

**VIEW (Voice, Interests and Education of Women) Clubs of Australia  
GPO Box 10500  
Sydney NSW 2001**

**National Minutes  
and  
Information from National Council**

**June 2017**

CONTENTS	
Summary of Decisions	2
Minutes of June meeting	3

## Summary of Decisions at National Council Meeting June 2017

Area of Work	Decision, Policy and/or Procedure	Agenda Reference
New Clubs formed and upcoming interest meetings	<p>New clubs - <b>Woollahra VIEW</b> (NSW), <b>Dingley Cheltenham VIEW</b> (Victoria) and <b>Capes VIEW</b> (WA).</p> <p>Interest meetings - <b>Bathurst and Mosman</b> (NSW), <b>Murrumbateman</b> (ACT), <b>Springfield</b> (QLD) and <b>Bairnsdale</b> (VIC).</p> <p>If members have friends or relatives in any of these areas, interested in learning more about VIEW they should contact National Office - <a href="mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au">view@thesmithfamily.com.au</a> - who will provide the relevant club contact details.</p>	3.1
Resolutions	Voting is underway in clubs for the four successful resolutions which were selected to go forward for debate at National Convention in September. All members are entitled to submit an individual vote. Clubs are asked to return their Tally Sheets (not the individual voting papers) only to National Office by 4.30 pm Friday 25 August 2017.	4.1
National Convention 2017 Tamworth -15-17 September	A Convention Registration form is available at <a href="http://www.view.org.au/nationalconvention">www.view.org.au/nationalconvention</a> . Registrations close soon, and members are encouraged not to miss out!!!	5.3
General Business	<p>National Office aims to keep VIEW Merchandise as fresh and up to date as possible; to this end National Office over the next six months will be introducing refreshed Gifts.</p> <p>Black pen to be replaced with Silver – same style and features printed VIEW logo in purple. Cost unchanged.</p> <p>VIEW Umbrellas - very popular, introducing new design with “spots”, available closer to Christmas. Cost unchanged.</p>	6.1
Annual Membership Subscription	Annual Membership Subscriptions to increase from \$15.00 to \$20.00 from 1 January 2018. The one-off Joining Fee will remain at \$20.00.	6.6
General Business	Nambucca Evening VIEW Club to become known as Nambucca/Macksville Evening VIEW Club.	6.8

## MINUTES AND INFORMATION FROM NATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

Sunday 4 June 2017  
The Holiday Inn, Sydney Airport

### **National Executive Present**

National President Gwen Wilton, National Vice Presidents Toni Thomas and Gloria Walter

### **National Councillors Present**

**Cecilia Bayliss**, Upper Mid North Coast of NSW and Inland (NM), **Barbara Cameron** – The Sunshine and Fraser Coast (QB), **Jeanette Cassidy** – Sydney North Shore & Northern Beaches (NC), **Kathie Diskin** – NSW Northern Rivers (NJ), **Liz Doorey** - Lower Mid North Coast of NSW and Inland (NK), **Ellen Gray** – Central and Southern Sydney (ND), **Barbara Gullotta** – Riverina, MIA, Snowy Mountain Foothills (NL), **Eila Harding** - Metropolitan Adelaide and Surrounds including Sunraysia (SA), **Barbara Hyslop** – New England and North Central NSW (NI), **Pat McRae** - NSW South Coast Berry to Eden (NG), **Lyn Masters** – Brisbane and Surrounds (QA), **Jan Roberts** - Canberra and surrounding areas (AA), **Annette Thiedeke** - Gold Coast and Darling Downs (QC), **Sunnie Watts**, North and Western Metropolitan Melbourne & North and Western Country (VC), **Yvonne White** - Macarthur, Southern Highlands & Illawarra region including Wollongong (NB)

**Apologies:** **Patricia Brooks** - South Eastern Metropolitan Melbourne to the Mornington Peninsula & Gippsland (VB), **Annette Schlafrig** - Central & Eastern Metropolitan Melbourne (VA)

### **Guests Present**

Judy Barraclough, Head of Strategy, The Smith Family  
Sulabha Pawar, National Manager – Government & Community Projects, The Smith Family  
Leonie Green, Head of State and Territory Operations, The Smith Family

### **National Office Staff Present**

VIEW National Manager Maryanne Maher  
Administration Coordinator Linda Custer  
Operations Coordinator Olga Shkuropatova

**Minute Secretary** - Past National Vice President Jillian Smith

### **1. OPENING**

National President Gwen Wilton welcomed all present and began the meeting by acknowledging the traditional owners and custodians of the land the Gadigal people of the Eora nation. She also acknowledged that the previous week (27 May to 3 June) had been National Reconciliation Week. Gwen opened the meeting with the VIEW Pledge.

