



Scout Radio & Electronics Service Unit

Minutes - September Monthly Meeting

Tuesday 14th September, 7.30pm

Online via Zoom

Chair: Luke Byrnes

Minutes: Andy King

Meeting Opened: 7.38pm

Attendees

Alan Kanowitz, Alberto Scelsi, Allison Burdon, Andy King, Bryan Ackerly, Daniel Gutsell, David Timms, Juliet Montague, Karen Merlo, Karl Donald, Kent Cochran, Kevin Bedford, Luke Byrnes, Matt Cengia, Murray Taylor, Neil Wilson, Philip Adams, Sarah Thom

Apologies

Alan Stratford, Gemma Nash, Mark Perkins, Peter Watkins, Quintin Coutinho

Absentees

Alister Blaney, Greg Lipschitz, Hayden McManus, Jenny Adams, Peter Chaplin, Peter Fraser

Action Items Summary

Expected Delivery	Reference	Description	Lead	Assist
Aug 2021	Jul 2021 > VicJam	VicJam: Gear availability inventory using Google Forms/Sheets	Philip	
Aug-2021	Jul-2021 > Program Planning > Activities	Contact 1st Sandringham Cub Unit	Murray	
Aug-2021	Jul-2021 > Finance > Bank Account Updates	Paperwork to change bank account signatories	Andy	
Sep 2021	Jul 2021 > VicJam	VicJam: Adult Registration	---	---

Expected Delivery	Reference	Description	Lead	Assist
Sep 2021	Jul 2021 > VicJam	VicJam: Past course attendees	Luke	Philip, Kent
Sep 2021	Jul 2021 > VicJam	VicJam: Contact Icom and WIA for sponsorship capabilities	Philip	
Sep 2021	Jun 2021 > 6.b.ii.1	VicJam: COVID Management Plan for ARISS	Philip	Sarah
Sep 2021	Jul 2021 > Program Support > ScoutHike	Liaise with ScoutHike re: equipment	Kevin	Kent
Oct 2021	Sep 2021 > Program Support > JOTA	Order 300 JOTA/JOTI 2021 Badges from ScoutShop	Kent	
Oct 2021	Sep 2021 > Program Planning > JOTA	Contact 1st Kilmore re: JOTA Program Support Request	Luke	
Oct 2021	Jul 2021 > Program Planning > JOTA	Construct additional Fox Hunting equipment <i>if required for JOTA</i>	Bryan	
Nov 2021	Jul 2021 > VicJam	VicJam: WSPR station setup		
Nov 2021	Sep 2021 > Program Planning > Activities	Organise 1st Sandringham Scouts Activity (Monday 8th November)	Murray	Karl, Luke
Nov 2021	Sep 2021 > Program Planning > Activities	Organise 1st Sandringham Cubs Night (Thursday 18th November)	Karl	Murray
Nov 2021	Sep 2021 > Program Planning > Activities	Organise Boroondara District Cubs Day Activities (date TBC)	Murray	Luke
Nov 2021	Sep 2021 > Program Planning > Activities	Contact Moreland Darebin District re: postponing Joeys Day	Neil	
Feb 2022	Sep 2021 > Program Planning > Activities	Revisit Moreland Darebin District Joeys Day Request	Neil	
Feb 2022	Sep 2021 > Program Planning > Activities	Revisit 1st Upwey Scout Unit Activity Request	Kevin	

Meeting Items

Administration

Chair's Comments

- Impressed with the bouncing back and rescheduling of activities, but remember to take some time to look after yourselves given the unknowns around planning future activities.

Previous Minutes

It was moved by Daniel Gutsell and Allison Burdon that the minutes of the SRESU meeting held Tuesday 10th August 2021 be adopted. Carried unanimously.

Finance

Account	Balance on Monday 13th September 2021
Cheque Account	\$3,936.75
Savings Account	\$7,437.33

Further details are included in the finance report attached as *Appendix 1*.

Program Review

No youth program events held.

Program Planning

Program Activities - Dates Known

State Cub Council "Synchronised Camp" - Saturday 25th/Sunday 26th September 2021

- **Lead: Murray (Zoom)**
- **Assist: Philip**
- "a virtual camp with activities"
- Sessions of approximately an hour.
- Murray will run a Zoom session and Philip will assist with Flex radio, etc. Remote contacts welcome.
- Murray and Philip will liaise offline.

4th Brunswick Cub Unit - Thursday 21st October, 6.30pm

- **Lead: Murray**
- **Assist: Andy, Kent, Luke**
- Approx. 40 Cubs
 - Trying to have as many outdoor activities as possible in case of density limits indoors.
- Murray has arranged Michael Barrett (VK3EMB) as an external contact.

