48th World Jamboree On The Air
48e Jamboree Sur Les Ondes
The story of the world-wide
48th Jamboree On The Air
15 - 16 October 2005

Each year in the third full weekend of October hundred-thousands of Scouts
and Guides all over the world exchange greetings, learn about each others
country and culture, swap programme ideas and make new friends. The
contacts between them are established by amateur radio stations. This
Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) is the largest annual event for Scouts.

Chaque année durant le troisième week-end d’octobre, des centaines de
milliers de Scouts et Guides dans le monde entier échangent des salutations,
apprennent la culture des autres pays, se transmettent des idées de
programme et se font des nouveaux amis, tout cela par contacts entre
stations de radioamateurs. Ce Jamboree-Sur-Les-Ondes (JSLO) est la plus
grande manifestation annuelle du Scoutisme.

Cada año, durante el tercer fin de semana de octubre, cientos de miles de
Scouts y Guias de todo el mundo se envían saludos, aprenden acerca de
otros países y culturas, comparten ideas para el programa y establecen
nuevas amistades. Estos jóvenes toman contacto mediante estaciones de
radioaficionados. El Jamboree en el aire (JOTA) es el acontecimiento Scout
anual más grande del mundo.
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1. FROM YOUR EDITOR

The annual Jamboree-On-The-Air (JOTA) is a bit different from other Scouting activities. It joins together thousands of Scouts and yet they all stay where they are, in their own Scout homes. So it's not so easy to get an impression of the activities during the JOTA. You can't just walk around over a camp-site and feel the atmosphere, discover what it was like: what new friends were met, what sort of ideas were picked up, what new things were learned about Scouts in other countries. Such an impression, of what the 48th Jamboree-On-The-Air was like, is however found in this World JOTA Report. It is based on information that National JOTA Organizers compiled and sent to the World Scout Bureau. Of course, the participating Scout groups all over the world provided the basic ingredients. Thanks therefore, to all who sent information on their JOTA programme and adventures.

JOTA organizers and other Scouters at the local, national or world level can taste the international JOTA flavour and may find new ideas. Maybe even the one that you've sent us ?!

Echolink, a system that connects amateur-radio stations and internet users together, was used more extensively this year. The main advantage is that Echolink overcomes long-distance radio propagation difficulties by routing the radio signal partly over the internet. Echolink also offers the possibility to contact Scouts in remote locations, where there is no internet, by using a radio link. In fact, combining Echolink with radio, offers a world-wide net, with access everywhere. Great for JOTA and very promising for special activities during the Centenary in 2007 !

Speaking of the upcoming Scouting Centenary, several ideas and suggestions are being elaborated and detailed. Some of those may be tested during the JOTA event in 2006. For this reason we have not yet included information on the 49th JOTA in this report. You will receive a full information package in the summer of 2006 that details the activities for the 49th JOTA and offers a glance into the future with the 50th JOTA coming up in 2007.

Impressions of the 48th JOTA:

Ireland: the 1st Meath Scout group, participating in JOTA for the first time, arranged for a defence-forces signals unit to visit their station and set up a video link with UN peacekeepers in Liberia.

Argentina: the cook at the station of the Foxes of the San Javier group, was speaking by radio (and not watching his cooking !) so the stew burned.

The Argentine Mail Service made a postal seal, which was applied to the mail of the most austral city of the world, "Ushuaia".

Bangladesh: Scouts organized the national JOTA camp on the hill top of Shitakunda.; everything had to carried from 800 meters down. Power from solar panels and dry food was supplied.

Belize: Scouts collected how to say "be prepared" in many different languages.

Hungary: Scout group 920 had HA5FQ on the air, operated by a 10-year old guide !

Namibia: one Scout did not show up for flagbreak. Everybody searched for him, but to no avail. A few hours later, the Scout appeared. He had made his bed in one of more than a dozen huts contained in the expansive Kavango homestead and fell asleep !

Netherlands Antilles: Scoutmasters, Roosberg and Corsen transmitted the opening speech for the official opening of the JOTA ......... in the Netherlands !

Switzerland: A yearly challenge is to have the highest station above sea level. This year a station at the top on Monte Ceneri, 2978m asl, won.

These are just a few of the highlights of WOSM's largest annual activity. The complete overview is in front of you now. We trust you enjoy the next pages.

Richard Middelkoop, PA3BAR.
Editor.
24 January 2006.
2. FIGURES, NUMBERS AND FACTS

To have an idea of the extend of the JOTA weekend, some figures and numbers can be helpful. E.g. to convince your supporters that the JOTA is the largest annual WOSM activity. The next pages show you the numbers taken from the received national reports.

For the 48th JOTA, Scout radio stations operated from:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Radio Stations</th>
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<td>4 Algeria</td>
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country: non-licensed scouts are allowed to speak themselves.
number: the number of other countries that were contacted.

To arrive at a reliable estimate of the total number of participants, some statistics are needed, since not all the countries have sent a JOTA report. These statistics are based on the average participation numbers of the countries that did send us a report, on the membership number of each Scout Association as registered at the World Scout Bureau and on the list of countries that were reported as being active in the event (in the table above). Guide participation has been added to the Scout numbers, except where the Association in the reporting country is a SAGNO. In the latter case the Guide participation is calculated using the registered membership figures from WAGGGS. All this leads to the participation numbers presented in figure 1.

As for the JOTA reports, the number of national JOTA organizers that sent theirs on a computer disk, via packet-radio or via email increased again to reach a remarkable 90 %. Have a look at those numbers in
Clearly, the new electronic report form was less popular, or was received too late with the JOTA information package, as we received it with just 61% of all the reports. The report form was again made available in electronic format this year on the web site and several times emails were sent to NJO’s to draw their attention to it. The printed JOTA information package, however, left Geneva rather late this time (end September 2005) and may not have reached all participating units in time.

Of all the JOTA stations, 84% are in countries that do allow Scouts to speak themselves directly over the radio, a slight increase over last year, see figure 3.

In 76% of all received reports, the NJO’s indicated that they used the Radio-Scouting web site on the WOSM server to get their JOTA information. The J-code was used by 44% of all countries, which is also a small increase over last year. Echolink was used by 57% of all stations.

Figure 4 on the next page shows the number of participating Scouts and Guides as a percentage of the total membership in their country. Using a relative number makes it easier to compare the participation in different countries. Please note that we have used a logarithmic scale in this graph. That means that both small and large numbers can be displayed in the same picture. In comparing them, please read the scale numbers. JOTA is not a competition and these figures merely indicate that there are differences in interest, organization and reporting in these countries. Local circumstances can vary quite a bit.

Figure 5 has the details of the participation in the JOTA over the last decade. In this figure we have included the participants using both Echolink and Radio during the weekend. Although the absolute numbers of Echolink users are not that big yet, you can see a notable effect on the number of countries that was reached; Echolink makes contacts possible where radio propagation fails in some instances.

The total participation numbers are steadily on the rise, and we count numbers over half-a-million again. The number of received National JOTA Reports remained around 40. But the number of participating countries reached a record 130!
Figure 4. Percentage (%) of Scouts and Guides per country taking part in the JOTA. (Note: logarithmic scale!)
A complete overview of 35 years JOTA history has been compiled by Len Jarrett, the former World JOTA Organizer and was published in 1992: "The JOTA story, 35 years of Scouting’s Worldwide Jamboree-on-the-Air". From Len’s book, we read the following:

40 years ago: the 8th JOTA, 16 – 17 October 1965.
An Indian troop, not being able to obtain a transmitter, set up a listening station and held an investiture. The leader reported: “in past ceremonies I found it hard to get the Scouts to believe in the existence of World Brotherhood. This time it was no problem, and the investiture was so much more meaningful”.

