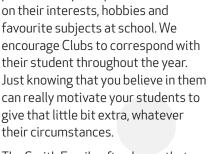


As sponsors, each year you receive a profile from your sponsored student on their interests, hobbies and favourite subjects at school. We encourage Clubs to correspond with their student throughout the year. Just knowing that you believe in them can really motivate your students to give that little bit extra, whatever

The Smith Family often hears that Clubs have written to their students. but have not heard back from them. Students really do appreciate hearing from sponsors but may not always send a reply; some feel embarrassed about their circumstances, others are quite shy, don't know how to respond appropriately, have a disability or are anxious not to reveal their inadequate literacy skills. Please don't take their inaction as a lack of appreciation of your support.









'My sponsorship of Natasha began in 2009 when she was seven years old. She lives with her parents and her brother and sister and beloved pets.

'It is a real thrill when I hear from her. She told me of the garden at school where they are growing vegetables and herbs, and I suggested she may use some in her cooking. When I heard she would like to be a chef, I encouraged her by posting her some simple recipes.

'I like to give her a small voucher each Christmas and birthday and she always responds, which I think is wonderful. I have numerous 'thank you' cards and can see the improvement in her handwriting each time!

'We should encourage our friends and families to sponsor a child through The Smith Family so they, too, can experience the rewards from giving a child in need the helping hand they need in life.'



National Councillor Franci Morsink reflects on sponsoring and corresponding with Learning for Life student Bella

'For over five years the National Council has supported Bella, a Learning for Life student.

'Now 11, Bella lives with her mother and sister. Her favourite subject at school is handwriting and she loves to collect stickers, so for her birthday and at Christmas we always enclose some stickers, with her card as well as a gift voucher.

'In the last student profile, she mentioned that when she grows up she would like to be a teacher and if she could change the world, she would spend time helping poor people.

'We are very proud of her and we let her know on every occasion. It's a great feeling to know that we are making a difference in her life'.



V Merchandise



Each box consists of 2 cards x 5 designs, packaged with envelopes.



Great for Gifts. Very limited numbers, 100% white cotton (50cm x 70cm).

VIEW Tea Towel \$10



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

2 designs, sold sperately or together, (microfibre, 16x16cm, sawtooth edge).



VIEW Pen \$8

Black barrel with silver engraved VIEW logo.



VIEW Apron \$22

Purple Drill w/-White logo (86cm l x 70cm w) Multi-use pocket.



VIEW Note Cards \$20

Each box consists of 2 cards x 5 designs, in A6 size, packaged with envelopes.



everyone's family

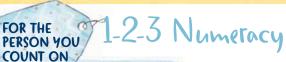
JOYSPREADER **Charity Gifts**

Gift ideas packed with thoughtfulness

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

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.

Opening opportunities for Aussie kids in need







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

\$65





For kids 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



This gift gives disadvantaged kids the opportunity to discover and put their creativity to use through a series of art workshops. Help Aussie kids in need see a brighter picture and increase their confidence.

Licence to Mentor



For a disadvantaged kid, 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 pair a student with a positive role model to help with future options.

\$85

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