



# Smoke Signals

Issue #17 6<sup>th</sup> December 2023



## From the President . . .



Meeting Musings 06/12/23

A busy night at the Savoy; 3 other meetings on so we were upgraded and fed early and the meeting was well behaved and full of fellowship.

No major announcements just reminders about the coming weeks, book shuffle next week, Xmas party the following week then 2 weeks off.

Thank you to Gail for stepping in with the bulletin and also taking the time with the website update and Show n Shine webpage.

All looking good and with the information current it will be one of the better club websites in the district.

No news is always good news and at the moment the club is managing well.

John

### Thought of the Week:

*Old ways won't open new doors.*

### Did you know:

The very first charitable act of the newly formed Rotary was to buy a horse for a young country doctor. This young man had just graduated from medical school. He had enough money to buy a used carriage, his little black bag and its contents, but he didn't have enough money for a horse. How was he to set up a practise in the country without transportation? Keep in mind that 60% of the population at that time lived in the country and doctors made house calls. So they bought him a horse.

## Myrtleford Rotary Club



### Programme

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December**  
Fellowship – sorting books at Sarah & John's

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December**  
Christmas Party  
St Paul's Hall



**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> December**  
NO MEETING



**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024**  
NO MEETING

**Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January**  
Fellowship – Rotary Park

**The Rotary Club of Myrtleford**

Reg No.: A0020847W • Chartered 27  
 Sept. 1954

ABN 87 356 430 283 • Club # 18284

**DISTRICT 9790**

Meetings: Wednesdays 6.00pm for 6.30pm

Venue: .....Club Savoy, Myrtleford

Postal Address: PO Box 395, Myrtleford,  
 Vic. 3737

**2023 — 2024 BOARD of DIRECTORS**

President: ..... John Forsyth

Secretary: ..... Helen Hunter

Treasurer: ..... Magda Macdonald

Pres. Elect/Club Service: .....

Immediate Past President: ..... Evan Jones

Rotary Foundation: ..... Alan Garside

Public Relations: ..... Vanessa & Gail

Service Projects: .....

**OTHER OFFICERS**

Community & Vocational Service: .... Alma  
 Adams

International Service: ..... Phil Macdonald

Youth Service: ..... Surrey Hunter

Membership.....Carla Bau

Sergeant-at-Arms: ..... Rotational

Fellowship: .....

Programme: .....

Public Officer: .....Ken Johnston

On to Conference: ..... Evan Jones

Bulletin Vanessa Leonard & Gail Robertson

Community Bus ..... Richard Dean

Book Fair ..... Sarah Deas

BBQ Trailer..... Sam Crisci

Wood Raffle..... Alan Garside

District Governor: .....Neta Kirby

Assistant Governor.....Patrick O'Shea

**President Rotary International**  
**Gordon R. McInally**



**Meeting 6/12/23**

Meeting Presided over by our **President – John Forsyth**

- Golf donors list – will be emailed via the Bulletin – please contact John as you receive a donation so the list can be updated.
- Next week meeting at Sarah & John’s – working bee to sort books into banana boxes. Dinner - pizzas / ice-cream - \$15pp
- Need numbers for Christmas party next week
  - Surrey to contact > exchange student families
  - Alma to contact friends of Rotary

**Apologies:** Vanessa, Helen, Magda, Phil

**Chair:** Surrey

**Guests:**

Past Exchange student: Trinity

Exchange students:

Viktoria – from Germany

Søren – from Denmark

**Reports:**

**Secretary:** Helen Hunter per Surrey

- Invoice from Rec Reserve re rental of grounds for SSSM \$250
- Caravan Rally April 24 – they will need B’fast – more info later.
- Golden Spurs request to use BBQ + use of shed

**Special Occasions:**

*Happy Birthday Ken for yesterday*



**No Directors Reports**

**Members:**

- Alan – no Community Carols by Candlelight however it is being organised for next year.

**Sergeant’s Session:** Alma

Raffles won by - Sarah and Evan

**Sarah** – in paper (re her Golf achievements)

**John F** – in paper (re-election to the position of Mayor of Alpine Shire)

**Richard** – new granddaughter in Queensland

**Evan** – bung nose – playing squash – *it is a dangerous sport!!!*

**Søren** – attended 1<sup>st</sup> soccer training

**John** – Denise playing golf well

**Trinity** – cooking – gingerbread – forgot to bring some in for us to sample.

**Alma** - chooks laying > eggs for sale – bids from John F & Evan

Meeting closed at 7.09 pm.

## **Rotary leads 28 sessions at United Nations climate conference Presentations and workshops at COP28 highlight community-led solutions, partnerships, and dialogue**

By Etelka Lehoczky

Rotary experts are hosting more than two dozen sessions at the 28th United Nations climate conference, addressing how a changing climate intersects with health, poverty, and other factors. Rotary International President R. Gordon R. McNally will discuss the mental health effects of climate-linked disasters.

The two-week conference in Dubai, also known as COP28 (short for Conference of the Parties, now in its 28th year), is the world's highest decision-making process addressing climate issues. It brings together more than 70,000 delegates from 197 countries and geographical areas as well as thousands of nongovernmental organizations, companies, and others. Rotary is taking part in the conference for the third time, highlighting community-led solutions, partnerships, and dialogue.

“The record global temperatures this year have underscored the immediate need to take action on climate change,” McNally says. “They have also demonstrated the massive destructive toll that climate has taken on global mental health.”

McNally notes studies connecting extreme heat to greater rates of violence and incidents of mental distress. His presentation will also address the anxiety that younger people feel because of climate change.

Recognizing the central role of young people in shaping a sustainable future, Rotary is sponsoring 22 youth volunteers to attend COP28. This amplifies young voices in the climate discussion and offers the volunteers learning opportunities and international experience.

Rotary's 28 sessions include presentations by members of The Rotary Foundation Cadre of Technical Advisers. Meenakshi Venkataraman, a member of the Rotary Club of Nilgiris West, Tamil Nadu, India, will discuss how invasive species cause biodiversity loss. Salvador Rico, a member of the Rotary Club of South Ukiah, California, USA, will offer an introduction to community-led watershed protection efforts.

In addition, Elif Selin Calik, author of “The Renaissance of Smart Energy” and a member of the Environmental Sustainability Rotary Action Group, will talk about how artificial intelligence can revolutionize areas like energy, agriculture, and disaster resilience.

Yaseen Mohamed Jaffer Mohsen, president of the Association of Rotary Clubs in the United Arab Emirates, will explore how environmental projects can be financed through corporate partnerships.

Other sessions focus on food systems, Indigenous land rights, and related topics.

Rotary International has long worked to protect the environment by collaborating with communities to implement clean water and sanitation, alleviate poverty, and promote sustainable energy technologies. The Rotary Foundation has committed more than US\$23.7 million toward environmental projects led by Rotary members around the world.

**Have a great week everyone** 