25 years ago: the 23rd JOTA, 18 - 19 October 1980
Early in 1980, a casual comment in a letter from Les Mitchell about “JOTA Oldtimers” gave me the idea that, perhaps, the World Bureau could operate a JOTA station from the UK at least once. Les took up the idea with enthusiasm and we ended up near Datchet for the 23rd JOTA. We used the call sign GB2WSB and had a team of operators with a combined JOTA experience of over 100 years. I think that we did more reminiscing than operating. Nigeria claims a 240-foot mast, but it is doubtful that it is Scout-constructed. Seventy-four countries listed as being active including, for the first time, Antarctica.
3. JOTA PRESS

The JOTA is a major public-relations event for the Scout Movement as well. There is a large number of visitors that gets acquainted with JOTA and Scouting each year. The event also catches the attention of local and national authorities, as they are often asked to deliver the official national opening speech. Add all the media coverage of the JOTA to that and you have ample opportunity to promote Scouting.
City amateur radio club stations take part in Scout Jamboree

It is an event in which five lakhs Scouts and Guides participate

Staff Reporter

BANGALORE: Four special amateur (Ham) radio club stations in the city were busy on Saturday and Sunday, participating in the 48th World Scout Jamboree on the Air (JOTA). Conducted along with the ninth World Scout Jamboree on the Internet (JOTI), JOTA, for starters, is an annual event in which nearly five lakhs Scouts and Guides meet each other through amateur (Ham) radio contacts across the world. "Shortwave radio signals carry their voices to virtually any corner of the world and it is a sheer excitement to have a live conversation with a fellow Scout or Guide at some other place in the world," says Lion Ajoy, a disaster manager and custodian of the Lions Club International Ham Radio Club Station (VU2LCO). Boy Scouts, Girl Guides from bulbs, cubs,angers, rovers and teachers joined the radio station not just to take part in the event but also to understand amateur Ham radio and its operation. The Lions Club International Station was active with the Sri Chamundi Scout Group (21st Bangalore) for the event at Baba Mane Vikasa Kendra, where Lion Ajoy (VU2JHM) and Suresh (VUSNO) were the coordinators. The Bangalore Amateur Radio Club (VU2ARC) had up a special station at the Blue Scouts and Guides Karnataka District headquarters, where Suresh (VUSXSE)coordinate proceedings.

Both the JOTA and JOTI, organised by the World Association of Scout Movements based in Geneva, Switzerland, JOTI is an international meeting on the Internet where...
Scouts in Ridderkerk weekendje ‘on the air’

RIDDERKERK - Wereldwijd is er contact gelegd tijdens het Jamboree weekend van de scouts, dat vrijdag en zaterdag in Ridderkerk gehouden werd. De hele week voor de JOTA is er ‘s avonds al gewerkt om dit voor elkaar te krijgen. JOTA staat voor: Jamboree On The Air. Door middel van radio- en internettransmissies kunnen de scouts vanuit verschillende locaties met elkaar communiceren. Met behulp van zenders en internet worden de scouts verbonden in het web. Veel gemaakt van hout en

De scoutinggroep Planitale heeft aan de Kerkweg 15 in Ridderkerk een DAB-station opgericht. Scouting biedt een educatief verslag van de stedelijke ontwikkelingen. Een prachtig leven in de samenleving.

المحطات العالمية تتواصل مع كشافة ومرشدات السلطنة

في اليوم الأول للمخيم العالمي للاسكاني والإنترنت

كتاب خليفة الرواي

الأعمال النجاح

أمس الأسابيع 13 أكتوبر، تم نقل المخيم العالمي للاسكاني إلى سلطة الاتصالات في هادي المخيمين الذين يشاركون فيها.
4. JOTA REPORTS FROM COUNTRIES

Note:
Indicated per country you will find the numbers of participants, of JOTA radio stations and the number of
different countries that were contacted. A question mark "?" indicates that the numbers were not available
in the national report.

Argentina (LU)

Like in the last years, in the southern region of America the propagation was dimin-
ishing, reason why it was difficult to make contacts over a long distance. In spite of this
the Scouts participated with much enthusiasm, starts the report of Alejandro Gui-
llermo Afonso. Some Groups started between 14:00 to 21:00 h (0000 UTC) and par-
ticipated in the official opening by LU9BSA. The opening this year had a particularity: I spoke from Buenos
Aires, says Alejandro, but the transmission went on the air in
Port Belgrano (at a distance of
700 km), thanks to a telephone-
radio integration.

Other particularities of this JOTA
were: the San Pablo Scout group
mounted a mega station, 2 sets of
radios, 12 computers and an
ADSL connection via radio with
the house of a leader three blocks
away, to provide them with au-
dio-visuals via satellites of radio
amateurs to support activities.

The Ceferino Namuncura Scout
group in Rio Gallegos Santa Cruz,
mounted its antennas on the ceil-
ing of the parish despite the
strong ruling wind in the Patago-
nian south.

At the station of the Foxes of the
San Javier group, the stew burned
because the cook was speaking
by radio (and not watching his
cooking !)

Especially noteworthy is that through the philatelic theme group
"Argentina Scouts and Guides", the Argentine Mail Service
made a postal seal, which was applied to the mail of the most
austral city of the world, "Ushuaia". As far as known, this is the
first ever "JOTA" seal that was used on public mail.

The Argentine radio amateurs offer a great support to the Scout
groups, for which we are enormously thankful, just as to the
National Commission of Communications, concludes Alejandro.

Australia (VK)

"All the Scouts that participated, thor-
oughly enjoyed themselves. It was new
and they found it to be fun. They were
thrilled to talk to Scouts from all different
corners of the world. From this experience it will be a 'must do'
on the calendar for next year". (Jacque Barnes, Scoutleader
Oakey Scout Group QLD).

New amateur licensing and certification arrangements
came into force on 19 October 2005. The Foundation
licence can be gained through a weekend course. This
has the potential to revitalize Radio Scouting in Aus-
tralia, says Steve Watson. The new foundation ama-
teur-radio licence will see Scouts running their own
JOTA stations using their own call signs.

Cub Scout Robert Watson introduced the Chief Scout
of Australia, His Excellency Major General Michael
Jeffery AC CVO MC Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia and the Chief Commissioner of Scouts Australia, John Ravenhall AM.

The Chief Scout’s Message was broadcast throughout Australia at 1300 h through various repeaters and rebroadcasters. In his speech the Chief Scout said “the Jamboree is an opportunity to meet Scouts and Guides from throughout Australia and overseas, and to learn more about the diverse cultures and traditions from countries around the World”.

The Chief Commissioner of Scouts Australia continued to say that “direct radio communication is not so common these days unless this is part of your job, so the chance offered through Jamboree On The Air is quite a rare experience for most people, make the most of it”.

Again, 2005 had its own JOTA badge, produced and distributed to the branches by Alan Rudd at the National Office.

In the last Scout Section Review, the existing range of five Amateur Radio Operator Badges were replaced with one badge which can be worn by all members of Scouts Australia with a current amateur licence.

“JOTA 2005 was my sixth and final as National Co-ordinator”, writes Steve, “since national appointments in Scouts Australia are for a maximum of two terms of three years”. Thank you Steve, for all the good work you did for JOTA “down under”.

**Austria (OE)**

| participants: | 24 |
| stations:     | 5  |
| countries:    | 19 |

The story of OE5FSL, as reported by Ernst Tomaschek:

in the afternoon we drove to Gunskirchen to the SoLaHe of the Welser Scouts. The car trunk was packed with tent, sleeping bags, devices and food supplies. Meanwhile also Ingo (OE2IKN) and George (OE2GUM) arrived. After arrival, a 12-man tent was set up with united forces. Subsequently, we stretched a G5RV antenna between the trees. On Saturday early morning, the radio operation was taken up. As power source a 2 kW aggregate and 80 Ah battery served us. During the day we got attendance of Scouts and radio amateurs. The station worked partially under OE50XSC/5, the club station of the Scout amateur radio club and under OE5FSL/75 on the occasion of 75 years group of Scouts in Wels.

Unfortunately we were rather disturbed particularly on 40m by a German Contest running at the same time, but nevertheless we reached Scouts from several countries. The first highlight was on Saturday: we reached our friend Ernst OE1EOA, at the station of the World Scout Bureau HB9S. The second highlight on Sunday was HZ1SBS in Riyadh (Saudi Arabia). There 19-year old Ali and his Scouts took up the contact with us.

**Bangladesh (S21)**

Bangladesh is a plain land except for some hills on its southeastern border. This time the Bangladesh Scouts organized the national JOTA camp on the hill top of Shitakunda. In fact, there were two camps, one base camp with 150 Scouts, Rovers and Scouters on 450 meters altitude and the JOTA station on the top 800 meters high with six operators. There was no power nor water; everything had to carried from 800 meters down. Power from solar panels and dry food was supplied. A very challenging and exciting camp on the occasion of the 48th JOTA, says Amimul Kaws. Scouts started their hike from the base camp. When they reach 800 me-

Ernst, the Austrian NJO, operating his field-day station at HB9S in Geneva.

S21SGQ at the official JOTA opening.
sters, they talk over the microphone and link with the capital city Dhaka over VHF (350 kilometres distance).
The chief national commissioner of the Bangladesh Scouts Fazlur Rahman inaugurated the JOTA activities with the S21SHQ station. It was the beginning of the centennial programme series for the Bangladesh Scouts.
The most exciting contact was with HB9S; we were very lucky that we talked to the world JOTA HQ. During the contact with one VU station, suddenly clouds appeared and everything became wet; a new experience for the Scouts on the hill.
Next year we are planning a mobile JOTA station in Bangladesh, concludes Amumul.