Calls for assistance:

- 2 extra fox hunting sniffers, if possible
- SSTV (Andy)
- Additional volunteers to assist

Activity details:

- + Fox Hunting
- + Amateur Radio Station (with external operator)
- + Slow Scan TV (SSTV)
- + Noughts and Crosses and/or similar phonetics activities (can be run by Cub Leaders)
- + Running around with handhelds

Original request:

Activity night at 4th Brunswick on Thursday 19 August - commencing from 1830.

4th Brunswick have a 40-strong Cub pack ... Brian - I would like to borrow at least two more foxhunt sniffers, and would like to have 2-3 more team members on hand, with activities.

I hope to have 4 off ISM band HT units with me for them to try message passing, but if someone else can provide some indoor activities (andy Image transmission?, anyone phonetic nought/crosses etc?) to create some rotations.

I might be able to establish an external operator to 'have a chat' with the Cubs on 2m.

1st Sandringham Scout Unit (Alexander Donald, Scout) - Monday 8th November

- **Lead: Murray**
- **Assist: Karl, Luke**
- Request is for a more STEM-based activity - what is radio? how does radio work?
- Opportunity to run a pilot of the RadioActiv8 activity planned for VicJam. Luke will discuss further with Murray and Karl offline.

Original request:

Hello My name is Alexander and I have been allocated a night to plan and run for this term for the Scouts. My dad has been learning about radios and the electronics. I am interested the other Scouts learning more about how they work with signals and using them to talk to people in other countries or states because we use mobile phones but dont really know how they work. I am also thinking that we could make a easy radio and play a morse code game. The night my leaders have given me to plan and lead is 23rd of august from 7pm to 9pm Are you able to help me organise this night please Alexander

1st Sandringham Cub Unit - Thursday 18th November

- **Lead: Karl**
- **Assist: Murray, Kent, Kevin (available if required)**
- Fox hunt and radio activity night
- A park away from the hall is available and a suitable location for a fox hunt
- 14 Cubs

Activity details:

- + Brief explanation of radio and fox hunting
- + Fox Hunting wide game

Original request:

Interested in finding out more about activities for Cubs, possibly a fox hunting activity.

Boroondara District Cubs STEM Day (Sue Kekes) - Sunday 28th November

- **Lead: Murray**
- **Assist: Neil, Kent, Alli**
- Frog Hollow Park, Fordham Avenue, Camberwell
- Event is outdoors however there is a hall that could be available depending on other activity bases
- Boroondara have requested to move this event to Sunday 5th December

Activity details:

6 to 8 rotational activity bases of around 30 to 45 minutes each.

Possible activities:

- + Fox Hunting
- + Phonetic Alphabet Activities (noughts and crosses, hangman, etc.)
- + Handheld radio message passing
- + Possible amateur radio station/portable rig running too

Original request:

We're having an activity day for the District cubs, very much along the STEM lines, and the cubs have specifically asked for fox hunting! Can I also ask what the electronics kit building would involve - costs, time required, facilities required (eg indoor/ outside under a marquee), whether we could cycle 150 cubs through? Now that I've seen it on the list, I'm curious! (Had been thinking of cubs moving round bases of somewhere around 30-45 mins each) PS that's 1st Balwyn (my home pack) with Murray Taylor in the photo!!

1/8th Blackburn - Saturday 2nd October - Daniel Gutsell

- Daniel has been approached to run a pre-JOTA activity for this group.
- Dan will likely have one of his Patrol Leaders assisting on-site, however remote contacts on HF requested.
- Approx. six Scouts.
- Interested in doing a fox hunting activity. Dan will discuss equipment offline with Bryan.
- Any further details or requests will follow by email.

Activity details:

- + HF Station
- + Fox Hunting Activity

Program Activities - Dates not set

1st Upwey Scout Unit (Tim Allchin)

- **Lead: Kevin & family**
- **Assist: Dan may be available**
- Nothing further has been heard from the group regarding a pre-JOTA activity.
- Contact the group again in 2022 to see how we can assist with program delivery.

Original request:

Thanks for all your work! We would like to have a radio night at our hall on Thursday 2nd or 9th September this year. We have had a number of these nights over the years as our introduction to JOTA which we have attended for many years. These nights have generally been a series of rotational activities including fox hunting, radio battleships, mast erection and talking over a short wave radio. We start opening parade at 7.30 but arrive at 6.45-7pm to setup and finish with closing parade at 9.20. There is generally a window of 90 minutes for the rotations.

