



Scout Radio Victoria

Agenda - May Monthly Meeting

Tuesday 9th May 2023, 7.30pm

BATCave, Legana Street, Mount Waverley

Chair: Luke Byrnes

Minutes: Andy King

Meeting Opened: 7.35pm

Attendees

Luke Byrnes, Andy King, Gemma Nash, Daniel Gutsell, Neil Wilson, Murray Taylor, Karl Donald, Sarah Thom, Kent Cochran, Adrian Robinson, Mark Perkins

Online: Peter McDonald, Damien Kuzek, Colin Parlby (Scout 4x4), Neal W, Dimitrios Karagiannis, Alli Burdon, Bryan Ackerly, Col Herbert

Apologies

Apologies received from Matt Cengia, Chris Ly, Ross Swinton, Jenny Adams, Alice Hayllar, Fiona McDonald

Absentees

Meeting Items

Administration

Chair's Comments

- Welcome to new attendees, and congratulations to those from the Bay Park amateur course who have received successful results.
 - Please join the [Trello Board](#) if you have not done so already - last chance before we make it a private space!
 - Thanks to Murray, Kent and Karl for their efforts to sell old assets at the MDRC Hamfest - this was a big tidying up achievement, great work.
 - Thanks to Phil for his work on Saturday providing SRCOP training, and to Jenny for assisting.
 - Thanks to Andy for managing the VHF DMR project with SLT this past few months - congratulations are in order for funding and ordering a turn-key forest radio solution that will be ready for ScoutHike.
 - [New Logo](#) proposal to discuss later in the meeting.
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Previous Minutes

- Amendment to the April minutes to reflect the correct ScoutHike Radio Operator attendee list (now published online).
 - It was moved by Murray Taylor and Karl Donald that the minutes of the Scout Radio Victoria meeting held Tuesday 11th April 2023 with the above amendment be adopted. Carried unanimously.
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Finance

Account	Balance on 9 May 2023
STEM - State Radio (Bendigo Bank)	\$9,266.43

- Bank balance is healthy thanks to a large number of outstanding invoices being paid. There are still a few outstanding invoices from JOTA season and 2022 courses that are being chased up.
- 2022 ScoutHike invoice is still outstanding
- Hoadley Hide payment received this month into our old ANZ bank account. Thanks to Allison and Phil for assisting in transferring the funds into the Bendigo Bank account.
- Census has been paid for those whose primary role is Scout Radio Victoria.

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

Work Health & Safety (WHS)

- Please ensure you remain on top of eLearning modules including WHS as they become due.
- Scouts Victoria is rolling out Child Safe Training. For those with primary roles outside of Scout Radio Victoria, please follow this process within your primary Districts. More information to follow for those registered directly with Scout Radio Victoria regarding dates and times available to complete this session.

Program Review

No items this month

Program Planning

Trello update

[Trello Card Review](#)

- Last chance before we make it a private space! Please contact Luke if you have any issues accessing the Trello board.

Cuboree

- eDM to known Amateurs who are Scouting members to assist with Cuboree - Luke and Kent to complete this week.
- Word from Cuboree team is that no Scouts under 13 can assist at the event.
 - Luke will follow up on this situation around Scout helpers before this eDM goes out to ensure that it goes to people who are eligible to assist at the event.
- Bibby can attend on account of age.
- Site visit outcome
 - Kent has provided Tower Photos for the second tower penned for transfer to Rowallan.
 - The second tower looks serviceable - it was been up for around 40 years. There are antennas on it but no coax attached.

Program Enrichment - 8pm

Message Handling Course

Thanks to Philip for providing a message handling course in preparation for ScoutHike.

Amateur Events

None for May

Training Courses

Foundation Amateur Courses

Foundation Course @ Bay Park, 31/3/2023 - 2/4/2023

- Results have returned success for all candidates. Luke to get Extranet records updated to reflect this.

Foundation Course @ Camp Warringal, 2/6/2023 - 4/6/2023

Completed a budget for the course, all Foundation courses should be \$220 (excl. ACMA and Callsign costs).

- Trainees Phil, Luke, Kent, Sarah. Val Paton has accepted our request to cater.
- Expecting a full course, possibly overflow - additional trainers may mean that we can increase our capacity.
- Registrations low at the moment but Luke will directly contact interested parties this week.

