



# GATEWAY



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

**January 2007**

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 123Hz 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](http://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](mailto:clinks@dcsi.net.au)**

All other Club correspondence to **P.O. Box 1098, Cranbourne 3977**

or Email : **[secretary@ggrec.org.au](mailto: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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## The 2007 John Moyle contest

If you think you are ready for providing communication assistance at any time then give it a try. You will be surprised at all the things that can go wrong, or right if you plan well. A great way is to combine your trial with a contest. The most appropriate is the John Moyle.

The aim is to encourage portable operation, and provide training for emergency situations. The rules are therefore designed to encourage field operation. The contest takes place on the 3rd full weekend in March and runs from 0100 UTC Saturday to 0059 UTC Sunday, 17-18 March 2007.

This is your chance for a time away from home, play radios, and test your skills. You will meet a lot of fellow amateurs as well. Enter either the 6 hour or the 24 hour section. Designed for you to enjoy, so send your logs to Denis Johnstone VK4AIG / VK3ZUX and make sure he has plenty to do as Contest Manager.

More details on the WIA Website (from which this article was taken!)

## The Pres Says.....

Welcome to '07. I trust you all had a great Christmas followed by an even better New Year. I am going to assume that if you are reading this, you had a safe time as well. I too enjoyed the festive period, a time during which the lead up is usually hectic and hard to keep organised. However as usual we all come out on the other side ready for another 12 months of the same thing.

If you think that '07 is going to be the "Same old – Same old" then let's see if the Club can't help to fix that. The Committee has already met to organise and get things started for the New Year and pretty much the first thing coming up is the Australia Day celebration at the Club Rooms. You will find more details elsewhere in this edition so come along and share a chop or two on the 26<sup>th</sup> (yep that's the Friday).

Our last social get together was the December break-up. Even though the temperature soared to 37 degrees, a large contingent of the membership turned out to exchange Christmas cards and good wishes and of course have an ale or two. We should thank Helmut and Ivan who made it their mission to be at the appointed location as early as possible so we didn't miss out on the best seating. Apart from having to

chase away some infiltrators, they did the job well and our celebration was held in comfort. The Club Hamper was won by our newest member – Maree Vandeligt. Congratulations; we hope you enjoyed the contents.

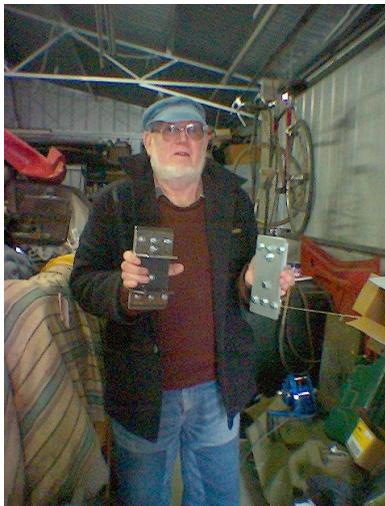
Some members may be interested to know that the results of the 2006 RD Contest were published in December AR. Guess what? VK3BJA got highest individual score for Victoria. How about that? A certificate is on its way and will be proudly displayed in the Club rooms. Shows that sometimes it is worth spending 24 hours with little or no sleep to gain some recognition. Thanks Mike VK3KTO for pushing us along. Count me in for 2007.

Of course you all know that the first General Meeting for '07 is on Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January. I trust we will see you there to kick off 2007.

73s Albert Vk3BQO

## Tower Winches

For those who purchased tower winches late last year you may be interested to know that Noel VK3CJJ has developed an easy mount method for installing the tilt over winch. Please see the photo and check out the Club's tower or mine to see how easy it is to mount. If you would like to mount yours the same way, talk to Noel and he could make you a mounting plate for a price.



The **SM155** battery link version is shown here

## NEVER FLATTEN YOUR CAR BATTERY AGAIN

The **SM155b** module will automatically activate your communications equipment & 12V accessories when you start your engine. It will power down your equipment **9** or **90** minutes after your engine is turned off.