### **Succession planning**

Gwen noted the importance of identifying who would be taking on the roles of National and Zone Councillors for 2018-2019 as both these positions are vital to the continuing success of the clubs.

### **Sponsorship**

Gwen announced that VIEW has reached the impressive number of 1202 sponsored *Learning for Life* students – she congratulated all clubs on their

efforts. 1200 *Learning for Life* sponsorships had been a goal for VIEW Clubs in 2017 and it was a significant achievement to have reached that goal. Gwen thanked all VIEW members for their continued support of *Learning for Life* students.

## 2. **MINUTES AND BUSINESS ARISING**

**Minutes** - National Council **ratified** the minutes of the February 2017 meeting.

**Moved** Barbara Hyslop, **seconded** Ellen Gray.

**Business Arising** - Business arising from previous minutes was dealt with during the meeting under the appropriate Agenda Item.

## 3. **REPORTS**

### 3.1 **Executive Update**

Toni Thomas spoke to a report circulated prior the meeting.

#### **New Clubs**

**Three new clubs have been opened.**

In March, VIEW was delighted to welcome **Woollahra VIEW**, the first new club in Sydney for 15 years. Inaugural President Marcia Taylor and her Committee are looking forward to growing their club, with another four members joining on the day. Congratulations and thank you to the Development team and all those involved in establishing this club.

On 11 May, **Dingley Cheltenham VIEW** in Victoria was inaugurated with a membership of 28. Over 100 VIEW members attended to join the celebrations with speakers from VIEW and The Smith Family, including a young *Learning for Life* student, William, and a local author. Gwen Wilton noted that, while a previous club in Dingley had closed in 2014, the new club had attracted a new demographic which appeared revitalized, eager and inspired. She thanked the Victorian Development team and PNC Mary Daly for all their gallant efforts.

On 26 May, the seventh club for WA was inaugurated, **Capes VIEW** in Dunsborough, south of Perth. Despite the distance from other clubs, there was great support with 100 members attending the inauguration. Diane Blount, Program Coordinator for The Smith Family's Collie office presented on the work of The Smith Family in the area. She concluded with a student testimonial about Ruth, a local student. Inaugural President Sue Siddall outlined Capes VIEW club's plans - one of their goals is to sponsor a child in the very near future and the members were keen to begin their club activities to achieve this goal. Thanks goes to the WA Development team for all their efforts.

#### **Interest Meetings**

Interest meetings are continuing in **Bathurst**, with encouraging progress. The next meeting will be on Thursday 15 June which will be a social function at the Bathurst RSL at 5.30pm to attract new members. Further meetings are planned in August and October.

Three successful Interest meetings have been held in **Mosman**, (in March, April and May) with another planned for Friday 16 June. Regional Program Manager NSW Jack Murphy will be attending to talk about The Smith Family programs in NSW. A social function in the Mosman Art Gallery is planned in the future to attract new members.

Development teams are continuing to hold interest meetings and functions in **Bairnsdale (VIC), Springfield (QLD) and Murrumbateman (ACT)** to attract new members to VIEW.

“**Soon to be formed Clubs**” are now listed on the VIEW website - Bathurst, Mosman, Springfield and Bairnsdale with meeting dates and contact details available on the website.

Investigations have commenced to expand VIEW Clubs in the **Blue Mountains**. Toni Thomas has met with Blue Mountains City Council and in June will be meeting with the local State and Federal MPs to seek support regarding forming a new club in the area.

If members have friends or relatives in any of these areas, interested in learning more about VIEW they should contact National Office [view@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au) who will provide the relevant club contact details.

### **Sydney Metropolitan Area**

The Executive has now completed their visits to all the Sydney Metropolitan clubs and will be using this information to investigate development opportunities as well as increase membership of existing clubs.

### **3.2 National Council *Learning for Life* Student**

Jeanette Cassidy provided an update on the National Council’s *Learning for Life* student advising that she had received correspondence recently from Isabella.

### **3.3 Reports on MPs**

Gwen Wilton acknowledged the importance of VIEW National Councillors meeting with local MPs and informing them about the work of VIEW and The Smith Family in their local communities.

During a recent visit to Woollahra Council, NC Ellen Gray and Woollahra Club inaugural President Marcia Taylor were encouraged to apply for a community grant **for a membership drive event**. Clubs are reminded to consider approaching their local councils to find out about, and apply for, community or local council grants for membership drive events or necessary club equipment e.g. **microphones, computers, screens, etc.** (*see VIEW Club Handbook pages 46 and 47 for procedures*).

