

2024-07-09 | Minutes - Monthly Meeting | Scout Radio Victoria

 **Tuesday 9th July 2024, 7.30pm**

 [Join our Cloud HD Video Meeting](#)

 [Scouts Victoria, Branch Activity Training Centre \(BATC\) · 1-5 Legana St, Mount Waverley VIC 3149, Australia](#)

Chair: Luke Byrnes

Minutes: Alice Hayllar

Meeting Opened: 7:30pm

▼ Attendees

- Luke Byrnes
- Alice Hayllar
- Mark Perkins
- Ben Hamilton
- Douglas Ahearn
- Adrian Robinson
- Peter Macdonald
- Jackson Isted
- Sarah Thom
- Gemma Nash
- Alastair Knowles
- Murray Taylor
- Phil Adams
- Jenny Adams
- Andy King
- Matt Cengia
- Karl Donald
- Damien Kuzek
- Kent Cochran

Online

- Bryan Ackerly

▼ Apologies

- Col Herbert
 - Neil Wilson
 - Jodie Bedford
 - Kevin Bedford
 - Erin Bedford
 - Fiona Macdonald
-

Meeting Items

Administration

Chair's Comments

- No significant progress has been made this past month due to personal circumstances interfering with Scouting works - apologies to those affected.

SC - STEM Comments

- Looking at creating resources to be able to send out to groups, if you have any radio activities you have run pass them along so we can get more radio activities at the grass roots level.

Previous Minutes

i Motion Template:

*It was moved by mattcen and Murray that the minutes of the Scout Radio Victoria meeting held Tuesday 09 - 07 - 2024 be adopted.
Motion Accepted/Rejected*

It was moved by mattcen and Murray that the minutes of the Scout Radio Victoria meeting held Tuesday 09-07-2024 be adopted. Motion Accepted

Finance

Account	Balance on 11th June 2024
STEM - State Radio (Bendigo Bank)	\$16,281.19

- ScoutHike monies received.
-

Work Health & Safety (WHS)

- Please ensure you remain on top of eLearning modules including WHS as they become due.
 - WHS and Child Safe Scouting modules now expire after 2 years instead of 3 years.
-

Program Enrichment

1. Preparing for JOTA CONTINUED in July
 - a. Start considering where you will help, and planning for JOTA this year.
 - b. Boost will be on the same weekend as JOTA. This may be a big discussion point next month.
 - c. Repeater network to be linked between sites for JOTA.
 - d. Would like to buy Raspberry Pi's and Raspberry Pi access points for DMR for talk groups & talk zones.
 - e. Purchase of filters
 - f. Mark to borrow ICOM loaner radio
 - g. Mark/Q: How much for badges? Luke/A: No change to cost (\$2, same as national price).
 - h. Mark/Q: Will there be a badge design comp? Luke/A: No, its too late for this year. Hopefully a discussion for next year.

i. Murray/Q: Any cost for using callsigns? Luke/A: TBD, expected answer in July, but cheaper than before.

j. Murray/Q: Fox hunting gear unit cost? Gemma/A: Historically \$50 per kit.

k. Alastair/Q: Is there a list for all JOTA locations? Luke/A: Yes..ish, but currently offline. Will hopefully be back online by end of July.

l. Neil/Q: Is it possible for vkjota to cross-register with joti/jota website? Luke/A: Not in scope for website. Too difficult.

m. Juliette/S: there is a directory for all the registered sites worldwide, but it is only available about 3 weeks before Jota each year and is then taken down. Luke/Ack: Yes and it sucks because of that.

n. Vkjota is back up, thankyou mattcen!

