### Gippsland Gate Radio and Electronics Club Inc.

Club Meetings are held on the third Friday of each month at the Cranbourne Girl Guide Hall in Grant Street. The doors open at 8:15 PM & the meeting commences at 8:30 PM.

Visitors are most welcome.

### Committee Members 1996/1997

President	Ian Jackson	VK3BUF
Secretary	Ivan Blezard	VK3ARV
Treasurer	Paul Ash	VK3HSA
Event Queue Co-ord.	Helmut Inhoven	VK3DHI
Social Co-ordinator	Reg Goddard	VK3UK

Magazine Editors & David Campbell VK3XMF

Printing and Dispatch Cathie West Ph. (03) 9789 6401

Deadlines for articles is Thursday week prior to the Meeting.

#### Club Station VK3BJA Located at the Guide Hall

Club Repeater VK3RDD Freq. in 52.575, out 53.575 Mhz Call in Freqs. are HF on 28.325 Mhz, USB VHF on 146.225 Mhz, FM and UHF on 438.850 Mhz, FM

Current GGREC Inc Membership Fee Schedule

Full Member \$25.00, Pensioner Member \$12.50 Junior Member \$12.50, Extra Family Member \$7.50

Fees due after each April Annual General Meeting.

### **Notes From The Editors**

Thanks are due this month to the following members for their contributions to this edition of Gateway. Thanks very much Ivan VK3ARV for the minutes of the February meeting, Helmut VK3DHI for the Event Queue and also the DX News, not published due to space restrictions, and Ian VK3BUF for the note on Fee Increases and also the Presidents report.

As you can see we have nomination forms included in this months issue of the magazine which must be returned to the Secretary by this Friday 21st March 1997.

Please note that David and Cathie will not continue with the magazine after the AGM and would like someone else to have a go. If you have a computer, printer and one day a month give it a go as it can be quite fun. We would like to thank all our contributers throughout the year and hope they provide their support to the next Editor/s.

73's... David VK3XMF & Cathie

### THE PRESIDENTS REPORT

Are you a NOVICE or LIMITED operator? When, basking on the beach, do FULL CALLS kick sand in your face? Well... cringe no longer! The GGREC are now offering an examination service! This is not intended to be a regular service, but we do now have the capacity to conduct exams from time to time. We hope this will enable class members to gain their amateur license and provide for novice operators who may wish to upgrade. There will be a regulations exam conducted on the First Saturday in April, and theory exams held on the first Saturdays of May and June. The exams will take place in Tooradin. Each exam will be preceded by an intensive 2 hour revision session. We may also conduct CW exams but this is likely to be demand driven. For more information, call me on 9776 5000.

Our recent camping weekend away to the Rubicon Ranges was a great success. I believe there will be an article about this elsewhere in the mag so I won't dwell upon it here except to say that it was such a beautiful location that we may well consider it for future camps.

There is a separate article this month about our upcoming elections scheduled for the 18th of April. Nominations MUST be in at the meeting this Friday Night for the five positions. The workload is not huge, just six committee meetings until the next April and a few organisational duties. Please give the jobs some thought. I would like to say that in the absence of any other candidates that I will continue the Presidents role for another year, but if any members would like to have a go at it, then they are more than welcome.

Another change in the wind is the imminent change of Magazine Editor(s). David VK3XMF and Cathie will be leaving it open for someone else to have a go. If you have a PC, and want a chance to practise a little bit of publishing, then give it some serious thought. The editorial role can be *both* entertaining and educational. It is a great chance to get to know Word for Windows better. Try it! (I tried to spell check 'polyunsaturated' the other day and the word was replaced with a picture of a parrot wearing a raincoat....)

Don't forget to come along to our Prac Night on April the 4th, because we will have our Amateur Television transmitters operating by then and we hope to have some fun. As of the writing of this article both, units are nearing completion. Each transmitter has its own power supply, is capable of 10 watts on 426 mHz and can switch a variety of audio and video input sources.

