



GATEWAY



THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE GIPPSLAND GATE RADIO
AND ELECTRONICS CLUB inc.

May 2006

Incorporation Number A0016893M

Club Meetings are held on the third Friday of each month at the Cranbourne Girl Guide Hall in Grant Street. Prac nights are held on the first Friday night in the Clubrooms. Both nights commence at 8:00 PM. **Visitors will be made most welcome.**

President	Albert Hubbard	VK3BQO (5659 6562)
Secretary	Phil Pavey	VK3YB (5995 7484)
Treasurer	Mike Ide	VK3KTO
Committee Members :	Reg VK3UK, Helmut VK3DHI, Ivan VK3ARV	
Magazine Editor:	Andrew VK3HFA,	

Club Station VK3BJA located in the clubrooms.

6M Repeater **VK3RDD** : Freq. In 52.575, out 53.575 MHz

70cm Repeater **VK3RLP** Freq. In 434.475, out 439.475MHz

CTCSS 88.5Hz IRLP Node Number- **6794** (Using **VK3RLP**)

Call in Frequencies are: HF on 28.325 MHz, USB VHF on 146.225 MHz, FM and UHF on 438.850 MHz,

Visit our internet site at: **www.ggrec.org.au**

Current GGREC inc. Membership Fee Schedule

Full Member \$37.00, Pensioner Member \$22.00

Junior Member \$22.00, Extra Family Member \$17.00

Fees due after each April Annual General Meeting.

The deadline for articles is TWELVE DAYS before each General meeting.

Please direct magazine correspondence to:

Andrew Clinkaberry, 1 Carney St. Nar Nar Goon Vic 3812

Phone: **5942 5396** or email **clinks@dcsi.net.au**

All other Club correspondence to **P.O. Box 1098, Cranbourne 3977**
or Email : **secretary@ggrec.org.au**

It costs lots of cents to produce and send each copy of Gateway.

Disclaimer- The opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the official view of the GGREC inc and the GGREC inc cannot be held responsible for incorrect information published.



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All Band Dipole Antenna

An all band dipole that has low SWR on 80, 40, 30, 20, 15,12 and 10 Metres. Does not need an antenna tuner and is fed by coaxial cable.

Length is 41 Metres and fed 8 Metres from one end. Uses a 2 stage super low loss balun 98.9% efficiency

For more info contact Peter VK3KCG 9770 5321

or go to <http://dxantennas.com> for more information.

Foundation License Course

The Committee discussed setting up a Foundation License Course to be run by GGREC. They are looking for volunteer presenters of subjects.

Investigation of how other clubs present their packages will ensure that the wheel does not need to be re-invented.

Interested? Talk to one of the committee. Help us to grow by encouraging new participants in our hobby.

The Pres Says.....

Ok members, we start another Fiscal Year. What does it mean? Well it means a change in Committee Members for a start. Well at least you got a new president and a new secretary (with your permission). Although we initially had some trouble separating a secretary from the membership, Phil Pavey (VK3YB) has stepped forward to take on the job. I could say that it is a thankless job but I would be wrong. This position is probably more important than mine as the secretary holds it all together. AND as you heard at the AGM, there are lots of thanks to the secretary for doing a great job. Anyway, thanks to Phil for putting his hand up but we will have to ratify his position at the next General Meeting. As most of the Committee is unchanged, it will be easier for Phil and me to slip into our jobs under direction of the experienced guys.

I have ideas on how to run things but it means that I create more paperwork than others because I like having paper trails for everything. This comes from running my own business for so long. I have thoughts of updating our Rules of Association of which some items stick out as being "not politically correct" any longer. If you want to have an input to this, put it on paper and give it to me.

Also it is about time we promoted the Club again to let the public know what we are about. (At least we can try to educate them)

If you listen to 225 you will notice a few of the Philips PRM80 radios being utilised already. Early reports say that they are great, with maybe the deviation down a bit but the programming of channels and the display feature being a great bonus to the operation. At the Club price, these radios are a gem. Great work to all involved in getting them to the operating desks of members. The May Prac Night saw a few of the radios returned with the help of Ian VK3BUF who brought along some test gear for the job.

Remember that May General Meeting will consist of a Mini Auction for **CLUB MEMBERS** only to sell a few small items to each other pre the Hamfest. Refer to the article elsewhere in this edition. Also the leftover building materials and the antennas discussed at last months meeting will be up for grabs, so if you are interested in the items you need to attend.