Team Skill Building Weekend @ Mafeking Rover Park, 28/7/2023 - 30/7/2023

Mafeking is already booked for the no-longer-running STS Pilot Program - we can change our booking to provide an Amateur Course this weekend? We could alternatively use the weekend as a skill-building course for the team. Thoughts?

- There is interest in a skill building weekend.
- There will be a small cost to this event.
- Will be open to other youth and adult members of Scouts to learn more about radio.
- Include in eDM to past Foundation participants.
- Cover topics such as setting up repeater, building antennas, setting up complex stations, programming radios, making a wire antenna, ...
 - If there are any topics you would like to run a session on, please add to the Trello card.
- Looking at closing registrations early July.

Future Courses

Aim for a course in the West (suburban or rural) in the later half of the year - considering Geelong or Ballarat.

- Foundation courses to be planned for 2023 to accommodate:
 - Interest from Hurstbridge Scouts and Venturers
 - Interest from Mallee Mud Kamp attendees (x2)
 - Interest for Western Vic JOTA to have another course at Coinda Burrong
 - Interest from MRP team members
 - Follow up with registrants from previous course in Geelong who were unable to attend.

AOCP Advanced Theory

The syllabus changed last year and we are now in line with the syllabus used in Europe. There are not a lot of resources in Australia for the updated syllabus.

From Sarah Thom (VK3STH):

As I have been working through the syllabus for the AOCP Advanced theory exam I have started putting together study resources for others to use. It would be helpful for me to have feedback from those who are interested in doing their Advanced qualifications in the future about what sort of format they want to do this in so that I can tailor the resources to suit. For perspective, it might be useful to know that other places that run courses for this syllabus generally recommend 40+ hours of course time plus private study. This is for the theory exam only (50 questions, 90 minutes). There is also a regulations exam (30 questions in 30 minutes).

Sarah Thom, VK3STH

Option 1

We provide course material (slide decks, practice questions etc.) and everyone goes and does their own thing. I am happy to help people 1:1 if they want help or they can study independently if they

prefer or we can have informal study sessions if people think they are more likely to actually study it in a group environment, but essentially we would be leaving it up to people to direct their own learning. When someone is ready to do an exam they'd let us know and we could help coordinate and supervise.

Option 2

We run this as a course in a fairly intensive format; 3-4 whole days non-residential spread over consecutive weekends (eg. Week 1: half day Saturday and full day Sunday, Week 2: Sunday, Week 3: Sunday) then schedule an exam day for a few weeks later so people have time to consolidate learning at home.

Option 3

We run this as a course over an extended period (eg. 2 hours a week for 20 weeks on a Monday evening). This is how most external providers do it.

ACTION: Trello Card to be made for discussion.

There is interest in all three approaches above, with different options better suited to different individuals' situations.

Please vote on the Trello card to express your interest in different options to gauge priority by the end of May.

Some work has previously gone into setting up a Learning Management System to facilitate online content - this will be worked on further to allow the advanced course content to be added.

Thank you to Sarah for leading this project.

Marine Radio Course

SRCOP Course @ GSWAC, 6 May 2023

2 Scouting participants registered, course was integrated with Sailing Club course delivery. Thanks again to Phil and Jenny for successful delivery.

Program Support

ScoutHike 20/21 May 2023

VHF DMR Radio proposal has been approved, ordered, and shipped. It's expected they will arrive this tomorrow. These will be programmed and tested this week so the equipment will be ready. All equipment to support these radios at Sleep Points will be provided (radio, microphone, antenna, 10m coax) with the exception of power supply. Note that propagation calculations suggest that VHF reception should be adequate at 2m HASL across all Sleep Points, subject to environmental conditions. Radios will have PowerPole connectors and draw less than 4A @ 5w when transmitting. It is recommended that stations have at least 50Ah (100Ah recommended) of battery power available. Please see Luke tonight if you require additional power support.

An updated Comms Plan will be distributed for review this week to those attending ScoutHike.