Moreland Darebin District Joeys Day (Phillip Bailey)

- **Lead: Neil**
- **Assist: Andy, Alli, Luke, Kevin (in principle)**
- The activity date is up in the air pending lockdowns, restrictions, and event size limits.
- Neil will contact them to discuss the idea of running an activity of the size originally requested in 2022.
- No date was discussed due to VicJam planning and commitments. Revisit at the start of 2022.

Previous details (Neil Wilson):

After a brief email introducing myself/ the unit - Phil from 1st Reservoir Joeys indicated that they'd had significant interest in this activity at a district level and would like to run it as a Radio Unit Come and Try day for their district, which has 12 Joey mobs.

Their preference is for it to happen on a Sunday in term 4 preferably a Sunday in the back end of November/ start of December.

I indicated that from our perspective term 4 is likely to be reasonably busy with JOTA, VicJam prep and other activities so we would need to consider it at our next team meeting and get back to him with some potential dates.

From the previous list of activities I'm thinking it would be best set up as a series of bases with patrols rotating between them. From our list, potential activities for this age group could be:

Activity ideas:

- + Using conductive play dough to build simple circuits
- + Playing games such as battleships or hangman with a twist by using the Phonetic Alphabet and learning some simple radio procedures along the way
- + Building a simple skill tester and using it to compete against others
- + Fox hunting - patrols of hounds hunting out hidden radio transmitters using sniffers (specialised radio receivers coupled with a directional antenna to sniff out a signal).
- + Teaching component identification and using circuit building blocks to create simple circuits.
- + Potentially an SSTV activity - trial run for VicJam activity

Scout Quest Webinar

- Just a thought - we can pitch an idea if we have one.
- There is no specific deadline on this - only deadline is if we want to do something prior to JOTA.
- We need to be conscious of how it is delivered with regards to interactivity, etc.
- We could go simple - "What is Amateur Radio?" with an explanation of peer-to-peer nature, etc.
- We could also discuss the hacker/maker movement and how this ties into STEM.
- Also how aspects of Amateur Radio, such as contests (gamification) may fit into other activities, e.g. Parks and Peaks.
- Email thread to discuss further.

Original details (Murray Taylor):

The Melbourne Region Seenee were discussing JOTA, and the impact of Covid on youth members attending a radio base under the always changing lockdown rules and / or (more) zoom sessions..

A suggestion is to do a segment about amateur radio on the Scout Quest webinar channel - covering the hobby, the experimentation within AR that has led to innovations in current use today, maybe the AMSAT program, the service opportunities within WICEN etc

JOTA/JOTI 2021 (Friday 15th to Sunday 17th October 2021)

Requests for assistance

Request for assistance in running a JOTA program this year:

Dear radio comms team, Is JOTA/JOTI 2021 Friday 15th October 2021 - 12:00 am (midnight AEST)? What is required and how do we give Scouts from our group the opportunity to participate? We do not have our own radio communications, but the youth have their mobile phones. Are there radio communications app for their phones, so their phones work like walkie talkies etc?

From Lianna (Chil), 1st Kilmore.

- Karen is unable to assist with JOTA this year however is very happy to help next year.
 - Karen had also been asked by Seymour for assistance this year.
- We will contact 1st Kilmore to see if we are able to assist in some way.

Planning Notes - Activities

- Treetops: Cohen Shield/JOTA cancelled.
- NSW planning on running an 80m net from 7pm on Saturday 16th October, details circulated via email.
- Juliet Montague is planning to run an activity in Castlemaine.
- Western Vic JOTA/JOTI camp has been cancelled. David Timms is planning to run an activity for the Wimmera District in Horsham.

Amateur Events

Past Events:

- RD Contest (Saturday 14th/Sunday 15th August 2021)
- International Lighthouse Weekend (Saturday 21st/Sunday 22nd August 2021)
 - Many Victorian sites did not go ahead due to restrictions.
- ALARA Contest (Saturday 28th/Sunday 29th August 2021)
 - Philip reported that the contest went well with a lot of activity. Most of the activity was on Echolink owing to less than ideal HF conditions.
 - A Zoom stream was provided, unsure of take up on this though.
 - There will be a discussion with ALARA to see if we are interested in participating again next year.

Training Courses

- Amateur Foundation – Mafeking Rover Park (Friday 27th August to Sunday 29th August 2021) **(did not run due to lockdown)**

VicJam

To be discussed after SRESU business is concluded.

Program Support

Night Owl (Saturday 11th to Sunday 12th September 2021)

- Event was cancelled.

