

GATEWAY



Gorgeous Girls Reckon Editor's Cute

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

July 2007

Next General Meeting:
20th of July

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 Club-rooms. Both nights commence at 8:00 PM. **Visitors will be made most welcome.** Committee meetings are also held in the club-rooms.

President	Bruno Tonizzo	VK3BFT (9700 4526)
Secretary	Phil Pavey	VK3YB (5995 7484)
Treasurer	Andrew Clinkaberry	VK3HFA (5942 5396)
Committee Members:	Reg VK3UK, Max VK3, Pat VK3OZ, Mike VK3KTO	
Magazine Editor:	Ross VK3ZAP	

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

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:

Ross Jackson email editor@ggrec.org.au

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

or Email :
secretary@ggrec.org.au

The Pres Says...

Why are we Amateurs?

I often ask myself this question when non amateur friends ask me about my hobby. We are a very privileged group of people licensed to educate ourselves through operation, development and experimentation with all the different aspects of today's Amateur Radio.

What are we going to experiment with?

Those of you that read AR magazine will have read about the experiments being conducted with modulated light (LED) transmission, Software Defined Radio, Digital Radio, Digital ATV, Patch Antennas and the numerous articles about construction techniques, championed by Drew Diamond. If all you do is talk to a few people on Amateur radio, I think you are missing out on what our hobby has to offer. At GGREC, we have events, facilities and equipment that allow you to learn and experiment with many aspects of our hobby, and at the same time share your experiences with other members of the Club. We run many events that give you the opportunity to learn about our hobby.

Participation.

Working bees sound like a boring waste of a Saturday, but the information and skills that you learn, while having fun, are invaluable. Testing & terminating cables, building construction...the list goes on and on.

Foundation License Courses

Knowing about your hobby well enough to teach it is a path to self development that I myself am currently going through. I know that I am benefiting just as much as the candidates that I am teaching. Learning about Amateur radio all over again reminds you that you do have the skills to do a lot more than you are currently doing.

Camping Weekends

Learning how to set up an amateur radio station in remote locations is a vital component of our hobby. Amateurs are recognized as a trained group of people that can, and have been called upon to assist in times of natural disasters.

So what is the message that I am trying to get across?.....

Get involved with your Club. The biggest secret is that the General Meetings, which are very well attended, are probably the most non-amateur activity that we organize!!

All the action happens at the events that we run.

I invite you to send a letter to the editor to let the Club know what Amateur Radio means to you.

The Editor's Ramblings

By Ross Jackson, ZAP-ed

Now before I start, I'd just like to say that it was all Cathie's idea. It was not I who thought that "*Gorgeous Girls Reckon Editor's Cute*" would be a good idea to put on the front page of the magazine. You see, Cathy, Kate and William came up to me the day we went to Mt Cannibal, and they said to me "*Ross, Ross, we've come up with the best acronym for GGREC ever!*". And that was the one that they told me, so I had to put it in, and as you can see, I really had no choice in the matter. Actually, that story isn't *entirely* true, the one they *actually* told me was "*Guys and Girls Reckon Editor's Crazy*", the problem with that one though, is that there isn't an "*and*" between the first two G's in GGREC, so strictly speaking, I couldn't allow it. So what I did was, I tweaked it a bit so that it worked with the letters, and is also entirely accurate.

Speaking of GGREC's, a couple that might have made it on this mag could have been "*Go Gently Round Every Corner*" or maybe "*Gritty Gravel Ruins Erratic Corollas*", as it commemorates the one month anniversary of the time I drove my Toyota Corolla into a ditch near Warragul. I'd just like to take this opportunity to give Albert VK3BQO a HUGE thanks for hearing my mad plea for help on the radio on that wet, wintry night, and another thanks to my dad Ian VK3BUF for towing me out. I'm just glad that after \$150 and a hot chocolate, the car's back on the road, good as new.

Anyways, I should get back to editing this magazine; which is jammed packed full of goodies, as usual. For one thing, you might notice that I have placed seemingly incomprehensible messages that make absolutely no sense whatsoever throughout the magazine...err...that is...more than usual...*cough*. This was done intentionally, and it is a bit of a brain teaser really. All the sentences have one thing in common, but I'm not going to tell you what it is yet. Here's a hint though, they're all related to "Bob", "Otto" and "Level". Have fun trying to figure out what the common theme is! You can start by looking at the example below.