Final briefing to be conducted virtually on Tuesday, 7.30pm 16th May 2023 online at <https://meet.jit.si/ScoutRadioVictoria>. Briefing folders including maps and updated comms plans will be left for you at your Sleep Point at ScoutHike on the Friday with your radio.

Thanks to our SP radio operators: Kent, Daniel, Andy, Mark, Matty, Adrian, Karl, Sarah, and Neil. If anything changes with these arrangements, please let me know ASAP so that any changes allow movement of operators to have access to Sleep Point catering services.

Of the approx. \$22,500 spent on this project, half (\$11,326.50) has been provided as a grant from Scouts Victoria and the other half (\$11,326.50) as a loan to be repaid over five years. We may look at paying this off sooner if cashflow permits.

The cost we charge to events will increase in line with the increase in capacity and capability we are delivering.

At ScoutHike the 4x4 team will be using the same radios as our Sleep Point operators. In future we can investigate sending digital messages between Sleep Points using the radios we have purchased.

Please contact Luke if you require batteries for ScoutHike. There is scope for battery boxes to be made up from multiple batteries we have.

Kent has a contact at Scania for second hand batteries - 80 to 100 Ah lithiums - indicative pricing before proceeding

If you haven't spoken to Sleep Point coordinators please do so this week and make sure you register for the event at events.manninghamscouts.org.au

Thanks to mattcen for their work on maps provided to the ScoutHike team.

Of those in the room attending ScoutHike, phone providers are:

- Mark - Telstra
- Sarah - Telstra
- Karl - Vodafone
- Ian - Telstra
- Andy - Optus
- Fiona - Optus
- Damien - Telstra

The first message to HQ at the event is to include phone reception availability for HQ's reference. If you aren't with Telstra please check if there is someone on your SP who is to check reception.

Availability update - available to attend ScoutHike:

Daniel, Neil (no Venturers at this stage), Karl, Sarah, Kent, Mark, Damien, Ian, Fiona, Andy

Night Owl 2023

Night Owl was originally scheduled for 2-4/6/2023, but have revised their date this past Sunday to move the event back to 8-10/9/2023.

They would like to use RadioActiv8 to run the event after demonstrating its success last year, allowing up-to-date patrol tracking and youth member radio communications functionality.

As such our support requirements are:

- Fresh RadioActiv8 instance and computer infrastructure (2-4 laptops + network are ok).
- 3x staff at HQ to run RA8.
- Radio Operators to assist guiding patrols to use radios at each of the 5 bases where required.
- 2x VHF DMR radios (total 12) per base to minimize radio queues when checking into and out of the bases.
- Maps (@mattcen)
- Luke is unlikely to be able to attend during the event so looking for someone to take lead.
- This is exciting as the first time RadioActiv8 will be used full-scale to manage an event outside of the Radio and STEM teams.

JOTA at The Pines

Neil has followed up on an enquiry received last year to discuss.

Name: Daryl Gresty Message: Hi, I am wondering if you might be able to help us out with a radio team so that we can run an activity of JOTA in 2023 (21 - 22 October 2023) at The Pines Scout Camp in Altona. This is a new activity for us so we are not exactly sure what it will look like at the moment. We do understand that this would be a peak weekend for you so any help that you can provide would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to discuss this I can be reached on either email or on my mobile 0419 587 498

- Sandra from Lerderderg Region has advised that their Cohen Shield is back on the JOTA weekend.

JOTA at Gilwell

Boost 2023 (Bay Park Boost) are now at Gilwell. Ged Hook has asked to discuss JOTA at Gilwell with people who have previously run JOTA at the site to discuss what works for them, and was invited to join us this evening.

- Luke and Kent will discuss with Ged.
- It has been pointed out to Ged that, to deliver radio program, the Storm Hut is a requirement.

Other JOTA Notes

- Some work taking place to look at how we effectively manage JOTA this year using Trello for internal comms, and VKJOTA for publicity.
 - Watch this space for Trello details. If you have ideas please add them to the relevant Trello card.
- Aiming to have VKJOTA ready for 2023 within the next month.
- Col will be running a JOTA event at Lake Boga.

Gilweroo

Request for provision of UHF handheld radios, approx ~20, for 17-19/11/2023.

- Luke will follow up after ScoutHike.