So there ya go folks, my first report for the year. See you at the meetings.

73 VK3BQO Albert



UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	WHO/WHAT
Friday May 19th	Auction Night	Guide Hall 8pm
Monday May 29th	Committee Meeting	Club HQ 8pm
Friday June 2nd	Prac Night	Club HQ 8pm
Friday June 16th	General Meeting Night	Guide Hall 8pm
Saturday June 24th	Mid Year Dinner	Tooradin Sports Club
Monday June 26th	Committee Meeting	Club HQ 8pm
Friday July 7th	Prac Night	Club HQ 8pm
Friday July 21st	General Meeting Night	Guide Hall 8pm
Saturday July 22nd	HAMFEST	Cranbourne Hall
Monday July 24th	Committee Meeting	Club HQ 8pm
October ?	JOTA	Guide Hall/Club Shack



30th Anniversary of GGREC.

Yes folks it is almost upon us. It seems like only yesterday that we were celebrating 25 years as a club.

We are looking for ideas on how to celebrate this milestone next year so let one of the committee know your thoughts.

We desperately need a JOTA rep!

LAST CHANCE HOTEL

Just a reminder that you need to pay your dues by the end of this month in order to continue receiving your copy of Gateway. Mike VK3KTO, our illustrious treasurer, will gladly relieve you of your cash!!!

Why not listen to the WIA news each week on the VK3RML repeater. It is on Sunday nights at 8pm and Wednesday 11am



GRAND SALE
GRAND SALE
GRAND SALE

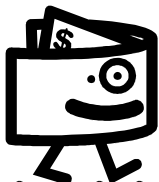


**The first (and possibly the last!)
 GGREC Auction Night will be held
 at our next meeting night May 19th.**

The idea is that **club members** can bring along a couple of items to sell under an auction type system.
NO RESERVE (but the seller is allowed one bid)
 10% of purchase price to be donated to the club.

Some items we know about :

1. Yaesu FT411 : 2 Metre Hand Held. Complete with case, speaker mic, charger, operating manual & 2 good battery packs including a 5 watt one (Transmits OK but has a fault on receive)
2. Werner Wulf : 15 Metre 2 Element Yagi
3. Large quantity of magazines including QST, CQ & some Radio & Hobbies from the 1940's & 1950's for the serious collector
4. Some deceased estate stuff??
5. Surplus club stuff as approved at April General Meeting
6. And much, much more!!!!???



**Bring your wallets, preferably
 with money in them!!!!!!!!!!!!!!**

Happy Birthday to you.....

The following members either had birthdays recently or are about to have them. Some are older than others!! Hope you all get/got nice pressies!!!

Ron Robertson VK3EXJ –April 7th
 Mike Ide VK3KTO - April 30th
 Pat Pavey VK3OZ –May 3rd
 Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT –May 13th
 Andrew Brown VK3HJK –May 21st
 Malcolm Green VK3FAMG –May 25th



Safety First

Now we have our own club rooms (and what a great asset that is!) it is prudent to remind everybody of safety around the place. It is incumbent on all of us that we ensure that everything we do is done in the safest possible manner. We do not want anyone hurt whilst enjoying their hobby. So think twice before doing anything, and if you see anything being done in a manner that is likely to cause problems SPEAK UP and help keep our clubrooms a safe place to be.

See something missing / almost finished?

We have a system in place in the club shack that allows us to replace missing or used up items. So if you see something that needs attention/replacing/purchasing make a note on the white board above the master switch. The caretakers will ensure that replacements are purchased etc. It is no good leaving it till the last spoonful of coffee is extracted from the tin!!!! This is everybody's responsibility not the caretakers!

Bugger!!!

There were some more errors/omissions/stuff ups on the recent club listing, please amend your copy now :

1. Russ White MWR's phone is 5941 6998 (sorry Russ, hope I finally got it right!!!)
2. Malcolm Green new callsign VK3FAMG, well done Malcolm. The first four letter callsign of GGREC but definitely not the last.



Recognising a stroke.....

NO this has nothing to do with rowing at all!! It is about recognizing an all too common medical condition.

Thank God for the sense to remember the "3" steps, STR . Read and Learn!

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer severe brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke.

Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple

questions:

S *Ask the individual to SMILE.