## **4. SUB-COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS**

### **4.1 Resolutions**

Toni Thomas spoke to a report circulated prior to the meeting noting that voting is underway at club level for the four successful resolutions which were selected to go forward for debate at National Convention in September. **Clubs are asked to return their Tally Sheets to National Office by 4.30 pm Friday 25 August 2017.** Individual voting papers do not need to be forwarded.

Briefly the topics are:

1. Safety first in family law.
2. Gambling advertising on TV.

3. Transition to post school options for students with disabilities.
4. Medical use of Marijuana.

In the March mailout, the resolutions were sent to all clubs, including the full title and wording of each, with its rationale, together with arguments for and against.

The resolutions are also available on the VIEW website (<http://view.org.au/resources/forms/>) or through your Zone or National Councillor.

Clubs are encouraged to set aside one or two meetings to enable informed discussion or debate and to encourage members to vote responsibly with preferably a 'Yes' or 'No' vote and not to abstain.

Toni noted that there has been renewed interest in clubs debating resolutions this year with school students being invited to debate at Club Meetings and Zone Conferences. National Councillor Jan Roberts invited the Canberra Girls Grammar School Debating Team to debate Resolution– "Transition to Post school options for students with disabilities" at her Gala which made for a lively and exciting debate.

Clubs are encouraged to invite local school debating teams to participate in this way. Voting and debating resolutions enables VIEW members to use the 'Voice of VIEW' to advocate for significant change in Australian Society.

Resolutions are also formally debated at National Convention in the morning of Conference Day 2 (Saturday 16 September) giving members attending the chance to vote after hearing the informed and often exciting debate.

## **4.2 External Relations**

Maryanne Maher spoke to a report circulated prior to the meeting advising that she had recently attended the **eS4W Face to Face meeting**. Minister for Women and Minister for Employment, Senator Michaelia Cash, had briefly attended the meeting.

The Office for Women funds five National Women's Alliances (the Alliances) through the Women's Leadership and Development Strategy which represent over 180 women's organisations from across Australia. The Alliances aim to represent the voices of Australian women and ensure policy issues are heard by Government.

VIEW is an active member of two of these alliances eS4W (economic Security for Women) and ERA (Equality Rights Alliance).

### **2017-2020 Government Priorities:**

The Government's three issues/priorities that affect all women living in Australia are:

- improving women's safety
- improving women's economic independence and financial security
- promoting women's leadership and gender equality

The objectives, outcomes and priority areas for future funding are:

- engage with women and women's organisations to ensure that women's issues and a diversity of voices are represented in Australian Government decision-making and policy outcomes.
- bring together a wide range of women and women's organisations (through our membership) to identify issues, challenges and opportunities specific to women living in Australia.
- enhance engagement between Australian women and government through the use of technology and innovative solutions to ensure that the diversity of women's voices is heard.
- contribute effectively to development and implementation of policy that impacts women living in Australia and ensures women's equal place in society, in particular in the Government's priority areas: improving women's economic independence and financial security; promoting women's leadership and gender equality.
- work with the Office for Women to raise awareness of the issues that affect women living in Australia; and
- deliver projects that support the achievement of grant opportunity objectives.

### **Activities outlined against each priority area for 2017-2020 Work Plan**

At the meeting, member organisations provided possible projects/activities that eS4W will undertake over the next three years should eS4W receive further funding and fleshed out feasibility against budget, council member/member organisation engagement; volunteer time and involvement; and eS4W Contractors' time and responsibilities to meet the objectives.

**eS4W's Women and Work Parliamentary Friendship Group (PFG)** - engages with The Parliamentary Friendship Group on women's lifelong economic security; highlights the work and projects being covered by eS4W and its member organisations; informs and educates members on the issues facing women entering or staying in the workforce today, relying on eS4W and its member organisations to raise awareness of the many issues facing women today.

### **4.3 VIEW in the Community including Events**

Gloria Walter spoke to a report circulated prior to the meeting.

#### **Walk with VIEW**

'Walk with VIEW' continues to be a very popular way to profile VIEW to others in the community and clubs are encouraged to continue to promote VIEW by hosting a Walk with VIEW in their local area, wearing VIEW colours and carrying red and blue balloons to represent the children VIEW Clubs sponsor on The Smith Family's *Learning for Life* program. Successful events have been held in a number of areas.

#### **Fabulous Fountain Photo Competition**

This competition has been loads of fun and proved to be very popular with members, who purchased VIEW umbrellas, found local fountains, dressed up or removed their clothes, taking photos and sending them to National Office. A broad range of entries have been received, many humorous, some serious and even some international entries. The competition closes on 30 June. There is still time to send your entry into National Office. All

entries will be included in the Honour roll at National Convention in Tamworth in September, another reason to come along to Convention.