**Belize (V31)**

Talks and visits were conducted to the districts so as to promote this international event, writes Alejandro Tovar.

We don’t speak mandarin, but it was funny to try to ask how to say “be prepared” in mandarin. The same situation occurred with other countries, and we managed to find: “siempre listo”, “be prepared”, “ole valmis”, “bit tikky”, “bersiaplah”, “sempre alerta”, “sempre pronto”, “var redo”, “alzait bereit”, “sii preparato”, “estote parati”, “casse toi”, “être préparé”, “être prêt”, “tojours prêt”, “vertu viðbúinn”, “vaar beredt”, “bídý przygotowany”, “eso etimos”, “siempré”, “byd’ gotov”, “alzait berred”, “ávált viðbúinn”, “budi pripravan”, “selalu bersedia”.

**Brazil (PY)**

Ronan Augusto Reginatto writes: “during the 48th JOTA, we had participants of the entire country. We had almost 300 stations and the majority of them was operated by Scouts and leaders, who had obtained their own radio amateur licenses. Really, most of our radio operators during the JOTA are Scouts and members of our Movement. This means that the future of the JOTA is assured by the new generation”.

The organization for our activity was different in 2005: each state or region of Brazil prepared its participation, inviting Scout Groups and radio amateurs. The regional organization also received their reports and they helped us on elaborating our national report. The participation average was very good and Brazil keeps its tradition.

During the JOTA, besides speaking over the radio, the participants also had a chance to carry out other Scout activities. We also spoke with a larger number of countries.

PY3UEB prepared a conference room for the JOTA in Echolink, that was used extensively during all the activities. It was there that Les Mitchell gave us the chance for a long contact in

"Yes, yes, we are speaking form a tent on our camp site and I just got this radio certificate..... !"
very good conditions. "You know, it was fantastic. The JOTA, was a fantastic activity and we look forward to contact you all through the radio during 2006", concludes Ronan.

Canad a (VE)

Francois Arpin (ASC) writes that 1 station took part in Quebec, with the assistance of the president of the radio club Sorel-Tracy VE2CBS. They made radio contacts within the Quebec province and listened to transmissions from the space station NA1SS.

As usual, the event coincided with Apple Day (a major fundraiser for local Scout councils) which made it difficult for some groups to participate the whole weekend, or to participate from camp, says Lena Wong (SC)

A young Beaver in Kanata, Ontario and his dad participated in JOTA from their basement radio shack. They were able to spend a couple of hours on both days and made contacts in the USA.

At a local shopping mall in White Rock, British Columbia, the 10th White Rock Scouts combined Apple Day with JOTA. They set up an 18 foot teepee in the mall courtyard and proceeded to sell apples and invite all comers into their JOTA station. They had many visitors and despite the difficulties in working from a ground level location with a "Buddy Pole", they had good contacts from as far away as the Marshall Islands and a cargo ship in the Mid-Pacific just east of the International Date Line.

In the Yukon Territory, way up north, the 1st Porter Creek Scouts (and a lone Venturer), participated in a 2-3 hour hike on Saturday followed by a JOTA overnight camp. They reached stations in several countries and created notable excitement with US and Canadian contacts who were very pleased to speak to participants from the Yukon. This group also notes that they picked up a lot of conversations with truckers who were using the same frequency, one had been to the Yukon 20 years ago.

Even further north, lone Scouter Ralph Jenkins, posted in Resolute Bay, Nunavut, was able to speak to stations in Alberta, British Columbia and several European countries. One of the BC stations he spoke to was the 10th White Rock Group reported above. He also made contact with a British Scouter whom he had worked with at the EuroJam Radio Station in the UK last summer.

White Pine Council in Ontario area once again organized a Council event at the Mosport Racing Track with a total participation number of 375. Girls Guides were represented with a group from the Trillum Highlands area. The event was a weekend overnight camp comprised of six sub camps. The fun started with a movie on Friday evening and ended with a closing event on Sunday morning. In addition to the JOTA stations, lots of activities were on offer. An ex-Scouter and veteran set up a display of WWII memorabilia and photographs. The Mosport Race Track displayed a high performance car, much admired by adults who would have liked to have taken it for a spin around the track. Despite very wet conditions throughout the weekend, contacts were made and enjoyed with stations around North-America and Europe.
The 1st Bolton Scout Group of Bolton, Ontario were once again assisted by the Peel Region Amateur Radio Club who provided equipment and static displays for the event as well as their radio expertise. Participant numbers were up from last year (total of 104) with youth coming to the station after their Apple Day efforts. The two stations were able to set up on top of a hill with the help of the local Rotary Club and Seniors Centre. Contacts were made in the USA, Europe and Australia.

Scouts Canada, and the Canadian participants thank all the radio amateurs and those making space available for a successful JOTA event in 2005.

**Cyprus (5B4)**

<table>
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<td>countries</td>
<td>22</td>
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Erricos Lanitis writes that one of the stations was operated by 100 Girl Guides. They spoke with many countries and with the World Scout Bureau in Geneva.

The main station was located in Larnaca 5B4CSA/J. Others were in Nicosia, Limassol, Paphos, Kyrenia, Nicosia and Ammohostos.

**Finland (OH)**

<table>
<thead>
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<tr>
<td>stations</td>
<td>16</td>
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<tr>
<td>countries</td>
<td>27</td>
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This year’s JOTA gathered again about the same amount of stations as before, reports Jussi Vaittinen, but there were more participants than ever. The events organised seemed to be bigger. Stations were built, contacts were made to other JOTA-station and friends made from other countries.

OH6SUF operated with the Scout group Kyypartio in Kyyjärvi, central Finland. Visitors came from Uurainen. The radio amateur Kalevi Häkkinen brought with him radio equipment from the year 1942, a so-called bertta radio. This radio is from WW-II. Newer equipment was also there: a computer which was also used to keep contacts on Echolink. Kalevi Häkkinen was also in other ways an interesting person. He has crossed the Atlantic ocean alone, so you can imagine that there were several stories to tell. Many contacts were made, altogether 63, some of which were contacts to foreign countries. The longest JOTA contact was with Canada. Designing and making your own QSL-cards was popular amongst the younger participants.

**Germany (DL)**

The "Bund der Pfadfinderinnen und Pfadfinder (BdP)" took part in JOTA and JOTI with 160 Scouts, writes Lars Weimar. Both radio and internet were used. A focussed set of games was offered that needed both technologies. The 11 stations reached entire Europe and some distant countries. JOTA participants ranged from 11-year olds to all the way up. The weekend programme offered fox hunts and puzzle games.
During the meeting of "Radio Scouts" on the HAM-Radio Convention in Friedrichshafen, end of June, Klaus, DC4NA, the NJO of the DPSG, was granted the DARC-pin of honour in Gold by DARC officials. With this, his long years work for the youth was appreciated, writes Günter Erdmann (VCP).

Based on the good co-operation between the three national Scout Associations of BdP, DPSG and VCP in organising and preparing the JOTA-weekend for Germany, we again had some nice activities for our participant groups.

During the JOTA-weekend on Saturday afternoon for the first time Klaus, DC4NA, and Günter, DL9BCP, spent together their time as guests at the headquarter of the German radio-association DARC (= Deutscher Amateur Radio Club) in Baunatal, close to Kassel. Both lead the DL-sked from the DARC-HQ-station with a big signal, well heard in the whole country. While Klaus called all German participant groups, Günter read out questionnaires in several parts for a panel game, where a telephone-number was to be found. A lot of groups called the right number.

Another activity was the German Communication-Game, connecting JOTA and JOTI! Single lines of a text were given to each German participant. The aim of this game was, to find out all lines by contacting other Scout-groups in JOTA and/or JOTI and exchanging all known information.

Since 1995 the radio-group „Funkergilde“ of VCP in Bremen and their guests celebrate their annually event. OZ1RDP on the north-sea island of RØMØ (IOTA EU-125) will be on air again June 3 – 6, 2006. OZ1RDP will be mainly active on SSB, CW and Packet-Radio.

DK0GSN in Grevenbroich installed their JOTA station at a camp site, writes Klaus Sperling (DPSG). With a VHF link to a packet-radio station and some specially made software, they were able to get an updated list of Scout stations that were logged in to Echolink. Via VHF radio, the Grevenbroicher Scouts could then call directly to the other Echolink stations, even without having an internet connection on the camp site.

The Scout leaders in Kirchdorf were very strict in instructing their Scouts: "as long as an operator is working at his radio station, you cannot go to sleep", they told the Scouts. But the radio operators thought: "as long as the Scouts are awake, we cannot stop operating". So in the end they all kept going and made JOTA contacts until the next morning.