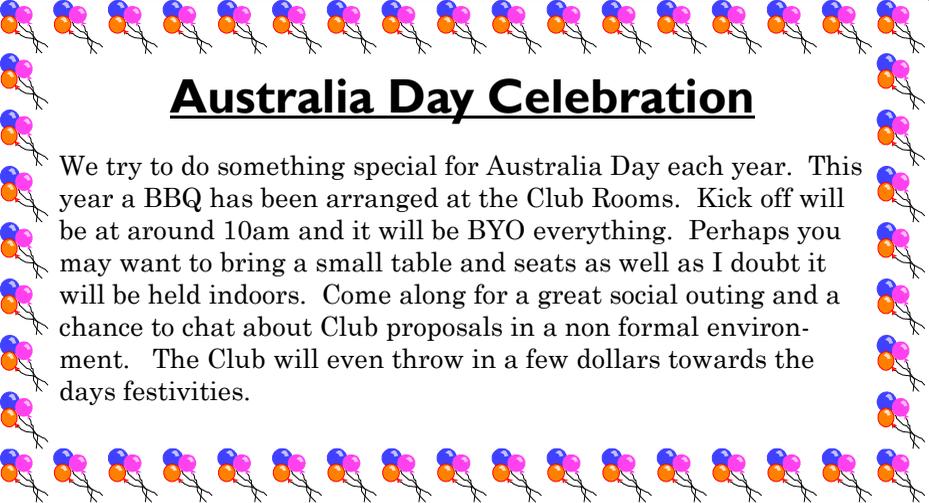
The larger **SM155** version has a **200Amp** **contactor** to manage the charging of a **second** battery for your vehicle. This permits you to jump-start your vehicle at a push of a button.

Both versions are microprocessor controlled and feature LED function indicators, manual override controls and chirp morse code status tones when linking and un-linking to batteries. Full details available at the web site.

12 month warranty

Contact **Alian Electronics** on (03) 5625 2545  
or visit: [alianelectronics.com.au](http://alianelectronics.com.au)

**SM155: \$162.00, SM155b: \$107.00, Postage: \$6.00**  
(10% discount for GGREC members)



## Australia Day Celebration

We try to do something special for Australia Day each year. This year a BBQ has been arranged at the Club Rooms. Kick off will be at around 10am and it will be BYO everything. Perhaps you may want to bring a small table and seats as well as I doubt it will be held indoors. Come along for a great social outing and a chance to chat about Club proposals in a non formal environment. The Club will even throw in a few dollars towards the days festivities.

## **WANTED**

A new editor for this Magazine. That's right folks I have had enough so come April somebody else will have to take up the baton. Full assistance will be provided but no volunteer means **NO** mag in May.

### **VK3 fire emergency communications**

The Red Cross communications arm RECOM provided communications last month at the bushfire relief centre that was set up at the Bairnsdale racecourse in Gippsland.

Red Cross communications volunteers John Patterson VK3ATQ, Robbie Ashlin VK3EK and Mark Dods VK3ZR were responsible for sending the details of evacuees registering at the relief centre to the State Inquiry Centre in Melbourne.

This enabled the relatives and friends of the evacuees a single contact point for information on their whereabouts.

RECOM, established in around 1999, provides communications support for the Victorian Red Cross emergency service. - Amateur Radio Victoria. (from their website)

## PROPOSED GGREC MICROPROCESSOR TRAINING

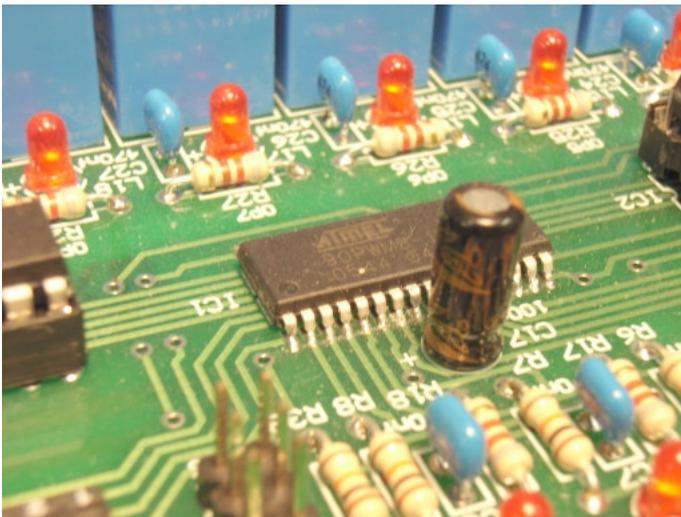
Have you dabbled with electronics (transistors, diodes, relays etc.) but been too frightened to take the plunge beyond the silicon ceiling? Would you like to construct your project with a microprocessor where most of the problems can be solved with software?

