



# Smoke Signals

Issue #18 13<sup>th</sup> December 2023



CREATE HOPE  
in the WORLD

**Attendees: John (then went to present awards at P-12), Sarah, Evan, Vanessa, Carla, Gail, Phil, Maggie, Surrey, Helen.**



**From Marian College:** Thank you to the members of the Myrtleford Rotary Club on behalf of the Marian College community for the Rotary Club's generous sponsorship of one of our Year 11 students.

Marian College values and appreciates the contribution that our clubs, associations and organisations make to so many aspects of College life. We acknowledge and thank you for attending and presenting the 2023 Rotary Club Scholarship award to Chloe Pasquinelli.

The life of our College is made so much richer by the strong relationships we enjoy with our local community. We look forward to continuing our partnership with the Myrtleford Rotary Club into the future.

Myrtleford  
**Rotary**  
Club



## Programme

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

2 week break from meetings  
over Christmas/New Year  
period. First meeting back  
will be a social night.





**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. McNally**



**From  
the  
President . . .**

**Meeting Musings 13/12/23**

And the rain came down just as proceedings were commencing, plenty of shelter under the shed and the book sorting and packing went ahead unabated. Thanks to all those that were part of the book sorting brigade. It will now be easier and quicker to set up a stall at a market or event. Tables for display are in the Rotary shed and we now have at least 4 trestle tables. Pizza and ice creams on a stick were enjoyed by all.

Wishing Alan a speedy recovery from whatever attacked him and Alma for playing nursemaid.

Sarah has been busy visiting businesses regarding the Golf Day and as I mentioned last week, just before Xmas is the best time to approach them for a donation. Let me know what successes you have and I will issue the Invoice/Receipt either personally or preferably via email (get their best email contact).

Everything (apart from your imbibement choice) is inclusive next week with a few lucky door surprises thrown in. See you all then.

John



# Is Santa Claus a Rotarian?

There has long been suspicion that Santa Claus is a Rotarian.

Therefore efforts were put by PDG Chris Offer to discover the truth!

So, Santa needs a Rotary club if he is a Rotarian. Chris checked the International Directory and then the RI web site for Where Clubs Meet. Sure enough, he found a possible club. The Rotary Club of North Pole is in District 5010, Alaska, located near Fairbanks. This is a smidgen baffling since everyone knows the real North Pole is in Canada 🇨🇦. Santa may prefer to be in the warmer south of Alaska rather than the north. He could also be a member of an E-club but Chris doubts that as he clearly likes Rotary lunches.

Next Santa would need a classification. There are several possibilities, Toys-Export, Reindeer- Teamster, Counsellor Pre-Adolescent Behaviour, Toys-Manufacturing or Elf Management.

All valid classifications. There is no indication of a Rotary pin on his jacket but it could be concealed under all that fur trim. If Santa is a Rotarian, he plainly is a 100% attender and has never missed a Rotary lunch.

The real evidence is, does he act like a Rotarian? Does he put “Service Above Self?”

The answer is unequivocally yes. Santa is dedicated to improving the lives of children. He is committed to bringing happiness to children around the world no matter what race, religion, creed or ethnic group they are from. He distributes tens of thousands of books to children to increase literacy and he gives gifts of toys that stimulate young minds to achieve their full potential. He volunteers as a mentor, spending countless hours at shopping malls listening to children’s secret wishes. Santa without question works to realize the Object of Rotary.



The only conclusion that has been reached is, “Yes, Santa Claus is a Rotarian!”

I just hope he does a make up at my club this year! 🎅🌲

✍️ Words: PDG Chris Offer

District 5040 - Rotary Club of Ladner (Delta, BC) Canada