Unfortunately, the WAG contest in Germany made it again very difficult to make any contacts on 40 and 80 m on the Saturday afternoon and evening. Contest stations used high-power, no match for the portable Scout stations installed at camp sites. Even the "contest-free" segments of the HF bands were not spared. A pity, because it drives away youngsters from the radio and makes them loose interest.

Greece (SV)

| participants: 475 |
| stations: 46 |
| countries: 6 |

Kostas Theologis writes that J41SEP took part in the JOTA.

Hungary (HA)

| participants: 2 |
| stations: 3 |
| countries: 21 |

The central radio station of the Hungarian Scout Association HASMCS/J was on the air with Scout group 301, explains Tibor Vegh. Scout group 20 ran HASYI and Scout group 920

"….. YEAAAAAAAAH !! ....."
had HA5FQ on the air, operated by a 10-year old guide! Together they contacted 21 different countries.

**India (VU2)**

participants: 128
stations: 2
countries: ?

The radio amateurs of the Lions Club in Bangalore invited the Scouts and Guides of the SJR Public school to take part in the JOTA with VU2LCI. Mr. Chippy Gangjee, a noted author and artist, inaugurated the event. Another station was set up in Bala Mano Vikasa Kendra at a school for mentally handicapped children with the Sri Chamundi Scout group, writes VU2HJM.

**Indonesia (YB)**

participants: ?
stations: ?
countries: ?

The Jakarta provincial Scout headquarters provided 2 club station locations. ORARI (the Indonesian amateur-radio organization) has provided cooperation and assistance to Gerakan Pramuka (the Indonesian Scout Association) for over 25 years with personnel and all the facilities for JOTA and special-event club stations (Jamborees, Moos etc). There is even a special clause in the regulations for amateur radio, allowing unlicensed Scouts to talk during special events, writes James Damawan.

The special relationship between ORARI and Pramuka continues in ordinary day to day activities; close cooperation in SAR (search and Rescue) activities, the Aceh tsunami-relief activities, and other numerous local emergencies. As a result, many Scouts enroll and become licensed amateurs, and also vice versa, amateurs becoming Scouter. All of this due directly or indirectly to JOTA activities.

The headquarter station YB0ZS could contact the World Scout Bureau with HB9S through a pre-arranged email sked. “A contact with HB9S is considered as the pinnacle of all JOTA station activities in Indonesia”, concludes James.

**Ireland (EI)**

participants: 225
stations: 7
countries: 18

Seven JOTA stations were active in Ireland. All participating stations used the suffix SI for Scouting Ireland in their call signs, reports Seán O’Súilleabháin.

The headquarter station operated from the Larch Hill national campsite in the Dublin mountains, using for the first time its recently issued club call sign EI3SI. This station is now a permanent feature in Larch Hill which will be available for visiting Scouts and CEPT-class licence holders. Across the city, JOTA veterans the 132nd Dublin Scout group operated from the Martello tower at Howth, a former Lee Deforest- and Marconni test site, which is now a vintage radio museum. Setting up on the Friday co-insided with the arrival of its latest acquisition, the Heathkit apache transmitter (circa 1950’s) of EI4Q (silent key), a former Scout chaplain. Both Dublin stations experimented with PSK and APRS.

The Scouts of county Waterford were on air from the den of the 1st Port of Waterford Sea Scouts in Waterford City. Besides operating on HF and VHF simplex, they were active on amsat AO50, IRLP, and

... and now we will sing a traditional song for you from India....
APRS. County Waterford also hosted Scouts from neighbouring county Cork who operated from the shack of the Mount Mellaray Scout centre in the Knockmealdown Mountains.

Participating in JOTA for the first time were the 1st/7th Limerick and 1st Meath Scout groups. The 1st Meath group arranged for a defence-forces signals unit to visit their JOTA station and set up a video link with UN peacekeepers in Liberia.

Scouting Ireland’s other JOTA veterans, the 2nd Kerry Port of Tralee Sea Scouts operated from the local sailing club. In addition to HF radio operations, activities there included construction projects, a night hike and star identification.

The 1st Carlow Scout group reported that their most exciting contact was during their visit to the JOTA station in Waterford with a Scout group in Melbourne, Australia who had just returned from a Scouting trip.

**Italy (I)**

This year the number of the participant has increased, above all the number of the Cub Scouts, and I think this is a good sign for the Italian Radio-Scout activity, writes Giovanmaria.

The regional stations were in Roma (IR0BP) and Padova (IZ3EAW), as well as at the Scout base of Costigiola (I3ITO).

Scouts in Cassano alle Murge IQ7MU and Castellaneta IQ7MU have built a very interesting antenna, the "Windom I7SWX", suitable for field use and so perfect for us. In Castellaneta the JOTA has been the occasion of celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Scout Group.

The station in Crotone IK8FLW has operated at a wonderful site: Capo Colonna. Unfortunately the bad weather conditions have complicated the whole.

**Italy (I)**

| participants: 31 | stations: 12 | countries: 10 |

... I just need to push the right button and then..... **Pronto !!**

Mel IQ3FL was in the mountains; they have assembled antennas and an easy kit. The QSO with Africa was very exciting!

Florence I5ZMH has used Marco’s call (5K) as a special permission, who was since many years the engine of the JOTA in Florence. A game about the communication has engaged the participants on Sunday morning.

Genoa I1EFC has been operative on Sunday with many QSO with English stations and also with Madera.

Also Merano IN3VST was operating from a mountain site. A game with LPD equipment was held and during the night they have made many QSO’s in CW.

Pesaro IW6DQS has operated only on the Saturday afternoon. The have made many QSO with Italian, Belgian, Swiss and French Scouts.

Portici IW8FFG has been operative on Sunday.

Tor Lupara IZ0DWN has operated in Passo Corese and for the occasion they have used the slogan "Scouting has neither borders nor barriers". They have built antennas and painted wonderful QSL cards.

In Rome there were many groups of Rome and surrounding villages (Cassino, Isolotta, Pontecorvo, Terracina). They have used pc’s with Echolink, built antennas, listened to short-waves radio stations (SWL) and painted wonderful QSL cards.

Padova has taken part with the group Padova 4, with 5 patrols. They have built and used inverted V dipoles on 43 MHz. They have had problems with the server and it was not possible to use Echolink.

Costigiola has given hospitality to the Cub Scouts of Vicenza. They were very excited thanks to the audio-video QSO with a Scout of Monte Ceneri (Switzerland).
Many participants have reported crowded frequencies, due to the presence of many contests. This caused difficulties to people who used the radio for the first time. Many amateur radio operators who are not Scouts themselves have helped and contributed to the success of this event. I hope this could be the start of a new, everlasting collaboration, concludes Giovanmaria.

Kuwait (9K)
The Kuwait Boy Scouts Association participated in the jamboree with 32 Scouts from 7 educational areas of the Kuwait Ministry of Education. Stations operated from the premises of the Kuwait Boy scouts Association in the Hawally Area. “This Jamboree is seeking to have a large number of friendships between Scouts from all over the world and to connect a large part of the participating countries worldwide”, according to the Kuwaiti Scouts.

Luxemburg (LX)
A national JOTA game was held on the 2 m band, writes Claude Engel.

Namibia (V5) Jim Kastelic writes: the Scouts living in the northern town of Tsumeb conducted JOTA at the local Cultural Village, a facility spotlighting the traditional lifestyles and customs of the different ethnic groups of Namibia. The “village” features the pole-and-thatch-hut homesteads of the Caprivian, Damara, Herero, Himba, Kavango, Nama, Owambo and San people of rural Namibia. Each patrol was assigned a different ethnic group, and during the weekend the patrols camped, cooked and did activities in their assigned homesteads, including keeping the “holy fire” burning throughout the night in a gesture of respect for the ancestors of an earlier age. The Scouts also learned as much as possible about the culture of their adopted community and compiled a report about their newly acquired knowledge, thus completing certain requirements in Namibia’s progressive badge system. Radio transmitting took place on top of a large observation tower attached to the facility’s cultural museum. Using the call sign V59T, the Scouts made more than 30 contacts with fellow Scouts in different parts of Africa. Other activities included swimming at the local swimming pool, playing “four-way” soccer, making placemats out of palm tree fronds, eating and drinking traditional foods, and singing, dancing and acting around a large campfire. The most amusing incident occurred when one Scout did not show up for flag break on the Saturday morning. Everybody searched high and low for him, but to no avail. Several worried phone calls were made to his house to see if he had gotten tired of the camp and hiked home. A few hours later, the sheepish Scout finally appeared, eyes full of sleep. He explained that he had made his bed in one of more than a dozen huts contained in the expansive Kavango homestead and fell asleep. No one thought of searching every hut in the homestead, only those around the central fireplace, so he was overlooked for hours! To stay awake during the 24-hour shifts, the Scouts played pool and card games, and listened to music, sleeping only occasionally. Eating consisted mainly of snacks, as nobody was much interested in cooking.
For the first time in history the opening was at 22.00 local time. Two valuable additional hours to make contacts, says Jan Kluiver. The opening was performed for the first time by a foreign guest speaker, or better: speakers. Mr Daniel Corsen and Mr Ruben Roosberg from Scouting Antiano, the Scout movement on the Netherlands Antilles. Scouting Antiano celebrated its 75 anniversary of Scouting, which was highlighted by the opening in the Netherlands. The opening was live via internet. The internet signal was send to the main (commercial) TV antenna tower in the Netherlands and from there on broadcasted (on amateur frequencies) across the country.