Early in 2007 the GGREC will commence serious training sessions to help people to design and modify their own projects using the versatile AVR microprocessor family.

On JANUARY the 19<sup>th</sup> (a general meeting night) Ian Jackson VK3BUF will introduce one-chip microprocessors to the members in a talk & demonstration. This will show how these now cheap and readily available devices can be used in all sorts of applications. The talk will also feature a simple overview of the AVR microprocessor and some details of the proposed training sessions.

Following the meeting night an expression of interest will be sought for potential candidates from the Club to participate in this 8 session training program. This will probably be on Wednesday evenings at fortnightly intervals from a date to be determined.

The course will take serious project builders through the



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**CTCSS FOR IRLP IS NOW 123Hz**

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basic steps of microprocessor circuits, programming language and structure. A course fee of around \$100 would apply. (amount to be confirmed) This would include course notes, a commercially built AVR USB programmer, and a GGREC Micro Development Kit that the candidates will assemble and use on their software. (you will need a computer at home with a USB port to do this) Each session will include some homework to help fortify the new knowledge.

The development board will show how to use software to scan a keypad, measure voltages, drive relays, generate audio tones, control the speed of small motors and transfer digital information between the board and a standard PC serial port.

A GGREC *Certificate of Completion* will be issued to all candidates who finish the course, and there may be follow on training and projects *after* the eight sessions are completed.

Apart from being a financial Club member, there are no formal prerequisites. However, having a fundamental understanding of electronics to the level of 'Standard' amateur license (Old novice theory level) would be an advantage, and candidates will need to be a financial members of the Club.

This is a rare opportunity to exercise the 'E' in 'GGREC' and should only be considered if the candidate has a genuine interest in wanting to learn the technology and create their own circuits. It should *not* be used as an alternative to lousy TV programs on Wednesday nights.

There is very little technology in Amateur Radio training that is not 30 years old and it is hoped that this course will help members to address this limitation and advance their skills into the present century.

## Happy Birthday to you.....

Andrew Clinkaberry (VK3HFA)

Jenny Goddard

Brett Neve (VK3ZBN)

Betty Shilton

Graeme Brown (VK3BXG)



All these members are a year older in January. Not listed? We don't know then, please tell us!!! Let the Treasurer know.....



## GGREC Event Queue

Jan 19 First General Meeting for 07

Jan 26 Aust Day BBQ at Clubrooms (Friday)

Jan 26, 27, 28 Australia Day weekend (no scheduled trips anywhere)

Feb 3 Working Bee + BBQ

Feb 17 Pub Night - where to be decided at Jan GM.

March 24th / 25th Foundation Licence course

April 20 AGM

April 28<sup>th</sup> Saturday Fox Hunt

July 21 GGREC Hamfest

This is American, but you'll get the picture ...

### How old is Grandpa???

One evening a grandson was talking to his grandfather about current events.

The grandson asked his grandfather what he thought about the shootings at schools, the computer age, and

just things in general.

The Grandfather replied, "Well, let me think a minute, I was born before: television, penicillin, polio shots, frozen foods, Xerox, contact lenses, Frisbees and the pill.

There were no credit cards laser beams or ball-point pens

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

Man had not invented: pantyhose, air conditioners, dishwashers, clothes dryers, and the clothes were hung out to dry in the fresh air and man hadn't yet walked on the moon

Your Grandmother and I got married first, . . . and then lived together. Every family had a father and a mother.

Until I was 25, I called every man older than me, "Sir". And after I turned 25, I still called policemen and every man with a title, "Sir."

We were before gay-rights, computer- dating, dual careers, daycare centers, and group therapy.