### **Making a Difference Award**

The Making a Difference Award will conclude on 30 June and has been a resounding success. The National Executive has been impressed and inspired by the calibre of outstanding women who are all living the VIEW values and the myriad of ways they have contributed to their clubs.

Candidates have included quiet achievers, who are always in the background tirelessly helping out at every club event; those who warmly and generously welcome new members; the club volunteers who enthusiastically recommend and support innovative fundraising activities and the crafty women who are skilfully making library bags and reading rugs to support the students in their area; and there are those who generously provide flowers from their garden to add a special touch to their club's functions. VIEW Executive also received positive feedback from recipients who have been thrilled to have been nominated by their clubs. These amazing women will be highlighted at National Convention at Tamworth in September, yet another reason to come along to Convention.

### **Media**

In the spirit of sharing success stories and engaging others in the community, Clubs are encouraged to submit articles about their members and clubs (eg significant events and activities, local awards etc) for publication in their local papers and in particular to utilise the Media Releases provided by National Office to promote their club. Clubs are encouraged to include:

- Key messages about VIEW and The Smith Family - what we do and how we help support the education of disadvantaged Australian children.
  - An engaging informative story, an invitation for others to join us.
  - Fabulous photos of happy engaged and smiling members.
- Country areas are usually more successful in having these published than metropolitan areas as space is often an issue with paying clients given priority.

Media Liaison Officer, PNVP Christine Newell is available for advice on [chrismn48@gmail.com](mailto:chrismn48@gmail.com)

### **Volunteering**

Members are encouraged to support the work of The Smith Family by volunteering, which can include Learning Clubs, student2student program as supervisors or as volunteer administrative support in Smith Family offices. More information can be obtained by contacting their local Smith Family office to check the volunteering opportunities in their area.

**Volunteering hours** should be sent regularly to June Greentree ([jbgreentree@gmail.com](mailto:jbgreentree@gmail.com)) and clubs are urged to report hours to Zone Councillors as it is an important way for us to ascertain the volunteering done by VIEW members for The Smith Family.

## **4.4 Promoting Our Brand/Speakers Bureau**

Gwen Wilton reminded National Council that the goal of the Speakers Bureau is to promote and profile VIEW and its connection with The Smith Family to external organisations, to inform them about who we are and



what we do and perhaps to offer an alternative to their members who might want to become involved in our work with The Smith Family.

Initially organisations in Shoalhaven, Illawarra, Sydney and Central Coast areas were approached with follow up letters sent in January 2017.

Speaking engagements have continued with PNVP Chris Newell invited to speak to Wyong/Tuggerah Rotary Club on 20 March. All attendees were very interested to hear about *Learning for Life* and the work of VIEW. Chris will address Soroptimist International, Brisbane Waters at Terrigal Country Club on 13 July.

PNVP Lyn Gerstenberg attended the Shoalhaven Lioness Club in April and reported that the members were very interested in the work of The Smith Family and the support VIEW gives with fundraising and volunteering. They were also interested in our Resolution process and enjoyed watching the student testimonials. Lyn will address Shoalhaven Ladies Probus in July.

PNC Rhonda Boyde will address the Campbelltown Branch of NSW Justice Association at Campbelltown Catholic Club in the near future.

NC Sunnie Watts will address Bendigo Rotary in the near future.

Additional contacts are needed for future speaking engagements. Any members interested in joining the VIEW Speaker's Bureau should contact [view@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au)

#### **4.5 Community Partnerships**

Clubs are encouraged to participate in the fundraising activities which occur during the year. These include Blue Illusion National Shopping Day with a new date to be announced shortly, Toy and Book Appeal, Christmas and Winter Appeals, Joy Spreaders and PCCU community lottery.

##### **PCCU Community Lottery**

People's Choice Credit Union's Community Lottery tickets have been distributed to Clubs who requested them. There are currently 500 books not allocated. Any clubs interested in selling or wanting more to sell are asked to contact their Zone Councillor with their requested number of books and a mailing address (cannot be a PO Box).

We encourage all Clubs to participate in this fundraising activity.

Online tickets are also available. Visit the People's Choice Lottery website (<http://www.peopleschoicecu.com.au/>) follow the links to the Community Lottery and ensure that you click Smith Family (the).

People's Choice Community Lottery tickets raise much needed funds to support The Smith Family's student2student program. Ticket stubs and money must be returned to National Office by August to be included in the draw.

##### **The Smith Family Winter Appeal**

The Smith Family Winter Appeal "How do you end poverty in Australia?" commenced on 1 May 2017 with the aim to raise \$4.1m by the end of June. To assist in reaching this goal, we ask for your help in ensuring that

clubs in your Area, as well as National and Zone Councillors are not holding money in their accounts which are surplus to immediate needs. These funds will help to provide 10,000 disadvantaged children the extra learning support they need to make the most of their education.