Helmut VK3DHI and Dorothy have returned from their VK7 jaunt. They operated most evenings from their 'Orangemobile' on the 80 metre band. I was able to chat with them on 2 metres from their location at the rear of the ship as they departed across Port Phillip Bay. I am looking forward to hearing some stories of their travels at the upcoming meeting.

The event queue is looking very busy this month, make sure you read it more than once; even better, attach a copy of it to your fridge with a large magnet.

# **EVENT QUEUE - 03/97**

Information supplied by HELMUT VK3DHI Amended by Editor.

FRIDAY	21.03.97 08.15 PM	CLUB MEETING Talk on Electronic control of DC motors by Ian VK3BUF.
FRIDAY	04.04.9708.15 PM	PRAC NIGHT Testing ATV Transmitters
SATURDAY	Y 12.04.97 12.00 NOON	SOCIAL OUTING Williamstown Historic Railway Museum.
FRIDAY	18.04.9708.15 PM	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING Technical video to be shown.
FRIDAY MONDAY FRIDAY	02.05.9708.15 PM 05.05.9708.00 PM 16.05.9708.15 PM	PRAC NIGHT COMMITTEE MEETING CLUB MEETING
FRIDAI	10.03.7/08.13 PW	Talk by Volunteer Coast Guard.

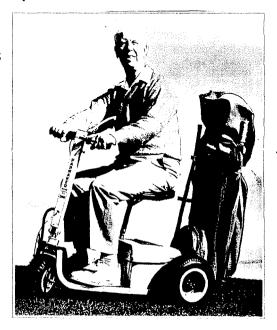


The Williamstown Railway Museum visit is now scheduled for Saturday April-12 1997. Meet there at 12 noon. Bring a picnic or BBQ lunch or buy it from any of the many shops in Williamstown prior to the Museum tour. Afterwards stroll around town or take the ferry across the bay to St. Kilda.



ome to this Friday nights meeting to hear how Ian VK3BUF tries not to blow up expensive FET's. Gasp in amazement at how you too can produce smoke from those tiny critters!

Ever tried to control DC motors without throwing the whole lot out the window in disgust after cooking the circuit board for the fourth time?



At this froo seminar he will reveal those secrets that normally you would pay thousands forl Hell he must know what he's talking about because he makes his living from these things!!!



Set aside the General meeting night Friday night 16 May 1997 to come and hear a talk by the Volunteer Coast Guard. More details closer to the time but don't miss it!

#### FEE STRUCTURE CHANGE PROPOSAL

At the last committee meting we did a brief budget of our ordinary costs for the next twelve months and discovered that we will come up with a net loss if our fee structure remains the same. We have recently been notified of a hall rental increase so that we now pay \$20 per meeting night. We propose that our Club membership fees be increased to \$30 for full members. \$15 for pensioner/student/junior members and \$10 for family members. (Moved Ian VK3BUF, seconded Paul VK3HSA)

This fee increase is not automatic, it must first be discussed at the April AGM and voted upon. We can still survive if we do not have the increase, but it would mean that we would have to 'bother' the members regularly for additional fund raising, or face a gradual erosion of our savings account.

## Inside the Clubs' 70CM ATV Transmitter.

as per Mark VK5EME's notes.

The design of the Transmitter is basically a high level modulated AM transmitter for the 70cm Amateur band. It has been developed from various other designs. It uses high level modulation as does the design in the ARRL handbook. The design features a sync stretcher and high level modulation to overcome linearity problems encountered in transistors and O/P power amplifiers. Effectively the sync to video ratio can be set up on the exciter to drive a high powered linear amplifier. The sync stretcher will pull the sync tip to maximum RF output to compensate for gain compression in the linear. This means if a high powered 100 Watt amplifier is used the sync tips will be pulled to 100 Watts. With the Mitsubishi M57716 module being used, 20Watts sync tip was measured, with an average of 12 Watts O/P.