o. JOTA Locations

i. Ben, Damien, mattcen and Alice are available for wherever

ii. Mark is going to Treetops

iii. Douglas and Adrian will be at Mafeking, there is a Scout booking at the park so potential to offer an activity

iv. Murray and Karl will be with 1st Vic Sea Scouts again at Albert Lake

v. Sarah has no plans but will depend on STEM activities at Boost

vi. Gemma will look at jumping on a radio while at home

vii. Alastair will be at Clifford Park

viii. Phil is looking at Kilmore district but is waiting to see

ix. Andy will be Western Vic JOTA

x. Bryan will be either Clifford park or

2. Boost is once again running on the JOTA/JOTI weekend (see further notes below).

a. Concern over impact on the ability to run JOTA effectively raised by multiple people

b. Concerns with quality of radio program delivery

Program Review

Program Planning

Amateur Events

[Trans Tasman Low band](#) - 20th July 6pm - Midnight.

- Luke/Q: Anyone have any plans to operate something that weekend? No plans listed
- Luke/S: Winter VHF/UHF field day in September.
- ~~Neil/S: Treetops will run a Patrol Activity Camp on this weekend for the event.~~ Event Cancelled due to organiser no longer being available

Training Courses

Future Courses

TBC post-ScoutHike

- Foundation and Marine radio hopefully June/July
- Phil will likely be out of action mid August until possibly late September
- New exam papers have been released but there was a stuff up, so keep an eye out
- If we want to do it on computers it will need to be pre loaded

Luke: Would like to get a course up and running, just need to find a suitable date and venue.

If you are interested in assisting with running a course (Friday night through to Sunday afternoon) or are a qualified assessor and can help with assessment on the Sunday of the course please fill out your availability on the doodle poll below. Note that the courses run for a full weekend but only the Sunday date is shown on the doodle poll. Once a weekend has been selected and a suitable venue found we will contact anyone who has indicated they are available for that weekend to confirm attendance times in more detail.



<https://doodle.com/meeting/participate/id/eIMqvzla>

Foundation Amateur

AOCP Advanced Theory

Marine Radio Course

Program Support

Night Owl

- Advised this is not running for 2024 - disappointing because we have had a great experience with this event.

AJ2025

- AJ2025 is coming up start of next year, who is interested in supporting an amateur radio station?
 - Neal is registered.
- General lack of interest in attending due to distance/other commitments to Scouting.

Contesting email

Karl: Would like to create task ID for POTA, but have no access for registration for email address.

When you log a contest outside of scouting, it can be very difficult especially when using multiple call signs. To make it easier, we are looking into creating a single email address or alias to encompass all the call signs.

Boost

Concerns raised by Luke around Boost being scheduled for the same weekend as JOTA for a second consecutive year which does not promote youth members having good experiences with extensive periods of hands on radios.

- Mark - noted that was challenging running a station for JOTA 2023 Treetops with less contacts available because of less local stations running
- Ben - ran the JOTA station at Boost 2023 (with Kent) and did not find the experience of having dozens of Scouts coming through at the same time was conducive to a quality experience
- Bryan - noted events who had requested fox hunting gear for JOTA 2023 ended up cancelling their event because of conflict with Boost dates
- Phil - said that experience has shown for JOTA to be a meaningful radio experience for Scouts they need to be in smaller groups with enough time to interact properly with radios

Luke plans to discuss these concerns with the Boost team.

Support Development

Duplexer

Mini VHF duplexer worked on by Adrian and Douglas - further info to follow.

We now have one attached to the trailer, and another portable one to take out in the field as well.

Radio Band Pass Filters

Need to purchase more of them. If you are interested in getting some filters for yourself, whether in or out of scouts, please reach out so we can do a bulk order.

Move to Confluence - Still to be completed.

We will be moving our IP and changing our processes from Trello into Confluence. While the new space does not do the same tracking specifics that Trello offered, much of what is provided in Trello will work better in the documentation space that Confluence provides.

Further, Confluence will feature database capabilities from June, meaning that we can leverage such a resource to maintain information consistently across the SRV space and match the productivity we gained when we first used Trello.