T *Ask the person to TALK . To

SPEAK A SIMPLE SENTENCE
(Coherently) (I.e. . It is sunny out today)

R *Ask him or her to RAISE BOTH ARMS.

{NOTE: Another 'sign' of a stroke is this: Ask the person to 'stick' out their tongue... If the tongue is 'crooked', if it goes to one side or the other that is also an indication of a stroke }

If he or she has trouble with **ANY ONE** of these tasks, call 000 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher.

Editors Note : All of these symptoms could be caused by a number of conditions (e.g. drunkenness) but it is better to be safe than sorry in all instances.

Hamfest - Moorabbin Saturday - May 19th

The Moorabbin & District Radio Club have much pleasure in inviting you to participate in

VK3's BIGGEST ANNUAL HAMFEST

Snacks and hot food will be available.

ENTRY ONLY \$6.00

Location - BRENTWOOD SECONDARY COLLEGE

Watsons Road, Glen Waverley.

Melways Reference 71 D7 (Enter via Heath Street.)

(Doors Open 10am - entry tickets on sale prior)

SO far up the creek we can see the end.....

Red Cross Murray River Canoe Marathon 2005 (Graeme VK3BXG)

Day 5, last day, we are awoken to the music from "Apocalypse Now" and warnings of extreme temperatures expected for the day and seek help immediately at the first signs of headache or nausea. I am assigned to the "Start", at Murrabit, and as I have done this one before I know there is not much room to move so I put my HF antenna in the same place as on a previous occasion. Despite this only a doctor in a 4wd could be capable of hooking it down and putting me off air for a few minutes!

193 canoes started day 5 and each hour for the rest of the day the situation was reviewed but despite the conditions the Marathon finished at Swan Hill with the majority of paddlers having covered 404Km. over the 5 days. The Marathon ends with the New Year's eve celebrations in Swan Hill. The majority of Wicen camp at Pental Island Caravan Park and are content to have a quiet New Year's Eve. As for me I turned and headed for home in the heat of the day and consumed 6 litres of water and electrolyte over the six hour trip back home. I ended up too tired to attend anyone's party anyway.

The Lessons Learnt

During my first Murray Marathon I relied on a convenient tree to hoist up a multi-band trapped dipole using the old

lead sinker over-the-bough trick. But after once missing a bough and bouncing the sinker off a car bonnet I decided this method was not in the best interest of the public. I now use a portable mast, six meters high and I can position it wherever I like and maybe use trees to hold the end up a couple of meters off the ground. The antennas, we have found from experience, do not need to be high in this situation.

With the multi-band trapped dipole the traps kept getting tangled in the undergrowth and because Wicen only uses 80meters or 40meters, I now use an 80meter dipole that clips / unclips in the middle making it a 40meter. However there is no doubt from the exercise that those using a half wave dipole seem to have the edge signal wise on all other types of antennae. They may be longer but well worth the effort.

For 2metre work I also take along a portable 5 element beam which can be quickly assembled / disassembled to work up and down the river and to give reliable communications all the way to the next check point.

Personal care. It is most important to keep drinking good quality water with or without mineral (electrolyte) replacer. We are advised not to drink the local water although it seems to be clean, nevertheless I take along 20 litres of our own Drouin tank water and that just lasts me the 5 days with other pur-

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The end of the creek.....

(Continued from page 8)

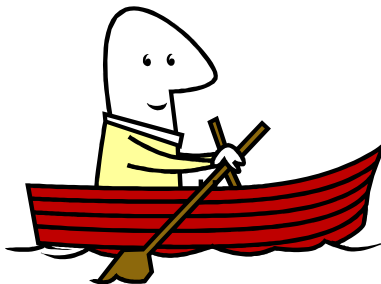
chased mineral drinks. The local water seems to be fine for washing and cleaning.

Meals can be purchased through Red Cross but orders have to be in and paid the day before. Some choose to do this but it is cumbersome so but the majority of the volunteers tend to eat out of an evening. For breakfast and lunch we tend to provide our own and in my case I take no perishable food and look forward to a good evening meal in town.

Finally at the end of the day – or any time you like, two semi-trailer shower trucks for “them and us” are provided. Each trailer would have about a dozen shower heads in it and each behind a curtain. The water is just about the right

temperature (no adjustment, you just turn it on); but then if you are shy or proud you can always go to the local caravan park and pay for your own private shower.

