

# 2024-08-13 | Minutes - Monthly Meeting | Scout Radio Victoria

 **Tuesday 13th August 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](#)

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**Chair:** Luke Byrnes

**Minutes:** @Alastair Knowles

**Meeting starts:** 7:30pm

▼ Attendees

- Karl Donald
- Luke Byrnes
- Matt Cengia
- Neil Wilson
- Gemma Nash
- Sarah Thom
- Damien Kuzek
- Andy King
- Murray Taylor
- Alastair Knowles
- Michael Turner

**Online**

- Mark Perkins
- Juliet Montague
- Peter Macdonald
- David Timms
- Bryan Ackerly
- Kent Cochran

▼ Apologies

- Phil and Jenny Adams
  - Kent Cochran
  - Alice Hayllar
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# Meeting Items

## Administration

### Chair's Comments

- Reiteration from last month. Personal challenges have nearly resolved - lots of catch-up and backlog coming to fruition in time for JOTA season.

### SC - STEM Comments

- Congratulations to Luke on 10 years of service! <applause as noted>

### Previous Minutes

Due to delays in sending out minutes, we will defer acceptance of minutes to next month.

**i** Motion Template:

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

## Finance

Account	Balance on 13th August 2024
STEM - State Radio (Bendigo Bank)	\$16,281.33

- \$0.14 interest, otherwise as-read from last month.

## 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.
- Police Checks

## Program Enrichment

### JOTA:

New badge for JOTA will be available from  [VK JOTA-JOTI – 18 – 20 October 2024](#)

New international website in the works. We were asked to provide feedback on gripes and frustrations of existing site. The new site is being constructed by Accenture.

WOSM [Safe From Harm](#) modules - to be promoted or done. Will be marketed on the VK JOTA-JOTI site.

We're looking to put together some material on "What makes a good JOTA?".

## June-July discussion notes:

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

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## Program Review

- Trans Tasman contest - Karl ran a trial event, used personal callsign.

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## Program Planning

### Amateur Events

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

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## Training Courses

### Foundation Amateur

**Sandringham Scout Group: 24 - 25 August 2024**

Details will be published at [Scouts Victoria Event Bookings](#) and the Scout Radio Victoria website this evening.

Exam for course participants aimed at being the following **Wednesday evening (28th August)**, following a Q+A session to keep information fresh. Examiners confirm availability?

- Sarah - Participant numbers are currently restricted by number of examiners available.

Murray (Sunday), Damien (Sat all day and Sun morning), Alastair (both days), Luke (both days), Sarah (both days), Neil (possibly Saturday and definitely Sunday), Karl (both days)

### Future Courses

8-10 November Amateur Foundation Course at Camp Warringal

### AOCP Advanced Theory

No details at this stage

### Marine Radio Course

No details at this stage

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## Program Support

### Night Owl

- Advised this is in fact running for 2024 - looking for those who can assist in setup and management of comms for the event.
- Held Saturday 14th September, finishing early hours 15th Sept.
- See <Night Owl info link coming shortly.>
- Please send email to Luke if you're interested in attending / helping out.
- To help so far: Luke Byrnes, Matt Cengia, Alastair Knowles (setup).

Comments:

- Gemma: Are we interested in Venturers coming to help out?
- Luke: Yes, we will ask our venturers.

### 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.

Currently awaiting O365 rollout.

## 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.

Comments from last month:

- 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.

- Andy: At this stage, we will have minimal involvement with Boost
- Luke: Following on from comments from last month, the above comments are not representative of us not wishing to help, but rather that we may be stretched for resources when we also have a need to help assist other campsites.
- Michael: We run a major scouting activity (in NSW) on the JOTA weekend and invite collaboration with local amateur radio clubs. They help provide equipment, and it provides the club with an audience for prospective younger members.
- Luke: We encourage some involvement from clubs, but are hesitant. In the past we've had experiences where the amateur operators are hesitant to let scouts operate the equipment. Our goal is to try and get "hands on radios" for as many scouts as possible. Its not that we aren't open to fostering a more educational "hands on radio" environment with external clubs, its just not been a primary focus of recent times.

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## Support Development

### Puffing Billy

See <Puffing Billy link to be inserted shortly>

- Event on the 8th of September
- Contact details for those interested in helping out or for queries: [vk3aj@chaplin.net.au](mailto:vk3aj@chaplin.net.au)

**Move to Confluence - Still to be completed.**

## Additional Business

- Michael: Curious how team is structured?
  - Luke: SRV is run as a flat structure / collective. Anyone is welcome. We have a very diverse collection of people and experiences.
- Michael: Does the team get involved with STEM?
  - Luke: Yes. Andy operates the STEM team. The SRU team runs closely with the STEM team, and also helps with some programming / IT type events.
  - Andy: STEM primarily operates in chemistry and "physical" sciences.
- Michael: Does SRV have a physical location, or are most operations "mobile"? What assets does SRV have?
  - Luke: We don't have a single location per-se. We do have a repeater network and a repeater trailer. We assist with scout parks and their radio infrastructure. We have radios and other assets that can be loaned, and we have access to some assets owned by scouting throughout Victoria.
- Michael: You do a "marine radio" license? How many people are involved with that?

- Luke: This is very much Phil's "baby". We do offer short-range marine, but its quite infrequent. Some rule changes came about 18 months ago, and now its required for all scouting boats / marine activities.
- Michael: Do you have trouble getting youth involved in foundation licensing?
  - Luke: The problem for us is "planets aligning" / timing of things. We have the interest and demand, and do occasionally run foundation courses "on demand".
  - Gemma / Luke: Our focus isn't to push for youth to get their foundation. There are lots of opportunities for scout involvement and engagement in radio to help spark interest. As an equivalent OAS level, we would anticipate a foundation license being at about the 6 or 7 level.
- Karl: On Wednesday (exam), one of the Venturers wishes to organize a fox hunt on the same evening, following the exam.
- Karl: For JOTA, we'll be running a camp.
- Alastair: I passed my advanced license this month.
- Murray: Had a potential contact for fox hunting equipment. Will help them run it.
- Murray: Waiting for Parks Vic permission to run a JOTA event at the local park land.
- Gemma: I'll be an apology for at least September, possibly longer. Maternity leave...
- Bryan: Had a request from 2 places for fox hunting equipment. Sunraysia and Heathmont.
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**Meeting Closed: 9:20pm**

**Next Meeting: 7:30pm, 10 September 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 10 July 2024 to 13 August 2024*

Date	Description	Credit	Debit
01 Aug 2024	Interest	0.14	