Additional Business

Alastair: Page about electronics kits on the SRV website, who is responsible, and is anything happening on this space. Andy: Website currently outdated, lets have a chat outside this forum. Always happy to have people help.

1. Kent

- a. Power poles have arrived
- b. Puffing Billy?
 - i. Bryan expressed interest but wanting more information
- c. ACMA letter was received, repeater application was declined, there are no details on what the application was for, they have asked for \$26 for the application to go through
 - i. Please talk to us if you want to register a repeater with the ACMA

2. Mark

- a. Rob Arends has been in contact with me and is still interested in putting up a tower to link the main campsite on the hill (near the rain tanks) with the bush camp site. Rob has done a check of the height of the trees and has found they are about 14+metres.

Rob has realised that the Gilwell tower is not high enough and is seeking different options.

Rob is considering buying a new 15m to 20m seasaw light pole and offering some space on the top for Scouting repeaters.

Rowallan would own and maintain the pole. At the base of the pole power(240Vac) and internet would be available.

Rob is planing on installing 1 or 2 Ubiquiti AF-2G24-S45 or AF-3G26-S45 or AF-5G23-S45 or AF-5G30-S45 dishes. We (SRV) need to supply the wind loading of the antenna/s that we would potentially be putting on the pole so the Quote is built for all the antennas.

Can anyone help me with detail of suitable commercial repeater antennas that we could potentially put on the seesaw pole?

Rob requires antenna details (make, model and wind loading) for the antennas we would be putting on the tower for radio frequencies allocated to treetops?

What sort of tower head hardware (top spreader size, tee/quad, etc for correct antenna separation) would be required to mount the required antennas?

I will pass these on, so quotes for a suitable pole and head hardware can be obtained.

3. Douglas

- a. Need to borrow fox hunting gear this Friday for my Rover Crew

4. Sarah

- a. Please fill out the poll if you are interested in helping with radio operator courses within the next 24 hours so we can start looking at venues

5. Alastair

- a. looking at purchasing a Super Elastic Signal Stick, please chat to me if you also want to order some, looking to place an order next week

- b. [Super-elastic Signal Stick: SMA female — Signal Stuff](#)

6. Murray

- a. To encourage more interest in Amateur Radio, particularly for the younger ones as well as Girl Guides and Scouts, ALARA, the Australian Ladies Amateur Radio Association, has now introduced a Radio Challenge badge.

This involves participants completing 6 activities from a list of electronics, radio and communications topics. By submitting a report detailing what they learnt participants will be able to gain a certificate of completion and a badge; In addition ALARA has also added new information for beginners on their website so please spread the word about these items to anyone, male or female you know who needs some extra encouragement to get involved in Amateur Radio.

More details can be found on the ALARA website

https://alara.org.au/for_beginners/index.html

- b. Will need a couple of batteries for JOTA

7. Luke

- a. Please reach out if I have neglected any communication from you last month, and reach out if you are not on confluence yet

Meeting Closed: 8:51pm

Next Meeting: 7:30pm, 13 August 2024 @ [Scouts Victoria, Branch Activity Training Centre \(BATC\) · 1-5 Legana St, Mount Waverley VIC 3149, Australia](#)

Appendix 1 - Finance Report

Scouts Victoria STEM State Radio - Monthly Finance Transaction Report

For the period 12 June 2024 to 9 July 2024

Date	Description	Reference	Debit	Credit	Running Balance
Opening Balance			\$0.00	\$11,284.09	\$11,284.09
23 Jun 2024	Payment: ScoutHike	SRV-1156	\$0.00	\$4,977.00	\$16,261.09
23 Jun 2024	Adjustment, ScoutHike overpayment		\$0.00	\$20.00	\$16,281.09
01 Jul 2024	Bendigo Bank	Interest	\$0.00	\$0.10	\$16,281.19
Total State Radio			\$0.00	\$4,997.10	\$16,281.19
Closing Balance			\$0.00	\$16,281.19	\$16,281.19