“ Never odd or even ”

Upcoming Events

20th July, Saturday	General Meeting
21st July, Saturday	Hamfest
26th July, Thursday	AVR project night
28th July, Saturday	Pub Night – Cardinia Hotel, Beaconsfield
30th July, Monday	Committee Meeting
3rd August, Friday	Prac Night
11th & 12th August	RD Contest
31st August, Friday	Foundation Night

There are a lot of fun and interesting events in the upcoming months, so make sure you attend as many as you can!

Happy Birthday to you.....

The birthdays for July are:

Warren Mansfield VK3HGU

Joe Rotenburg VK3BBN



Not on the list? Then contact the treasurer and update your information. And Happy Birthday to you all.

30TH DINNER SUCCESS

As you all aware, the 30th anniversary dinner was a HUGE success, with plenty of food and games and friendly chat being enjoyed by all. The roast dinner tasted great, and there was plenty of food left over for seconds (or thirds), as well as plenty of cakes and slices and sugary goodies, which can only be a good thing. Not only that, but there were games and activities that displayed previously unknown talents amongst our members, including my mum's hidden bowling skills, Marisa's secret golfing expertise and Ivan's amazing all-round bowling/darts/golf abilities. But the real competition, however, was the hotly contested Trivia Night. Despite certain controversies involving the *eucalyptus jacksoni*, the contest confounded and entertained us all, especially Dave and Cathy's table, who somehow managed to win the night with a blistering score that flattened all other competition by far. And for those of you doubters out there, I will refer you to the below picture of the Jackson family inside an actual living *Eucalyptus Jacksoni* tree somewhere in Western Australia.

Thanks are in order for lots of people, firstly to my dear mother, Dianne Jackson VK3JDI, who did a phenomenal job of organising the roast dinners, the streamers, the balloons, the tables, the trivia and everything else that she did, I'm sure we appreciate all the efforts you put in for the night, I know I do. Another thanks should go to Reg VK3UK and Jenny for supplying the games and activities, as well as all those great prizes and trophies for the winners. People who helped out who also deserve our thanks are Val Benson, Andrew Clinkaberry, Albert Hubbard and Mike Ide, as they provided valuable support throughout the night, and also a general thanks to those who stayed to pack up, and everybody who came to the Dinner, because without you it wouldn't have been nearly as fun! After the success of this dinner, I look forward to the future dinners to come.



Known to live up to 400 years, the red tingle (*Eucalyptus jacksonii*) is one of the biggest trees in Western Australia. They can measure up to 16 metres around the base and grow over 60 metres tall.

ALL TABLES BOOKED OUT AT THE HAMFEST SALE

A message from Dianne VK3JDI

Well ahead of previous years, all 40 tables at the sale were booked out a full three weeks before the event. We also have a few names on waiting lists just in case we receive any late cancellations.

A WARNING...

There are still some Club members that have booked tables and have not paid for their table/s in full. (as has been the custom for some years now) This is a reminder that unless you have paid in full and received your confirmation Booking Number by One Week before the event, that your table position may be lost and made available to the people on the waiting list.



This looks like being a big event for the Club, as there has been a lot of interest. We even have a couple of new trade sellers this year and another first-time breakthrough....Yes, Steamed Dim Sims will be on sale too!

Name Tags & Club Room Access Pass

Are you a member of the Club but don't have a NAME TAG ?

Do you got to the Prac nights and find that you haven't got a pass* to get in the door?

If you answered YES to either of these Questions, then don't forget to put your name down on the form at the July General Meeting.

See Mike Ide or Bruno Tonizzo. *Conditions Apply*

“Oozy rat in a sanitary zoo”

ATTENTION MEMBERS

This is just a reminder to all members using the club rooms that you should ensure that the shack is locked and secure when you leave it for the night. Please make sure that both doors are closed and that the gate is shut.

Volunteers for Hamfest



As I'm sure you are all aware, our club Hamfest is rapidly approaching, and to ensure that this year is as successful as every other year, we need some volunteers to help out. Super heroes, giant meat-cleaver wielding robots, Harry Potter wizards, magic Elves, and super-intelligent globes of energy would be mostly preferred, however we might settle for somebody who can turn over some sausages, hand out small change or point out the direction to men's toilets. In fact, we need anybody and everybody that's a club member to come down and lend a hand. The more people that help, the better the Hamfest will be, so if you would like to come down and give some assistance to the club, and have a lot of fun at the same time, contact Albert VK3BQO and volunteer.