Another way your club and members can help support The Smith Family Winter appeal is to place the VIEW/Smith Family Winter Appeal media release in your local paper.

### **The Smith Family Retail Stores (NSW/ACT only)**

The Executive visited a number of Smith Family Retail stores to ensure they are equipped with VIEW promotional material and that it is displayed prominently in stores. Following the relaunch of the Marrickville store earlier this year, a launch of the Kempsey store was held in February with support from the local VIEW Clubs. The Goulburn Retail Store is due to open in July/August in new premises in 147 Auburn Street, Goulburn. Members are encouraged to visit their local Smith Family stores, introduce themselves to the staff and join The Smith Family's VIP Loyalty Program.

### **Loyalty Program**

In April Clubs were sent a flyer inviting NSW and ACT members to visit their local Smith Family Retail Store and become a 'Loyal member'. The VIP Program allows the member to receive 25% discount and for every \$20 spent receive a stamp on their loyalty card. Ten (10) stamps reward members with \$20 voucher towards their next purchase in the store.

Every purchase from a Smith Family store supports programs to help disadvantaged children to succeed in school – Buying is giving.

To get your Loyalty Card, just visit your nearest Smith Family Retail Store, show your VIEW badge and start shopping.

### **Election of VIEW National Executive for 2018-2019**

Interviews for the National Executive for 2018-2019 were conducted according to the agreed process. However, due to the illness of one of the applicants, this will be extended to the September National Council meeting.

At the September meeting a ballot will be held to establish who will be elected to National Executive and the position of National President 2018-2019.

A public announcement of the National Executive 2018-19 will be made at Convention on Conference Day 2, Saturday 16 September 2017.

## **LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT**

**Judy Barraclough**, Head of Strategy, The Smith Family, briefed National Council on **The Smith Family Five Year Strategy 2018-2022**.

<b>Vision</b>	A better future for young Australians in need.
<b>Belief</b>	Every child deserves a chance.
<b>Mission</b>	To create opportunities for young Australians in need by providing long-term support for their participation in education.
<b>Ambition</b>	Over five years to 2022 we will <b>increase by 30%</b> the number of young Australians reached with our <b>effective,</b>

**evidence-based programs**, enabling them to **break the cycle of disadvantage** and **thrive** in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.  
**Values** Respect Integrity Collaboration Excellence Innovation

Judy explained The Smith Family's six strategic priorities:

**Scale effectively** (Grow our reach by 30% over five years while maintaining the effectiveness of our programs);

**Innovate** (Innovate to enable the children and young people we serve to thrive in a rapidly changing and increasingly challenging environment);

**Advocate** (Be an authoritative and influential advocate with those who shape public policy on behalf of disadvantaged children and young people);

**Fund** (Develop a sustainable funding base to fund our scaling up and strategic initiatives);

**Data enable and digitize** (Amplify and accelerate our mission through digital and data);

**Enable high performance** (Be a destination employer in our sector. Ensure our systems are scalable and fit for purpose).

**Sulabha Pawar**, National Manager – Government & Community Projects, The Smith Family, briefed National Council on the **2020 Learning for Life Growth Project**.

She explained that her role included expanding the *Learning for Life* program ie By June 2020, 24,000 additional students will be accessing the *Learning for Life* Program.

The recent Australian Government funding will enable the recruitment of new students to the *Learning for Life* program and The Smith Family to acquire new sponsors to support students over the long term. The growth will be across all States and Territories. A significant number of students will be Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students (minimum 15% of new students). The Smith Family will maintain high quality program delivery and sponsor engagement. It will establish a sustainable model through leveraging technology and testing innovative program and funding models. Sulabha reported on progress to date - from November 2016

- Project Implementation Plan developed and submitted to the Commonwealth Department of Education
- 4226 new students recruited and 4500 sponsors (approx.)

**Leonie Green**, Head of State and Territory Operations, The Smith Family reiterated Sulabha's comments about the **2020 Learning for Life Growth Project** - Helping more students achieve improved educational outcomes, and connect them to sponsors to enable long-term support. She referred the National Councillors to *The 2020 Learning for Life* growth project FAQ which will be sent out to all clubs in the next mailout.

Leonie acknowledged the vital support of all VIEW Clubs – advocacy, volunteering, sponsorship and fundraising.

Leonie explained that the \$48 million Australian Government funding had been provided, over four years, to support the infrastructure as well as to find new sponsors ie long term benefit to the community.

## 5. WORKING GROUPS

### 5.1 History

National Council **noted** a report circulated prior the meeting.