JOTA/JOTI 2021 (Friday 15th to Sunday 17th October 2021)

- Badges
 - Last year we ordered 500 initially and went back for a second run.
 - Some regional/outer-metro events will likely go ahead, despite the probability that some metro events will not.
 - Reminder that JOTI can be done from home so some badges may be sold in this way.
 - Indicative numbers - 2020: 300 regional/200 metro
 - It was agreed to purchase 300 badges with the option to order more down the track as required.
 - **Kent will place an order for 300 JOTA/JOTI 2021 badges with ScoutShop.**
- Callsigns
 - Callsigns have been paid for (14th September, not reflected in this month's finance report).
 - Looking to bring all callsign dates into alignment post-JOTA: Kent/Andy will liaise.
 - VK3SBP application for Bay Park (Ged Hook) is with AMC.
- Registrations (WOSM & VK JOTA)
 - VK JOTA (vkjotijota.com) is live and open for registrations and badge/callsign orders.
 - WOSM (jotajoti.info) registration is also strongly encouraged this year.
 - In the future these two platforms will be linked, however registration on both platforms this year is strongly encouraged.
- Zoom and Child Safety expectations during lockdown
 - Any time you are running a Zoom session, the session **must be two deep** - that is, at least two registered Scout leaders in the call, or at least two youth members if there is only one adult member. Be aware of this in both main rooms and breakout rooms.
 - One adult with one youth member **cannot occur**. If you find yourself in this situation transfer the youth member to the Zoom waiting room or end the call.
 - Recording of calls is not encouraged.

Program Enrichment

Postponed until after lockdown.

Additional Business

- Discussion on LED callsign signs. Murray has put together a proof of concept. Dan's recommendation is to use either colored perspex or colored lights, not a combination. Conversation to continue offline.
 - Need to start publicising amateur radio training opportunities at VicJam. To be discussed at the next VicJam Amateur Radio meeting.
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Meeting Closed: 8.57pm

Next Meeting: 7.30pm, Tuesday 12th October 2021 at the BATCave, Legana Street, Mt Waverley

VicJam

Reports:

- Subcommittee meeting was held on Monday 30th August.
- Philip will contact Icom regarding equipment hire.
- Call for hessian, camo net, etc. if anyone has access to any for amateur radio shed at VicJam.
- Philip to provide updated equipment list to Sarah.
- If there is a need for a meeting prior to the end of the month this will be communicated by email.

Subcommittee meetings are being held on the last Monday of the month from 8pm. Next meeting: Monday 27th September 2021, 8pm

VicJam Notes have been moved to the VicJam meeting. Summary reports and key external action items only will be provided in the SRESU meeting agenda and minutes.

Appendix 1



Scout Radio & Electronics Service Unit

Finance Report - September Meeting

Prepared Monday 13th September 2021

Account Balances

Account	Balance on Monday 13th September 2021
Cheque Account	\$3,936.75
Savings Account	\$7,437.33

Outstanding Items

- Awaiting payment for ScoutHike invoice (\$1,682.50)
 - Awaiting payment for SPOT hire invoice, 1st Bannockburn, May 2021 (\$50.00)
 - Payment to ACMA for licences 2021/22 (\$1,848.00 + \$55.00)
 - Payment to Scouts Victoria for Marine Course participant - David Bryar (\$135.00)
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Cheque Account (013599 268166933)

Date	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
10 Aug 2021	Opening Balance			\$4,222.45
10 Aug 2021	Bryan Ackerly - Purchase of Comms Rack		\$100.00	\$4,322.45
12 Aug 2021	Wireless Institute of Australia - 6 Foundation Books	\$120.00		\$4,202.45
16 Aug 2021	Hoadley Hide - Repeater Trailer Hire, Easter 2021		\$150.00	\$4,352.45
20 Aug 2021	Philip Adams - Reimbursement for Williamstown Marine Course Fees	\$623.00		\$3,729.45
23 Aug 2021	Philip Adams - Cash Payment for Marine Course (David Bryar)		\$135.00	\$3,864.45
25 Aug 2021	Karissa Nogler-Wells - Old JOTA Badges		\$6.20	\$3,870.65
2 Sep 2021	Darren Robertson - Amateur Radio Badges		\$11.10	\$3,881.75
2 Sep 2021	Peter Chaplin - VK3SAJ - 2021/22		\$55.00	\$3,936.75
13 Sep 2021	Closing Balance			\$3,936.75

Savings Account (013599 268169069)

Date	Description	Debit	Credit	Balance
10 Aug 2021	Opening Balance			\$7,437.00
31 Aug 2021	Interest		\$0.33	\$7,437.33
13 Sep 2021	Closing Balance			\$7,437.33