The 2005 theme “Spy” was very popular: 57% of the stations used the theme in their weekend. Enigma, the secret German coding machine during WW II, was the basis for a national game that combined history and imagination.

New this year was the weblog. By uploading some photos, newspaper cuttings, QSL-card, adding some text and answering a few questions, the weblog generated a group’s JOTA report. The weblogs can be viewed on-line and will be published on CD.

Corvus Corone in Den Oever made contact with a station from Canada, using an experimental antenna.

Die Robben in Wieringerwerf had contact with an Italian JOTA station on 20 meter using PSK31.

Graaf Floris in ’s-Gravezande had a 70 cm – 2 m cross band contact with GB2IRS.

Lisser Kaninefaten in Lissemade radio contact with Brazil: talking in Dutch to an emigrated Belgium radio amateur.

Scouting Ashanti in Zoetermeer had contact via Echolink with an American station. On both sides the radio amateur was also cub leader, both had their son as co-operator next to them and both had participated in a Scout camp radio station (American National Jamboree (K2BSA) and European Jamboree in England (GB5EJ)).

Scouting Hoogeveen had a very cosy contact with 5B4NSF, Cyprus.

The Mr van Daal group in Boskoop had interesting contacts with Indonesia and Ukraine: “10 scouts and a radio amateur in a wooden chalet and then try to make yourself understandable in your best English, SUPER!”

Sint Willibrord in Gemert built a wooden tower with the antenna on a height of 45 meters.

Across the Netherlands 4000 electronic kits (dices) were soldered.

### Netherlands (PA)

| participants:25530 | stations: 233 | countries: 7 |

“Hallo, ik ben Jan en ik zit al twee jaar bij de welpen…..”

“...yes, our antenna is above sea level....”
Netherlands Antilles (PJ)

The whole JOTA weekend of Scouting Antiano was blessed with a lot of rain and lightning effects in the skies, explains Rolando Manuel.

“A scout is brave”, says the Scout law: the Scouts who camped during the weekend knew to beat the odds of the high humidity, the rain and the mud and were able to enjoy every little second of the weekend. As a special honour this year, at 16:00 hrs local time, on Friday, our Scoutmasters, Mr. Ruben Roosberg and Mr. Daniel Corsen together transmitted the opening speech for the official opening of the JOTA for the Scout Association of the Netherlands.

On Saturday, the special highlight was a tremendous cook-out in which each camping Scout group had to prepare a soup that was judged by a team of experts. From all the exotic soups that took part in the competition, it was a Scout of the group of “Pader Amado Römer” who presented the winning soup. During day time, groups visited the camp ground, and a lashing exhibit that was put together by a team of Scout leaders who were busy for a whole year to master the art of lashing and knot tie-ing. The same night the Scouts had a camp fire: with the nice background of thunder and lightning the scouts were able to entertain each other with music, dance and comedy. Even tough we had a lot of rain, the station PJ2SA had a successful weekend with as highlight the communication with the World Scout Bureau in Geneva – HB9S (using the echoIRLP repeater-PJ2BR). The St. Joris group on Aruba also took part with radio station P43ARC, writes group organiser Elson Barry The Scouts learned how radio amateurs used their equipment and how to build antennas from simple materials.
The 2005 JOTA was better than the one for 2004, writes Jim Parnell, with many hundred Scouts and Guides taking part from stations all over the country. Details of contacts made remain unknown as they were not reported. At least 10 stations were in operation, most at camps. Many participants had a very good time on the amateur bands.

One Auckland station reported that JOTA went fantastically well. They worked many counties including South America, Holland, Ireland, England, Sweden, Italy Australia, Japan and many Pacific Islands. Most of the DX was on 20m and a bit on 40.

The amateur 70 cm national system was also well used for contacts up and down the country. Fox hunting and building crystal sets etc were other allied activities on the weekend in some centres.

We had a busy 2005 JOTA at Camp Maynard, Albany, Auckland. This camp was run as an open day where Scouts and others interested came in for a period and participated in the activities. There were 12 activities at the camp for the weekend and our two radio activities were outside, housed in a bus and a tent.

A tent was soon erected and this was the base for the Radio Orienteering. Next, the mast was assembled and the trapped dipole erected near the bus for HF activities. By then it was past 10 am and the first Cubs, Scouts and Guides were upon us. Mark ZL1VMF arrived to assist Dave ZL1DK with the 'Radio Chat' station.

The main radio activity provided was 'Radio Orienteering'. This was a trail or course where items needed to be found and instructions were given by handhelds, Scouts reporting to base and asking for further instructions. This was very well received by the Scouts and all had an enjoyable time following the clues. The orienteering course had been set up previously by John and consisted of 10 points named Alpha to Juliet that had to be found by listening to instructions issued from Base via the radio. These were situated within the boundaries of the 22 acre Camp Maynard reserve.

John or Richard accompanied some of the younger contestants for a major part of the course which kept them fit. John would brief each group at the first checkpoint; they would then call Base for their instructions. There is no time or need for much formal instruction on using the radios or radio procedures. It's kept very simple. I tell them, press this button to talk, let it go and you listen. Only one station talks, the rest listens. You only talk to the base. Identify your self by your group number (number on the back of the radio) for each transmission. Before you call listen, only call when it is clear. They are told how to call the base and respond to the base calling them. This takes all of 5 minutes. There is a lot of prompting for the first few course markers; these two checkpoints were close to the base with a lot of radio communications between the group and base. The prompting was not just on the radio voice procedures but getting them to stop and listening to the directions and instructions from base, confirming they had received the instructions before moving on.

Unlike the typical JOTA QSO we hear on HF when they read from a set list of question and one-word answers, this course environment is completely different and they quickly become very professional sounding. It was useful to be able to see the first point so that problems could be checked out, like not pressing hard enough on the PTT button. Once past the first point, most of the older groups were on their own, but it was found that some of the more “confident” participants were the ones that got lost! It was also reported that a team was puzzled by an instruction from Base to cross the tarmac on the way to the trig point. (Well, it was a tar-sealed car park).

Scouts came from other activities and lined up for the radio orienteering or radio chat activity. As they came into the bus, they sat in front of the radios and listened while Mark ZL1VMF gave a brief instruction on the PTT and how to put a question. We had come with a

"Hi, my name is Troy and I wonder where you are?"
list of questions prepared so they would not get stage fright and freeze. They all started saying ‘My Name is XYZ and I am XX years old’ The other station would reply and away they went. Many questions ended up Yes-NO answers but we had tried to develop open-ended ones so a conversation would get underway. It was interesting to see how some kids fell into the swing of things quickly, yet others just did not quite get the hang of it at all. Maybe just too much to take in at one time. I found that the kids who had just completed the orienteering course handled the radio chat better than those who did the chat first.

Things are vastly different from when I was a cub, explains one of the leaders. Some had hobbies of ‘maths’ and others ‘reading’ while other played hockey, ice hockey, soccer and even competition dancing. 10-year olds talking of enjoying the Foxtrot or Rumba! When a group of 3 or 4 came in, they passed the mike from one to another. After their chat, we signed their activity cards and off they went to the next activity.

The organising Scouting team ran an excellent camp and we were provided for with good meals and accommodation. John has been asked to return for 2006 so there is something to look forward to.

Norway (LA)

The Norwegian Scouts and Guides had a traditional JOTA, writes Dag Anders Kjaernes. They held it in their cottage and used the same radio amateurs as the last year.

Oman (A4)

“Can’t you make it every month?” This is how our kids ended their day with us, and we are here wondering “can’t we?”, says Dawood.

Here in Oman, we are clearly observing enormous grow in the number of participants due to the popularity of the JOTA. The previous years’ work has finally shown its very fruitful results.

A team of eight leaders have worked very hard this year to ensure a complete preparation. It was really amazing to see how this event encourages people to show more effort and interest. Six of them have got their radio license. They worked very hard to make sure that everything is ready to receive a big number of Scouts and Guides in the Headquarters and to ensure perfect arrangements.