- As clubs approach milestones in their history, many are contacting the Working Group requesting information about formation and inaugural details. Unless these have previously been archived, the details are not available. However, the local library or newspaper may have details which will assist.
- The History Working Group continues to archive Inaugural Minutes from clubs and if clubs have these, they should forward a copy for the archives. This is of assistance when requests are received for information.
- National Councillors are reminded that Inaugural Minutes from new clubs need to be sent to the Working Group together with the relevant History Reporting form. This allows the database to be maintained for history purposes.

### 5.2 Website and Social Media

Gwen Wilton spoke to a report from PNVP Carleen Maley circulated prior to the meeting.

#### Website

Carleen Maley thanked the Website Support Group for checking the clubs' website pages and making any noticeable changes where needed and Club Committee members who have checked their Club's website page for any amendments.

It is the responsibility of all Clubs to keep their Club web page up to date, send in photos and articles of events held, promote upcoming events and let potential VIEW members know what they can expect when they join your club. All changes should be emailed to [admin@view.org.au](mailto:admin@view.org.au)

The Website Support Group is able to make changes to the About/When/Where/Where, add club email addresses and links to a Club Facebook page.

**Reminder** – Clubs are encouraged to add Club News, keeping members and other women updated with the happenings in their club. If items are posted to Facebook, Clubs should also consider sending them on as news items for **VIEW Matters**.

Members are reminded that they need to rename their photos before they are sent for use on the website (state, club name, date eg NSW Woollahra 150717). This is also good practice for posting on social media or use for VIEW Matters. Renaming photos like this will avoid a mix up when photos are received with the same name from different clubs (example image 01, image 02 and image 03 received from three different clubs on the same day).

#### Social Media - Facebook

Interest is still being shown by clubs in setting up Facebook pages. The Social Media Group has the following tips to help set up your Club's Facebook page.

**Name:** Name of the club, eg *Merimbula Evening VIEW Club*.

**Date of Birth:** (must be over 18) Use the *Birthdate date of the Club*.

**Administrators:** Add minimum three Administrators for editing purposes in case the main one leaves the club.

**NOTE:** Remember to log out of a members' Facebook account before creating a new Facebook account otherwise the VIEW Club's Facebook group is added to the account which is already opened. Some members do not mind this happening.

**Group vs Page:** Choice is up to a club. Groups can be closed to outsiders so you may need to consider whether you want to use your Facebook page for membership promotion.

### 5.3 Convention Update

#### **VIEW National Convention Tamworth – 15-17 September**

Olga Shkuropatova provided an update on National Convention which is now held biennially and will be held in September this year.

We continue to secure exciting speakers for our "Panel of Inspirational People" and Writer's Festival sessions – Conference days 1 and 2.

We are pleased to announce that **The Hon Tanya Davies NSW Minister for Women, Mental Health and Ageing** is coming to open Convention on Day 1 (on behalf of the NSW Premier).

#### Friday 15 September

We have secured **Lucy Haslam** United in Compassion – advocate for medicinal cannabis, (one of VIEW's 2017 Resolutions is on this topic) Shayne Higson spokesperson for 'Go Gentle Australia', Meg Keneally (co-author with her father Tom Keneally), of The Monsarrat series and we are in discussions with local ABC for a potential facilitator as well as another potential speaker.

The themed social dinners "*The Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel*" and "*A Little Bit Country*" are filling fast so members are reminded not to leave booking to the last minute.

#### Saturday 16 September

We are excited to announce that **Anna Bligh AC** will be delivering the George Forbes Oration.

*Writer's Festival session* commences after lunch, and we have secured **Dr Anne Summers AO** as the facilitator, author **Meredith Jaffe** together with **Tony Jones** (Q&A) who has written a political thriller which will be launched in September as well as another author.

The spectacular "**City of Lights**" Gala dinner on Saturday 16 September is the most popular choice with members.

Some **fantastic raffle prizes** have been sourced for the Convention raffle, including a week's accommodation for two people at Peninsula Beach Resort – Nusa Dua Bali, accommodation at Norfolk Island and accommodation for six at the exclusive Star of the Sea resort in Terrigal... just to name a few. Members have to attend Convention to win.

Other reasons to attend Convention include: joining in the resolutions debate, attending the Grand Celebration on Sunday, shopping at expo of local artisans and providores, having a fun holiday and of course catching up with and meeting new VIEW friends.

A Convention Registration form is available at [www.view.org.au/nationalconvention](http://www.view.org.au/nationalconvention). Registrations close 30 June 2017.

## **6. GENERAL BUSINESS**

### **6.1 VIEW National Office Update**

Maryanne Maher spoke to a report circulated prior to the meeting which covered the following items:

#### **IWD 2017 – “Be bold for change” - March**

The IWD theme for 2017 was “Be bold for change”. This year there were 25 (reported) local, regional and national VIEW IWD events throughout Australia. Events varied from, Morning and High Teas, Lunches and Dinners, with a broad range of impressive speakers attending including State and Federal Members of Parliament, Authors, Playwrights, Journalists and inspiring *Learning for Life* students.