The transmitter consists of the Exciter, Modulator, Audio and subcarrier generator and produces up to 250mW of RF output on 426 or 444 Mhz. It then drives a Mitsubishi M57716 power module up to 12 Watts output. The basic exciter with 250 mW O/P should be sufficient to operate through a repeater within 5 kms radius.

If the sideband products, which are produced by an AM transmitter when modulated with video, cause interference with FM voice operation on 438mhz an interdigital filter can be employed between the exciter and PA and tuned to pass mainly the upper sideband. This will also increase the efficiency of the transmitter PA by more effectively amplifying only the signal BW that is needed and in most cases the PA module will run cooler.

More detailed description of the design construction and alignment procedures are available from lan VK3BUF or David VK3XMF.

## Bush Camp at Rubicon

This Labour Day weekend saw five GGREC families travelling north to Rubicon for a bush camp. We all drove up on the Friday with the Jacksons arriving first to stake our claim by putting the club banner up at the Kendall's camping area right next to the Rubicon creek. It wasn't even dark yet and both Ross and Hal had decided their shoes needed washing in the creek. At least Kate waited until Saturday before she fell in!

Saturday saw a group of us drive up to Morris' lookout for a magnificent view over Thornton towards Lake Eildon (I only saw it on home video as I got left at the campsite literally holding the baby!). As it was quite warm that afternoon a few braved the cold creek waters for a dip. We all travelled about 6 minutes up the road to Thornton that night for a Bistro meal at the local Hotel. Unfortunately when our orders were taken for dessert the staff estimated they had one more serving of apple strudel than they really had. Peter VK3VB, after an endless wait, had to settle for an ice cream sundae. Maybe next time Peter. As night fell so did the temperature and a gathering around Ivan VK3ARV's campfire was definitely the go. Peter VK3VB demonstrated his prowess on the harmonica which seemed to encourage others in the next camping area as a girl on the guitar started singing and another group started playing music and dancing around their campfire. Great entertainment for free!

After a cold night of 4.8C according to Ron VK3EXJ and Judy's thermometer, the Jacksons and Paveys decided to warm themselves with a nice stroll up Mount Torbreck. This little jaunt took them to 1514 metres above sea level. To get an idea of how high that is the nearest mountain higher than that is Mount Baw Baw at 1562 metres. At about 4 hours round trip it was just a good stretch of the legs. I'm glad the kids slept in and I missed that excursion! The rest of us settled for a drive to Eildon township to where the dam wall is and some lovely falls a few kilometres off the main road called Snobs Creek Falls. Considering the lack of rain we've had it was surprising to see so much water cascading over them. Another evening gathering around Ivan's campfire resulted in our illustrious president VK3BUF consuming not two, not three, but four hot spuds in foil cooked in the embers of the campfire. Must have been that morning stroll! We were again screnaded by the disco next door and a group further up the way using some sort of crackers. I guess that's part of the joy of camping.

On Monday morning once the thick layer of dew had time to dry on our tents and annexes we all started the job of packing up camp. We all agreed it was a great place to camp but maybe next time not on such a popular weekend. But it all added to the experience.

Cath's Chatter

# A Retrospective

# What the GGREC was doing 10 years ago

President: Kerry Clayton VK3KFC Secretary: Ian Buczac VK3KGB Treasurer: Albert Hubbard VK3BQO Committee: Dave Campbell VK3XMF Committee: Peter Vat VK3KCW

Magazine Editor: Ian Jackson VK3BUF

The antenna and mast for the 6 metre repeater was installed on the roof of Telecom House in Dandenong.

GGREC's 10th Anniversary was celebrated on Friday the 19th June 1987 with the club's station VK3BJA operating into the early hours of the morning.

The first GGREC club t-shirts and windcheaters were ordered.