Commissioner Meetings were held to prepare the region commissioners. The history of the event, its goal, its importance to the Scout movement and what’s expected from them during the event was presented. Two brochures were designed. They were in Arabic and contain an introductory history and how to participate. Some commissioners distributed posters and booklets to advertise JOTA in schools and nearby communities.

The work in the Headquarters Station started three days before the event. The working team prepared all the equipment needed like the radio station, computers and digital projectors.

Official letters were sent
to the nominated groups for participation. The National Organization for Scouts and Guides had the target of introducing JOTA to 380 Scouts and Guides in the Headquarter station in addition to a considerable number of visitors from Scout friends who showed great interest last year and were expected to visit our station this time.

On Saturday, 15th October, at 00:00 GMT, 04:00 a.m Oman, we have started the contacts with the plan of continuing it for 48 hours. At 8.30 in the morning, and according to our schedule, the invited groups started to arrive one after the other. The team started to introduce the event to the young Scouts and Guides.

For the first time in our participation in JOTA we set up a station using Echolink through the computers. It was a very interesting thing that we are the first Arab Scouts using Echolink for JOTA. And even more interesting that the first contact through Echolink was with Mr. Richard Middelkoop in the World Scout Bureau in Geneva. We contacted him 5 minutes before 00:00 GMT and we asked him to declare the start moment for the event.

Using Echolink added more live to our station which attracted adult people and parents to encourage their kids to visit us during the day. For the first time we were able to contact new countries which we were not able to contact before, such as Brazil, Venezuela, Australia, New Zealand, United State of America, Canada, Peru and Chile.

For the first time we were able to contact Egypt Scouts. It was really wonderful to meet and talk to them. Also for the first time we contacted the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Scouts in their first participation in JOTA. We also contacted so many countries for the first time such as Australia, Bahrain, Denmark, Netherlands and Portugal. The numbers of all contacts this time was higher than before: almost a thousand QSO’s.

Parents visited us in the station to see how their kids learned new things and also how we use the new technology in a useful way. They asked us a lot about the event and the station and how they can participate in the future.

The national organization for Scouts and Guides set up a station in the Sultan Qaboos University to provide an opportunity for students to participate in the event. A large number of students visited the station A43JQ and got a clear idea about the event.

There was a good coverage from the local media. This was a result of the good reputation of the event in the previous years. Articles in the newspapers were written and an interview with one of the organizing team members was broadcasted in the National TV Channel of the Sultanate. They discussed the event and its importance not just for Scouts and Guides but for all Omani youth who deserve to have all available opportunities to know the world and discuss their culture and knowledge with others.

Portugal (CT)

Jose Araujo (AEP) writes us: almost all the JOTA stations were prepared to receive more than one Scout Group. The national organization was focused on strengthening the relations and the friendship between the Groups and this is the reason why we had 16 stations but more than 50 Scout Groups in the activity; so in almost all the stations three or four groups were participating together. One of the stations was located in the Scout house of a brand new group that was officially open during the JOTA weekend. The motto for the activity was "Communicate, to a better world" and we are proud to have contributed a little bit to achieve it.

In the report of António Manuel Ribeiro Silva (CNE) we read: the HQ station was been located in Marinha Grande, in Leiria’s county. The local group commemorated her 50 anniversary, and mounted a large station with more than 2500 Scouts. The station was located in an old glass fac-
tory, now an exhibition centre, where Scouts were offered different activities. Electronic kit building, including a Morse key construction, fox hunting, wall climbing, semaphore transmission, kite building and other activities for Cub's, Scouts and Rovers.

An exhibition illustrating the 50 passed years and their participation in JOTA was set up, including an AM radio, propriety of CT2MH, Cardoso, one of the group’s first Scouts. This year we have increased the participating stations and have Scout stations all over the country, including the Azores and Madeira islands, says António. The most exciting contact reported has been made between CT7AEV and OR5EU, the European Community station, operated by a Portuguese fellow, who helped to translate the communication.

Saudi Arabia (HZ)
The secretary general of the Scout Association of Saudi Arabia, Dr. Abdallah Ben Suleiman looked after the 48th JOTA. The Kingdom participated with ten regions and districts. A number of stations participated from government premises of the Ministry of Education, from universities, schools and the Ministry of Defence. Stations were in Venereal, Mounawara, Jeddah, Tabuk, Mecca and Zalfi.

South Africa (ZS)
By far the largest SA JOTA/JOTI camp was held at Camp Delta, Blairgowrie, Johannesburg, South Africa from Friday 14 October 2005 to Sunday 16 October, explains Dave Gemmell. This event was organized by the North West District, and the surrounding Northern and Sandton Districts were invited, as were the local Guide Company. Some 77 scouts from 10 troops camped at the event. During the weekend 40 crystal sets, 41 electronic kits and 20 LED flash lights were constructed. The weekend program included the following activities; HF Radio Station: traditional HF radio rig with an inverted V antenna mounted on a 10m mast. VHF (2m) Radio Station: 2m amateur radio rig with yagi antenna.

In addition to the above, two masts were constructed: an 11m mast (2x 6m poles) and a 15m mast (3x 6m poles). Both were erected complete using an ingenious “giraffe”. These were used as a flag pole, and supports for the crystal radio antenna and the HF inverted V antenna.

Camp Delta FM: A small (2 transistor) FM transmitter was used to provide a local radio station (microphone and MP3 player input). Reception on a standard FM receiver.

Other activities were crystal set construction, semaphore, morse code with buzzer and lamp, and ground-to-air code. Similarly one of the visitors brought a set of professional Morse keys to replace the home made devices in use – the difference in sending quality was considerable. The Semaphore code also fascinated the Scouts.

The lamp signalling stimulated quite a bit of interest as the lamp used was a genuine 2nd World War naval electric signalling lamp set, recovered from the back of one of the troop’s storerooms just be fore the event. A very interesting item was “Koo(ey)” a multistage tin can telephone (Koo is a major manufacturer of canned food in SA). Another yet more interesting activity was the Bionic Ear: an audio foxhunt, using a DSTV dish with a microphone replacing the feed horn. The “fox” was a buzzer hidden in

“….I can hear you…..”
"...give me an M....

Electronic kits: A selection of 4 simple electronic kits was available for assembly (soldering onto a printed circuit board) – designed and manufactured specially for school children by SunStep, University of Stellenbosch.

Cell phone network: Explanation of the radio interface of a GSM cell phone network with the aid of a spectrum analyzer, TEMS test phone and Laptop, propagation prediction maps etc.

Cell phone quest: Explanation and practical use of advanced cell phone services (MMS, Video mail, Video calls etc.)

Fix-a-cell, Keep-a-cell: Scouts attempted repairs, (by swapping components) on 100 “beyond economic repair” cell phones. About 20% were repaired. Scouts could keep the repaired ones.

Scouts were given an Activity Card which was signed off by each base manager on completion of the base task. The scouts who completed all activities were eligible for a prize at the end of the camp.

Dave operated as ZS6MUS, from the Radio Room of the SA Air Force Museum, about 12 kms South West of Pretoria. Contact was made with the JOTA stations in V59T, Tsumeb, ZS4WRC, Welkom, ZS4BS, Bloemfontein and many others,

Bert Cornell, ZS5MQ, operated most of the time from Pietermaritzburg in Kwazulu-natal.

Mercia, ZS5MMG, the local Guide Commissioner, reports that there were 8 new Guides from the Hilton Company and 4 Rangers from Haythorne High School who attended.

In Northern Cape and Free State, Dennis Green organized the Bloemfontein Scouts and were joined by the Bloemfontein Voortrekkers to run a combined station.

**Spain (EA)**

Luis Pascual writes that the station ED2SDA had two special operators, the parrots Billy and Willy, who always wanted to have the last word in every conversation. The Radioclub Corona de Aragó assisted with the radio station.

**Sri Lanka (4S7)**

Merrille Goonetilleke writes that the Chief Commissioners Mr. H S Weerakoon declared open the JOTA on Saturday at 10.00 a.m. at the National Scout Headquarters in Colombo.
**Sweden (SM)**

Per-Olof Hansson reports: the JOTA weekend started officially at 10:30 loc. time with the open ceremony. After that the check-in, district by district. Most of the stations started at Friday night to build antennas and so on.

Many stations are active during Saturday. It is popular to use CB stations and PMR (446MHz) stations, just to learn the Scouts and Guides not to be afraid of the microphone. Other activities are antenna building, fox-hunting and Morse code practice.

A bad thing this year (again) is the German Contest, and the fact that the contesters don’t read the rules and the frequencies to be used in the contest.