Youth Net - past notes

No development at this time, to be followed up with this offline after ScoutHike.

- Echolink is a struggle with youth registering, can be overcome, however mindful it is a barrier.
 - Scout radio Victoria have 4 talk groups on DMR. 1921-1924.
 - It works really well, if we can link it into IRLP and Echolink, DRM bridge it will allow more accessibility. Most important thing is getting radio in hand.
 - Kent has concerns around linking DMR and Echolink but is resolved happy hearing we have control over it.
 - It is a well dispersed network with very limited access points.
 - Would like to eventually buy some hotspots to send out with the radios.
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Support Development

Hamfests

- Well done to Kent, Murray and Karl - their efforts are much appreciated.
 - Received \$742 for items sold.

Scout Radio Victoria Assets

- We will hold SPOT but not renew the service fee at this time.
 - There are other SPOT units within Scouting, and commercial hire costs are not excessive.
 - Possibly investigate satellite phone if we wish to offer a device in this space.

New Logo Proposal

- Comments that radio is not as prominent in the proposed logo.
 - Could we include the fleur de lis or Scouts Australia logo in this design?
 - Style guide considerations around including Scouts logo - would be difficult to appropriately fit within this design.
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Additional Business

- Karl - one of his Cubs is going to write up how to do Parks on the Air
 - Luke will provide a link to the Challenge Cards platform which is being launched in the near future
 - Neil asked for feedback and ideas on Turnkey Ham/STEM Spaces on the Trello board.
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Meeting Closed: 9.54 pm

Next Meeting: Tuesday 13th June 2023, 7.30pm at the BATC, Legana Street, Mount Waverley

Appendix 1 - Finance Report

May 2023 Meeting

Prepared 9 May 2023

STEM - State Radio (Bendigo Bank)

Date	Description	Reference	Debit	Credit	Running Balance
State Radio					
Opening Balance			0	8,385.96	8,385.96
10-Apr-23	Payment: Poornima PREMARATNA	SRV-1105	0	50	8,435.96
15-Apr-23	Scouts Victoria - Leader Census Payment	I236093	500	0	7,935.96
18-Apr-23	Philip Adams - Foundation Course reimbursables		57.5	0	7,878.46
20-Apr-23	MOORABBIN AND DISTRICT RADIO CLUB INC		20	0	7,858.46
23-Apr-23	Payment: Fiona MACDONALD (...469)	SRV-1109	0	37	7,895.46
23-Apr-23	Payment: Peter MACDONALD (...636)	SRV-1110	0	37	7,932.46
23-Apr-23	Payment: Damien KUZZEK (...839)	SRV-1112	0	37	7,969.46
27-Apr-23	Payment: Chris LY (...549)	SRV-1111	0	37	8,006.46
27-Apr-23	Payment: Hoadley Hide	SRV-1106	0	150	8,156.46
27-Apr-23	Payment: Dimitrios KARAGIANNIS (...291)	SRV-1114	0	37	8,193.46
27-Apr-23	Payment: Chris LY (...549)	SRVE-266	0	220	8,413.46
28-Apr-23	Payment: Manos AVTZIS (...790)	SRV-1113	0	37	8,450.46

Date	Description	Reference	Debit	Credit	Running Balance
1-May-23	Bendigo Bank		0	0.07	8,450.53
1-May-23	Payment: Bay Park	SRV-1115	0	200	8,650.53
1-May-23	Payment: 9th Oakleigh Scout Group c/- Dimitrios KARAGIANNIS	SRV-1107	0	10	8,660.53
1-May-23	Payment: Manos AVTZIS (...790)	SRVE-263	0	220	8,880.53
1-May-23	Payment: Dimitrios KARAGIANNIS (...291)	SRVE-264	0	220	9,100.53
1-May-23	Payment: Scouts Victoria Comm Tech - StarLink at Scout Hack	SRV-1119	0	200	9,300.53
5-May-23	Bank Transfer from State Radio to STEM Purchases	Power Plugs for Scout Hack Radios	34.1	0	9,
Total State Radio			611.6	1,492.07	9,266.43
Closing Balance			0	9,266.43	9,266.43
Total			611.6	1,492.07	880.47

Appendix 2 - Proposed New Logo