A group of 13 members drove through heavy fog to attend the Mount Gambier convention on the Queen's birthday weekend.

The Gateway magazine was produced entirely on a Tandy colour computer for the first time by Ian VK3BUF.

Albert VK3BQO and Ian VK3BUF advertised an answer RTTY Modem and firmware RTTY Pack for Tandy colour computers for \$90.00 + \$120.00 respectively.

The club had a snow trip to Mount St. Gwineer near Mount Baw Baw in August.

Tony VK3ZMP won the home brew competition with his 2 metre FM Transceiver.

The September activity night was held at the Stamford Hotel activities like sitting around drinking beer and talking amateur adio!

THE WEEKEND OF NOVEMBER 28TH ΩN AND GGREC PLANNED A ROUND TRIP TO MANSETELD. Mor TENTATIVE PLAN WAS TO DRIVE VIA ΤO CAMPSITE ON THE ABERFELDIE RIVER 10 KMS OF WALHALLA.

The Annual Christmas party was held on 12th December at John Hemmings Memorial Park, Dandenong.

Monthly meetings were held at the 1st Oakwood Park Scout Hall in Heyington Orescent, Noble Park North.

The club's Australia Day weekend was held in Corowa NSW, the activities included a Corowa quiz, a rubber raft regatta and a ride on the XPT (the last time this train operated in Corowa).

GGREC obtained its 6 metre repeater licence with its callsign being VK3RDD.

### **General Meeting 21 February 1997**

Meeting Commenced: .8:35 PM

Chairman: Ian VK3BUF.

Minute Taker: Ivan VK3ARV.

Present: 25 As per attendance sheet.

Visitors: Michael Bisak VK3RO, Tariq Hasnie (Guest speakers).

Apologies: VK3KCW Peter, Jan & Val., Helmut

VK3DHI, Dorothy, Paul, VK3HSA. Melinda, VK3HRJ, Cathie

**Correspondence:** Wicen, wansarc, EMDRC Famparc, AR, Repeater licence renewal.

Treasurers Report: Not tabled Paul

Income: Expenditure: Balance:

Previous Minutes: Circulated.. Moved VK3UK Sec.. VK3HR Carried: Yes

New Call Signs:. Nil

#### **Business Arising from Previous Minutes:**

Letter of thanks was sent to Roger Sayers for the various contacts he had on HF with a number of club members during the Sydney to Hobart yacht race.

Ian has struck a minor set back with the top section of the portable masts, Albert offered assistance in rectifying this problem.

The Australia Day weekend at Ballarat was enjoyed by several club members it was deemed by those involved as another successful GGREC trip.

A.T.V units are coming along well, assembly of the modules is almost complete, Ian vk3buf has designed and built the front panel including the switches knobs etc, I think you will all agree, its very impressive, well done Ian and of course many thanks to the other club members assisting in this project.

#### General Business.

Prac night March 7th has been cancelled as it coincides with the Labour day weekend, various members will be leaving for the Rubicon area on this date to commandeer the best possible camp sites.

The Williamstown Railway Museum visit has been deferred to a later date.

A.G.M is rapidly approaching , if you can help the club by becoming either an office bearer or a committee member it would certainly be appreciated by those presently holding these positions and of course by all club members, think about it!

Examinations. Series of amateur operator exams will be held during April , May & June this vear run by Ian BUF and Peter VB.

Henley on Kananook. Once again the club has been invited to provide an amateur radio display at this function, here is an opportunity to promote our hobby if you can help in anyway it would be most appreciated, date for this event will be Sat 15th March.

Meeting closed......9pm.

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# GRAHAM VK3KCS

tear off

# Gippsland Gate Radio and Electronics Club Inc. Committee Position Nomination Form 1997.

Position	Name	Moved	Seconded
President			
Secretary			
Treasurer			
Member #1			
Member #2			

To be accepted the completed form must be returned to the Secretary by this Friday night 21 March 1997.