One big problem as a NJO for Sweden is to receive the reports. Just a few stations send in their reports, says Per.

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**Switzerland (HB9)**

There are traditions at some stations, that participate every year, where social relations are very predominantly involved; dinner sessions usually last for two hours. During them, the Scouts discuss their newly gained experiences and their contacts on the air. These discussions include also general Scouting affairs and other daily matters. Dinner on Saturday night and breakfast on Sunday morning are the only two time-slots where really all participants meet. These Scout stations are much like a place of communication in general, so that several Scout leaders, that usually don’t participate at JOTA/JOTI, come for a chat and have a look.

One of the yearly challenges in Switzerland is to have the highest station above sea level. This year, Bradipo Missile, HB4FG, and his Team “FeST Ticino” scored in having a station at the Diavolezza top station on Monte Ceneri, 2978m asl, states Markus Billeter.

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**Turkey (TA)**

Savas Baran writes: “we have one of the best active years I guess”.

An unbelievable degree of support from members of the TRAC Turkish Amateur Radio Association everywhere. They are not only reaching out to Scouts in their vicinity but also to camps and groups far away, sometimes more than 700 kilometers.

The Istanbul Scouts are now self-supporting with their own Scout radio amateurs, They have girls and boys aged 16 and have a full licence for amateur communications. May be next year I will talk about even younger one’s. Some 12 year olds are working hard to prepare for their licence examinations.

Ankara, Çanakkale, Eskişehir, İstanbul, Kayseri, Konya, were on the air. A veteran Scout Group Doganay in Ankara didn’t participate but Scouts were on the air via a radio station organized by the Ministry of Education.
We had a workshop at a camp at the end of October where children designed some participation cards for the next JOTA.

The largest activity was in Istanbul where almost all Scout groups came together and participated in some ten workshops about JOTA and Communications.

In all past years Scouts participated in JOTA mostly during daytime. This time we were experiencing the moslem month of feast where we have our daytime lunches at 4 o’clock to midnight. So especially Cubs and Scouts had a chance to talk with some new countries far away this year.

In 2007, Roman signal mountains will be activated on the route Jerusalem-Israel-Lebanon-Syria-Turkey-Greece-Italy.

United Kingdom (G)

The 48th jota weekend was unusually mild for the time of year. Good weather made many of the tasks associated with setting up a station much more pleasant. Those who had chosen to spend the weekend under canvas were deprived of rain and mud. JOTA usually falls at one end of the school holiday week in the UK but not this year, so it competed for visitors with normal weekend activities. Several stations reported other Scouting arrangements attracting would-be JOTA participants including jamboree selection weekends and competitions. Undeterred, some stations took advantage of this situation and increased their numbers by making sure everyone present visited the station, writes Richard Gaskell.

Of the stations returning reports, the majority were situated in Scout huts, local schools and halls or Scout campsites. Some managed impressive antenna farms and were rewarded with excellent contacts around the world. Others struggled to make contacts on popular bands.

For those stations only operational for a small portion of the weekend, the frustrations associated with the inability to make good Scout contacts quickly can spoil the weekend. Some stations in this situation were happy to pass messages to any available station and discovered that the majority had some Scouting connection and were more than happy to exchange experiences past and present.

Stations making contacts with Scout stations abroad are especially pleased to renew contacts from previous years. Several stations report with delight contacts with stations and individuals they have met earlier that year, last year or ten, twenty or more years ago. A contact with Geneva, HB9S, is always welcome, as is an exchange with Les Mitchell G3BHK, who started the event and who is still an enthusiastic radio Scout to be heard on the UK Scout net most Saturdays.

More stations are using digital modes with rewarding contacts round the world. Because a computer is involved, youngsters are drawn to this mode especially if the HF bands are noisy or hard to understand.

The availability of suitable badges for communications and radio-communications for Cubs and Scouts provide a framework for station visits. Plenty of these badges were gained, as well as a wide variety of others for activities forming part of a wider programme. At least two technology camps attracted large numbers of participants. These events successfully combine traditional Scouting with hands-on technology. They are in complete contrast to those stations located in the wilds without an electricity supply or a telephone link but it is this variety that makes JOTA so special, concludes Richard.

Venezuela (YV)

This year we had a great participation, writes Andrés Bracho. We established huge “Communication Centres”, sometimes by our own and sometimes by renting a commercial one. The stories are many. What follows is an abstract of all the local reports that we received from the whole country.

Some kids used a dictionary, or called friends and parents by phone to obtain translations, to speak with people in languages that they don’t understand, and learn about uniforms, traditions, opinions, cultures in countries so different from our own.

Many people were surprised and glad when accidentally they made contact with the message of the World Scout Secretary General, or when they found people from Italy, Czech Republic, Australia, New Zealand or Sweden speaking a perfect Spanish.
Another one was surprised by the size of the Movement or the diversity in uniforms and languages, and even because the Scout Law and Motto were the same no matter the country.

Another Scout found an old Venezuelan Scout Leader that was the founder of their Group, living in USA and contacting them through JOTA.

Using the JOTA Ideas, in competitions to have “the strangest contact”, a Scout found a person from Sri Lanka.

Many Groups used the idea to attach little flags to a world map made by themselves. Others exchanged Scout songs or the Scout Law or common sentences in their respective languages or collected the Scout promise in different languages and tried to understand the different order of the words.

We had our National Jamboree the past Year and some Scouts thinks that JOTA and JOTI is a good opportunity to continue the relationship with friends made there.

An adult leader contacted a Dutch leader without a common language but they did the contact. It could be good to make a survey because it looks like cub scouts enjoy more the JOTA than the JOTI, and it looks like they understand better this system, concludes Andrés.

World Scout Bureau (HB9S)

For the 48th JOTA, the World Scout Bureau's amateur radio station HB9S again operated from Geneva, Switzerland. Two transmitters were on the air; one in the World Scout Bureau office itself, serving mainly European traffic and one in Collex on the outskirts of Geneva, to handle the long-distance traffic. Of course, a VHF link in between the two locations. Moreover, HB9S used the Echolink system extensively, directly from the office building. Temporary antennas have been built on the building for the week-end to allow V-UHF contacts and HF operation with a G5RV antenna. Ernst brought his "all-in-one-box" field day station, which served as the main HF station in the office building. In Collex, we used the fixed set up of the club station HB9UU, with its 12 m high mast and tri-bander HF beam.

A special transmission was organised for Dr Eduardo Missoni. The Secretary General is keen on speaking directly with Scouts in as many countries as he can reach. He prepared a message in three languages, that was transmitted by him on the Saturday afternoon at 15:00 GMT. Simultaneously on short-wave on 7 and 14 MHz, and on Echolink, coupled to many repeater stations world-wide.

Eduardo’s message to the Scouts of the world was received in many places and recorded as well. Several Scouts had an opportunity to speak directly with him, following his broadcasted message.

Another experiment was a contact between the Secretary General in Geneva and the newly elected chairman of the World Scout Committee, mr Herman Hui, in Hong Kong. With a preparation time of only a few days, the amateur radio club in
Hong Kong succeeded in setting up a station that could make the contact with HB9S in Geneva. It was the first JOTA contact between the two World Scout leaders.

Some interesting HF contacts outside Europe:
Despite of the bad conditions due to the solar cycle being currently at it worst value, several contacts have been made with JOTA stations outside Europe, as for example: - 3V8SF, 3V8ST: Tunisian Scouts in Sfax and Tunis - HZ1BSB: Saudi Arabia Scouting HQ - YB0S: Indonesian Scouts HQ in Jakarta - 9Y4TT: Scouts of Port of Spain in Trinidad - JE7YSS: Japanese Scouts HQ - VR2SS: Scout HQ in Hong Kong - ZD7SSG: Scout camp on St Helena Island - XT2PT: Paul, operating from Orodara in Burkina Faso - ST2M: our friend Magdi and his sea-Scouts group in Khartoum, Sudan.

Activity on Echolink:
Echolink has allowed HB9S to speak with a majority of stations located outside Europe, compensating in a certain way the bad radio conditions on HF bands. Some special contacts: ZL3TMB (Scout camp site in New Zealand), A47JOTA (Oman), S21RB in Bangladesh, BW0S Scout camp in Taipei, PA2SA in Curacao, and many others. The "old timers" G3BH (Les Mitchell) and VE3MYF (Len Jarrett) have also talked with HB9S on Echolink, demonstrating that there is no age limit to discover the world of Internet.

The Radio Scouting family:
It is surprising how many well-known friends, met during previous World Jamborees or radio scouting seminars, it is possible to meet during a JOTA weekend, as for example this year: YB1JZS Dicky operating YB0S, 3V8ST operated by Anis, CT1AHU Morero operating PT7ZXU, ST2M Magdi, PY3IQ Luis, CE3BRA Arturo and Isabel, LA8RU Tormod, OH3IF Augusti operating OH2JAM with Banda, MOAEU Frank operating GB2ODS, writes Yves, HB9AOF, station manager of HB9S.