Those reported were held in Brisbane, Bribie Island, Casino, Doncaster, Dorrigo, Faulconbridge, Forster, Gawler, Gloucester, Harrington, Hillary’s, Inverloch, Jerrabomberra, Marmion, Melbourne, Moree, North Haven, Peakhurst, Tamworth, Tumut, Tweed Heads, Wollongong, Yamba.

We encourage all clubs to share information about their events by sending a paragraph about the event and high resolution photos to: [admin@view.org.au](mailto:admin@view.org.au) If your event is not listed then please complete the IWD History Report Form and return to PNVP June Greentree ([jbgreentree@gmail.com](mailto:jbgreentree@gmail.com)) and [view.historymatters@gmail.com](mailto:view.historymatters@gmail.com) If you are a planning an event for next year, please remember to email PNVP June Greentree ([jbgreentree@gmail.com](mailto:jbgreentree@gmail.com)) with your event details so that we can promote it to others.

#### **VIEW Matters magazine**

The VIEW Matters April 2017 edition has been sent to all Clubs. These are great promotional items for Information Stalls/Expos, Doctors’ offices, library’s etc. If more copies are required please contact National Office by completing a Stock Order form.

Clubs are able to make submissions for the November 2017 edition now. Please send through high resolution photos (jpps minimum 1 MB).

#### **National Volunteer Week – 8-14 May**

National Volunteer week was marked with celebrations through Smith Family offices. Dr Lisa O’Brien CEO, The Smith Family thanked VIEW members for their tireless efforts in advocating for and supporting the important work of The Smith Family.

#### **VIEW Gifts refresh**

National Office aims to keep VIEW Merchandise as fresh and up to date as possible; to this end National Office over the next six months will be introducing refreshed Gifts.

Black pen to be replaced with Silver – same style and feature printed VIEW logo in purple. Cost unchanged.

VIEW Umbrellas - very popular, introducing new design with “spots”, available closer to Christmas. Cost unchanged.

Members are reminded that these make ideal gifts for speakers – all money raised from the sale of VIEW gifts helps children in need succeed in school.

As each item is introduced, Clubs will receive flyers through the regular monthly mailout. Website and Stock Order forms will be updated to coincide with each update.

### **VIEW Promotional Items – New Club Banner**

Over the last couple of months National Office has received a large number of requests for Club Banners. To keep Club banners in line with our contemporary image, National Office has been working towards developing a template design.

The new Club banner will have a similar look and feel as the “Making a Difference” and VIEW profile banners, yet will be a new look and the next iteration containing the recognisable VIEW colours and messaging, expressing what we do through photos (friendship, volunteering, students and education).

As these will contain the VIEW and The Smith Family logos, no alterations to the designs can be made except to add in the VIEW Club name.

There will be two designs - one will be the familiar pull up banner (vertical) and the second will be for use on tables or parades (horizontal). Clubs are not required to have either or both.

Clubs interested in obtaining the new club banner design specifications including size, colour codes and hanging options need to email National Office [view@thesmithfamily.com.au](mailto:view@thesmithfamily.com.au)

### **Club Treasurers – New Members**

Club Treasurers are reminded that they need to send in two cheques for their new members. One cheque should be for Annual Membership Subscriptions (\$15 x number of new members) and the other for Joining Fee (\$20 x number of new members). Both cheques need to be made out to “The Smith Family” and attached to the Application for Membership forms and returned to National Office.

### **The Smith Family Face-to-Face Fundraising**

An updated (May 2017) Smith Family Face to Face fundraising FAQ is available on the VIEW Website under Resources.

## **6.2 “Nabo” Social Network**

Gwen Wilton spoke to a report provided by Yvonne White which was distributed prior to the meeting.

After being monitored for a few months, NC Trish Brookes has not experienced any negatives. While in early stages, there seems to be a growing number of users and there has been positive feedback.

After Trish registered with Nabo at Ventnor, Phillip Island several people, new to Phillip Island, got in touch with her - five new visitors visited VIEW all of which have now become members.

Nabo can help VIEW engage with the local community and increase the profile of VIEW and the connection of The Smith Family with VIEW. However, before it is endorsed for all Clubs, the Executive is consulting The Smith Family Communications team. Further advice will be provided.

### 6.3 Correspondence from SA

National Council **noted** that three letters had been received from Zone SA02 in South Australia expressing concern about the level of reimbursement for expenses incurred by Zone Councillors eg travel, and printing costs.

After discussion, National Councillors **agreed** to survey all Zone Councillors and provide a report to the November National Council meeting.