Our lives were governed by the Ten Commandments, good judgment, and common sense.

We were taught to know the difference between right and wrong and to stand up and take responsibility for our actions. Serving your country was a privilege; living in this country was a bigger privilege.

We thought fast food was what people ate during Lent.

Having a meaningful relationship meant getting along with your cousins.

Draft dodgers were people who

closed their front doors when the evening breeze started.

Time-sharing meant time the family spent together in the evenings and weekends-not purchasing condominiums. We never heard of FM radios, tape decks, CDs, electric typewriters, yogurt, or guys wearing earrings. We listened to the Big Bands, Jack Benny, and the President's speeches on our radios. And I don't ever remember any kid blowing his brains out listening to Tommy Dorsey.

If you saw anything with 'Made in Japan ' on it, it was junk.

The term 'making out' referred to how you did on your school exam. Pizza Hut, McDonald's, and instant coffee were unheard of. We had 5 & 10-cent stores where you could actually buy things for 5 and 10 cents. Ice-cream cones, phone calls, rides on a streetcar, and a Pepsi were all a nickel.

And if you didn't want to splurge, you could spend your nickel on enough stamps to mail 1 letter and 2 postcards.

You could buy a new Chevy Coupe for \$600, . . . but who could afford one? Too bad, because gas was 11 cents a gallon.

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## Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> November 2006

**Start time:** 09:25 PM.

**Location:** Guide Hall Cranbourne.

**Chairperson:** Albert Hubbard VK3BQO

**Minute Taker:** Phil Pavey VK3YB

**Present:** As per attendance sheet.

**Visitors and Guests:** Nil

**Apologies:** Dianne Jackson VK3HDI, Ross Jackson VK3ZAP,  
Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT

### Correspondence Received:

EMDRC Monthly Magazine. AR Magazine, GGREC Gateway, ACMA approval to relocate 70cm repeater

### Correspondence Sent:

Nil

### Treasurer's Report:

**Income :** \$533.00 **Expenditure :** \$423.44 **Balance :** (See tabled financial report).

**Read by:** Mike Ide, VK3KTO **Moved by:** Mike Ide VK3KTO **Seconded by:** Henry Vandelight, VK3FHTV **Carried:** Yes

**New Call signs** – Susan Coleman VK3FXXX, Henry Vandelight VK3FHTV, Maria Vandelight VK3FSAT, Chris Op'tHoog VK3FABF

**Previous Minutes:** As printed in the November 2006 GATEWAY magazine.

**Read by:** Albert Hubbard **Moved by:** Helmut Inhoven VK3DHI **Seconded by:** Steve Harding VK3EGD **Carried:** Yes

### Business Arising from Previous Minutes:

Pat Pavey VK3OZ would like to receive gateway magazine in print.

Christmas Breakup – details as per magazine. Remember to bring some chairs

JOTA 2006 is now behind us. Event was OK, but very poor propagation.

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Maryborough weekend was a great success with 25 attendee's.

Moorabin Airport Trip is on 25<sup>th</sup> November at 10:30. Only 8 people have paid at this point.

### **New Business:**

Reminder of no prac night in January

Ian Jackson spoke about the possibility of some nights on programming AVR processors. This will be revisited in new year.

Another project is proposed by Albert Hubbard and Phil Pavey – Desk mic

David Campbell raising money for “Movember” – mens health.

**Meeting Closed** at around 21:55.

Next Committee Meeting

Next Prac Night: Friday 2nd January 2007.

Next General Meeting: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2007

Next Committee Meeting: Monday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2007, at the Club Rooms starting at 8:00pm

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In my day: "grass" was mowed, "coke" was a cold drink, "pot" was something your mother cooked in and "rock music" was your grandmother's lullaby. "Aids" were helpers in the Principal's office, "chip" meant a piece of wood, "hardware" was found in a hardware store and "software" wasn't even a word. And we were the last generation to actually believe that a lady needed a husband to have a baby. No wonder

people call us "old and confused" and say there is a generation gap... and how old do you think I am?

Pretty scary if you think about it and pretty sad at the same time.

This man would be only 59 years old

GGREC  
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3977