Thanks Graeme for this great insight into the trials and tribulations of a volunteer radio operator.



KNOW YOUR CLUB

Did you know that GGREC has 5 Life Members currently on its books? I’m not going to name them until next month. Let’s see who has a good memory!

How many years young is GGREC??

RFID access means you can use the club shack at any time you wish, as long as you work within the rules. Haven’t got a tag yet? Now there’s a challenge. Where do you get one from and how much does it cost?

Mid Year Dinner
Tooradin Sports Club
Saturday June 24th 2006

More details at the next meeting. Don’t miss out.



Meeting Minutes

General Meeting Minutes

Date: 21st April 2006

Start time: 08:15 PM.

Location: Guide Hall Cranbourne.

Chairperson: Andrew Clinkaberry VK3HFA

Minute Taker: Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT

One minute of silence was observed for the passing of Colin Bishop VK3HR.

Present: As per attendance sheet.

Visitors and Guests: VK3ZGW Geoff Williams

Apologies: Steve VK3EGD & Maria Harding, Paul VK3TGX & Mariana Stubbs, Peter Vat VK3KCW, Russ White VK3MWR, Helmut VK3DHI & Dorothy Inhoven, Bobbie Bishop, Grahame VK3YCG & Susan Brown.

Correspondence Received:

EMDRC Newsletter, MDRC newsletter.

Correspondence Sent:

Letter of thanks was sent to Adam Scott for notifying the Club about the availability of the Phillips radios.

Treasurer's Report: As Tabled.

Income: **Expenditure :** **Balance :**

Read by: Mike Ide, VK3KTO **Moved by:** Reg Goddard, VK3UK **Seconded by:** Ron Robertson VK3EXJ **Carried:** Yes

New Call signs – Malcolm Green VK3FAMG

Previous Minutes: As printed in the April 2006 GATEWAY magazine.

Read by: As read. **Moved by:** Reg Goddard, VK3UK. **Seconded by:** Ron Robertson VK3EXJ **Carried:** Yes

Business Arising from Previous Minutes:

Mid Year Dinner – Trios restaurant was suggested.

2M Radios – The radios are to be distributed tonight to members that have ordered them.

Fox Hunt has been postponed til later in the year.

4WD Trip – The event was well attended by club members. Ian Jackson was thanked for submitting the magazine article covering the event.

Nominations have been received for positions in the new Committee.

Hamfest – Bruno asked for helpers. Max, Albert, Dave & Reg put their hand up.

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(Continued from page 10)

Andrew mentioned that his apology for not attending the last meeting was omitted from the March General meeting minutes.

New Business:

JOTA – A volunteer is needed to co-ordinate JOTA for this year.

Articles are needed for the Magazine.

Auction Night in May at the GM for Club members to auction off their unwanted items.

Albert Hubbard spoke about the 70cm Repeater. Testing has started from Albert's home QTH.

Andrew volunteered to chair the AGM. This was moved by Albert Hubbard VK3BQO and seconded by Ian Jackson VK3BUF. Bruno volunteered to take minutes – unopposed.

Andrew said that there was no motion to raise Club Fees for the next financial year. Andrew thanked the following people for their assistance to the club over the last 12 months.

Bruno Tonizzo the Club Secretary; Reg & Jenny Goddard for their fund raising; Dave Campbell for hosting the GGREC Web site; Ian Jackson for his technical ability and shack construction effort; Geoff Clifton & David Wright for producing the Gateway magazine.

The members were asked to approve a motion moved by Andrew Clinkaberry, to sell off any surplus antennas & poles as recommended by the GGREC Committee. This motion was seconded by Ivan Blezard and passed.

Meeting Closed at around 09:15 PM.

Next Committee Meeting: Monday 24th April 2006, at the Club Rooms starting at 8:00pm.

Next Prac Night: Friday 5th May 2006.

Next General Meeting: 19th May 2006

Next Committee Meeting: Monday 29th May 2006, at the Club Rooms starting at 8:00pm

West Gippsland Hobbies, Crafts & Model Train Expo

Cardinia Cultural Centre, Lakeside Bld, Pakenham (Melway 215H5)

Saturday 20th & Sunday 21st May 9am - 5pm

Model trains, Model Displays, Live Steamers etc

GGREC
PO BOX 1098
CRANBOURNE
3977