



14 July 2017

Dear Members,

As the Christmas season approaches, I have been reflecting on my past year as National President and can't believe how quickly it has flown by.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you, the VIEW members for your friendship and the fun we have had together. Everywhere I have been, everyone I have met has been so warm and welcoming and has made my year very special.

I am proud to be leading a national organisation and in particular, I am very proud to have had the opportunity to work with my Executive team, Toni and Gloria, who have been a great support. I am proud of the National and Zone Councillors and Club Committees – all wonderful women of VIEW.

We have all achieved a lot this year, promoting VIEW, fundraising, volunteering and of course, sponsoring students on the *Learning for Life* program. We should feel very proud that we are making a real difference to the lives of the students and families we support by giving them the chance of a brighter future through education.

The Smith Family is about to launch their Christmas appeal with a target of \$3.66 million and so now, more than ever, we need funds. If your club has funds surplus to its immediate needs, please send a donation to The Smith Family – your donation will make a real difference to children in need.

I know many of you will be busy with Christmas wrapping, helping those weary buyers to brighten up their parcels. This is such a great opportunity, raising funds and promoting VIEW at the same time.

During this festive season, when you are out with friends and family, remember to take the time to talk about VIEW and encourage them to look us up on the website ([view.org.au](http://view.org.au)) and come and join us next year.

To everyone I wish a Merry Christmas and a safe, healthy and happy New Year. Take this time to relax, recharge and get ready for an exciting year in 2017. It is Convention year in Tamworth and it is going to be fabulous!

Gwen Wilton  
National President