In total, HB9S contacted Scouts in 59 different countries, spread over 6 continents. The station was operated by Jochen Sulovsky DK8ZM, Ernst Tomaschek OE1EOA, Yves Margot HB9AOF and Richard Middelkoop PA3BAR.
Eduardo Missoni's message to JOTA and JOTI participants:
Jamboree on-the-Air and Jamboree on-the-Internet 2005

A social force serving for Peace

Geneva, 15 Oct. 2005 – In the words of BP, participants to a Jamboree should not “be content with the mere fact of being in camp with those of other nations” but they should build friendship with their brothers and sisters scout, “future fellowmen in the world”.

BP expected from every participant to a Jamboree to go forth after the event “with a new responsibility upon him” or her “namely, that of an apostle...of Peace and goodwill”.

This applies also to our JOTA/JOTI, our Jamboree On The Air and On The Internet. We should try to make of this unique, global event the opportunity to gain more confidence about the extraordinary potential of the Scout Movement as a tremendous social force.

Together “One world” of 38 millions Scouts and Guides sharing the same “One Promise” and Law, we make up the widest youth movement on earth. We can make the difference.

In just over a year, in 2007 we will celebrate the first Hundred years of Scouting. Let’s “Be prepared” in body, mind and soul for the “Sunrise” of a new exciting century of Scouting.

When at the end of this JOTA/JOTI you’ll turn off your connection, stay tuned to the worldwide Scout wave: go back to your local community and to your duties, and with renovated enthusiasm be the “apostle of goodwill and Peace” that BP wanted all of us to be.
5. SPECIAL EVENTS

GB5EJ, EuroJam, Hylands Park, Chelmsford, Essex, United Kingdom 29 July - 10 Aug. 2005

Although it could be seen as a dress rehearsal for the upcoming Centennial for Scouting, the World Jamboree of 2007, the EuroJam 2005 (EJ2005) was a magnificent event in itself with over 10,000 young people and thousands of adult leaders from some 67 different countries.

During the operation, GB5EJ was aired by 12 crew members: Seán EI3IP, Erwin PA3EFR, Paul PA5UL, Jochen DK8ZM, Ivor G4GET, Ralph VE3RJE, Anthony 2E0AZS, Liz G0RJX, Barbara G8AKU, Alan G3WNS and Richard G0REL.

Other hams involved with support and preparations include Frank M0AEU, John G0GDU, Malcolm G4CXT, and Ant M1FDE who provided us with Echolink access via his node at his home QTH in nearby Chelmsford.

The radio station was located in two flimsy white tents with the generator located just outside it, not an ideal setup. More impressive was the antenna farm, consisting of TH7 Triband Yagi for 20m, 15m and 10m @ 64 feet, ½ wave dipole for 80m @ 50 feet, ½ wave dipole for 40m @ 50 feet, 1.5 wave dipole for 17m @ 50 feet, Collinear for 6m, 2m and 70cm @ 66 feet, 9 ele Yagi for 2m @ 25 feet, Collinear for 2m, and a receive antenna for WEFAX.

With these, several thousands of QSO's were made into some 105 DXCC entities. Best contact was when just before K2BSA went QRT at the USA National Scout Jamboree we were able to work them.

The shack hosted a weather satellite receiver which drew quite some interest from visitors as the weather throughout the event was quite "British". Hidden around the site were some RDF transmitters for Fox Hunting and a number of very neat flashing Eurojam badges were made at the kitbuilding desk.

On the Eurojam campsite many more licensed participants were active in the IST team or as Troop Leaders. Over 30 hams signed our guestbook and we even hosted an animated Eyeball Sked.
Prominent visitor to the shack Dr. Eduardo Missoni, Secretary General of WOSM, who stayed much longer than his schedule allowed. He was very interested indeed as to what amateur radio could do for Scouting, especially in third-world areas.

GB5BI, Brownsea Reloaded, Poole, Dorset, United Kingdom, 2 - 4 Aug. 2005

In parallel to EuroJam, a small camp was held at Brownsea Island. Here too, an amateur radio station operated by Frank, M0AEU, provided the contacts to the outside world.

JJ1YXI, 18th Chiba Chamboree, Japan, 3 – 7 August 2005.

Just south of Tokyo, the Chiba Chamboree attracted many Scouts to its radio station.
With many contacts via short-wave radio and Echolink, the E25AJ station gave a world-wide presence to the AP Regional Jamboree. The camp was set up at the same location as the 20th World Jamboree.
A highlight was a renewed contact with the amateur radio station aboard the International Space Station.

During the summer of 2006 there will again be a number of large (inter)national camps and activities that have a Scout amateur radio station on the air. To easily find these stations, Scout stations in the European Region are asked to call CQ SCOUT daily during July and August for the universal "summer camp sked". For a list with the latest info on Scout radio stations see [www.scout.org/jota](http://www.scout.org/jota).

**Scout Nets.**
Weekly or monthly nets exist in which licensed Scouts meet on the air. Echolink is the basis for the World Scout Net, held once a month. Wouldn’t it be fun to meet new friends even if it is in the middle of the night at your location? This adds to the international atmosphere, as you often experience during the JOTA. Join in and meet fellow Scout radio amateurs world-wide!

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**European Summer Camp sked:**
on 7.090 MHz at 07.00 GMT and
on 14.290 MHz at 07.30 GMT

**World Scout Frequencies:**

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6. NATIONAL JOTA ORGANIZERS

World JOTA organizer: Mr. Richard Middelkoop, Cornelis van Ramhorstlaan 13, NL-3863 AZ Nijkerk, The Netherlands; email: RMiddelkoop@world.scout.org.

HB9S station manager: Mr. Yves Margot, 69 rte A. Ferrand, CH-1233 Sézenove, Switzerland; email: margoty@mysunrise.ch.

This list contains the names of the active National JOTA Organizers (NJO), i.e. those who have sent reports to the World Scout Bureau at least once during the past two years. Packet-radio- and email addresses have been added where known to us. Information on JOTA is sent directly to the NJO's below and is also sent to the International Commissioner of every Scout Association as well as to the World and Regional Scout Committees.

Argentina: Mr. Alejandro Guillermo Afonso, LU1BCP, Libertad 1282, C1012AAZ Capital Federal. Email: radiocomunicaciones@scouts.org.ar

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Spain : Mr. Luis Pascual Martinez, ED2SDA, C/Coimbra 6-7B, E-50008 Zaragoza. Email: malak410@wanadoo.es.

South-Africa : Mr. Dave Gemmell, ZS6AAW, P.O. Box 77, Irene 0062. Email: davegemmell@bmknet.co.za.

Spain : Mr. Luis Pascual Martinez, ED2SDA, C/Coimbra 6-7B, E-50008 Zaragoza. Email: malak410@wanadoo.es.

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After this JOTA report was finished, we received three other contributions:

Typical for the 48th JOTA was the interference caused by a large contest, making it difficult to contact other Scout groups, especially on 40 meters, says Anis Chabchoub from Tunisia (3V8). We enjoyed a good publicity, because in November the World Summit of the Information Society was held. This triggered a large interest with the Tunisian population for our virtual Scout Jamboree.

7 Scout radio clubs took part in the JOTA. Because of the Ramadan, Scouts could stay up and operate most of the night. Memories were shared with other Scout stations about the Youth Forum and the World Scout Conference held in Tunisia just a month earlier.

It was exiting to speak with Eduardo Missoni, who operated HB9S, and congratulated us on the success of the World Conference. He remembered the smiles of the young volunteers and their warm welcomes.

Tim Kuo from China (BV) wrote that the radio team organized a successful JOTA with over 5000 participants. Some radio stations also used Echolink to make contacts. To prepare, a JOTA seminar was held at the Scout HQ. Only this time, an internet connection instead of an eyeball-contact brought the participants together. Group JOTA organizers shared their experiences. The JOTA info from the World Scout Bureau was translated into Chinese, so it was available to all participants.

From Japan (JA) came the message that 500 scouts and Guides took part in the JOTA. More than 120 Scouts and leaders wrote messages in the on-line guest book.

Before the JOTA, the Japanese Scout Association sent JOTA information to Scouts and leaders through local Scout Councils and Scouting magazines. The club members of the NHQ station (JA1YSS) presented JOTA information on the JARL Ham Fair in August 2005. The JOTA report was followed by the sad news that the National JOTA Organizer, mr. Toichiro NISHIYAMA JA1OBY, had passed away.