### 6.4 Proposed Increase in Membership Fees

Maryanne Maher spoke to a paper distributed prior to the meeting proposing a review of the Annual Membership Subscription and Joining Fee.

In 2012 National Council agreed to increase the Annual Membership Subscription and Joining Fee and also agreed to the implementation of a number of significant Cost Savings Initiatives – (See National Minutes 13.2 September 2012).

In 2015 National Council agreed not to increase the Annual Membership Subscription and Joining Fee due to the cost saving initiatives implemented in 2012 (See National Minutes 8.8 June 2015). While there has been no increase in Membership subscriptions in the last 5 years, there has been an increase in VIEW operational costs, in particular a significant increase in postage.

The cost of individual membership is currently \$15.00, and has been so for the last five years, yet every year the cost of running the organisation is rising.

**To enable VIEW to continue to provide members with the same level of services and benefits, it was proposed to increase the Annual Membership Subscription by \$5.00 to \$20.00 from 1 January 2018.**

There will be no increase in the one off Joining Fee – which is currently \$20.00 and contributes to the cost of member’s name badge.

It is necessary to ensure that:

- The increasing operational and running costs of VIEW do not affect The Smith Family’s core responsibilities of assisting disadvantaged children and their families;
- The Annual Membership Subscription keeps pace with the increased cost of living, which in recent years has been consistently rising. CPI rises by an average of 2% each year; and
- VIEW is able to continue to provide members with the customary level of services and benefits.

The one-off Joining Fee will remain at \$20.00.

<b>From 1 January 2018</b> a new VIEW member will pay –	
a one off Joining Fee of	\$20.00 together with
<b>the Annual Membership Subscription of</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>



After a lengthy discussion Barbara Hyslop **moved** that Annual Membership Subscriptions increase from \$15.00 to \$20.00 from 1 January 2018. The one-off Joining Fee will remain at \$20.00.

**Seconded** by Sunnie Watts **Carried** unanimously.

### 6.5 Closed Clubs

National Council **noted with regret** that the following clubs had closed since the February 2017 National Council meeting:

Yass Evening	Area AA	1 March 2017
Albury Day	Area NL	23 March 2017
Port Kembla Evening	Area NB	4 April 2017

### 6.6 Club Name Changes

Gwen Wilton advised that a request has been made for Nambucca Evening VIEW Club (Zone NM01) to become known as Nambucca/Macksville Evening VIEW Club. This request was accompanied by a copy of Club Minutes evidencing agreement by the majority of members.

Cecilia Bayliss **moved** that Nambucca Evening VIEW Club become known as Nambucca/Macksville Evening VIEW Club.

**Seconded** by Pat McRae **Carried** unanimously

### 6.7 FAQs Session (Frequently Asked Questions)

The following questions were addressed:

Question	Answer
Why are we debating resolutions that the Government is already addressing, eg sports gambling, medical use of marijuana and domestic violence?	Because they have not been properly addressed at a national level at this stage and we need to keep these issues in the public arena.
When do we use the official VIEW raffle books?	Due to the cost involved in printing and posting these books to clubs, VIEW raffle books are only to be used for external or outside raffles. Coat check tickets are to be used for 'in club' raffles.

<p>Can clubs give gifts to their students for birthdays or Christmas if they wish?</p> <p>What are the guidelines for this?</p>         <p>As some children receive a gift and others do not, could this be reviewed nationwide so that clubs are clear on what is expected?</p>	<p>Sponsors can communicate with, as well as give gifts, to their sponsored students.</p> <p>As per the Club Handbook (page 42 – <i>Learning for Life Sponsorship</i>) VIEW Clubs or members can get to know their sponsored student/s in a number of ways. Sponsors are encouraged to write to their student/s, as one of the benefits for the students is knowing that they are encouraged by others. Some students may reply but others choose not to write depending on their circumstances; please don't be disheartened.</p> <p>Gift cards or vouchers up to a value of \$50 can also be sent at Christmas and for birthdays; these activities are <b>entirely optional</b>.</p> <p>As program supports 34,000 children with sponsors not only from VIEW but corporate and private areas, the current policy is clear and it remains entirely optional for each sponsor to decide whether or not they send a gift and of what value, not more than \$50.</p>
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## **6.8 Around the Areas**

Gwen Wilton provided an update on development to date. She facilitated a session where National Councillors were able to share issues (and solutions and learnings) and success stories that had arisen in their Areas.

### **Dates of Next Meetings**

National Executive – 13 July, 10 August (Teleconferences) and 13 September 2017 (Face to Face)

**National Council** – 12.00 pm, Thursday 14 September 2017 at TRECC (Tamworth Regional Entertainment and Conference Centre)