PUB NIGHT

Now I know what you're thinking, you're thinking "Shouldn't the text immediately below a large bolded title such as "Pub Night" be about when and where this pub night actually is?", and you know what, maybe you're right. I mean, it's a fairly logical assumption that important details such as that *ought* to be here, where else would they

be? The thing is though, if I wrote a short and boring ad like you would expect, you'd probably forget about it two seconds later. This way,

you've been reading and thinking about for a few more seconds than usual, and are far more likely to remember it...at least, that's how the theory goes, and I'm sticking to it. Anyways, for those of you who just want to know where on earth this Pub Night is, it's at the Cardinia Park Hotel, Emerald Rd – Beaconsfield, it's the same place where we had the 25th Anniversary Dinner.

28th July, 6:00pm

Be there or be a rectangular shaped thingy!



AVR MICRO PROJECTS

Some Comments by Ian VK3BUF

On the last AVR night we had some discussion about AVR projects, but a lot of time was taken up by talking about wind generators that some of the Club members have recently acquired. While this was interesting, because I too am putting one of these generators in the air, it has made me think that we should probably make better use of our AVR sessions in an attempt to advance our projects and lift skill levels.



PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

There will be more discussion on this topic in the coming months, but it is important to make a start in the right direction. There are a few members that have a rough idea in mind, but are not quite sure how to make a start. Having gone through design cycles on a range of projects, I would like to go with a method that has worked well for me. To this end I would like everyone who is looking at doing an AVR project, to start off with a small assignment.



THE ASSIGNMENT

Rather than plunging straight into technical detail, I want people to think more about how their end product will look and feel, so that there is a clear specification to work towards. So the mission to all the AVR'ers is to sit themselves in front of a word processor and produce 2-3 pages to describe their project as though it was a sales brochure. Highlight all the advantages and attributes, add dot-points and so forth. Write it up in such a way that a complete stranger could read the document and understand what you are trying to do. Add pictures if you wish. With our normal fortnightly interval, our next session would be on Thursday the 19th of July. However, as this is the night before a General Meeting and two days before our Hamfest Sale, I want to delay this one week until Thursday the 26th of July and we will get together for a microprocessor night in the Club Shack then.

So, write up your 'Information Flyer' on your project and have it ready for that night. Bring along 3-4 spare copies if possible. I have reasons for this. As a group, we will go over each project in sequence, and then we will be in a good position to brainstorm a little. We can suggest extra features and work out a construction strategy and (dare I say it!) pick up on any inherent design flaws. This would include microprocessor size & model, circuit board layouts, and effective interfacing methods for the micro to safely do things in the 'real world'. Producing an Information Flyer as I have described then becomes a fast way to get your ideas across to the group, so that they too can share a little of your vision. The process of creating it will also firm up a lot of the details in your own mind, so get to it!

“Too bad, I hid a boot”

GEOFF WILLIAMS MESSAGE HOME

Hi All,

I haven't made too many contacts made with the 706 unfortunately. The longwire was recently modified by altering the position and length, and the inverted V was repositioned so as to face South-East toward Oz land. Today I borrowed a VSWR bridge and the longwire seems the better option with a 4:1 balun on 20m, 10m and 6m being <1.5. The V only hits <2:1 at 40m where its 1.7:1. The location at the hotel is not ideal but conditions don't seem to too good either. The longwire runs from my room window on the first floor, down to the fence below, then to a wooden frame holding the washing line, up to the roof of the outdoor 'restaurant (they killed a rat that ran out of the kitchen last night, it was the size of a small kitten....and no I don't...ah... won't eat there) then out to the eaves of the laundry building, then runs across the front garden of the hotel. Total length somewhere around 70 metres I think. Its been chopped a couple of times and it's all very agricultural to say the least.

I've 'eyeballed' 4W6ERC here who is a lecturer on telecommunications at the local university. Jose is on leave from his job in Portugal and given up his time to teach here for 2 months. He's running a Yaesu FT857 into a GR5V and has not had much success either.

DX contacts to date this tour are;

HL5NLQ Kang in South Korea on 14.205 with both recording 5/5

YB7KNV Jim in Indonesia on 7040 with a solid 5/9 both ways.

Both contacts were on the inverted V which is interesting seeing as the VSWR measured today on 20m is 8:1 on the V. (Poor ATU...I won't do that again)

Well that's about all, home on the 12th of July and QSO all when I'm back in VK3.

Cheers, Geoff

P S t h e
toothbrush antenna is a work in progress, just trying to polish out the cavity front end!! (oooooooh)



Our Trip Around Australia



Hi all,

As you may be aware, we are on our trip around the northern and eastern side of Australia. Estimated time for this trip is 6 months.

We will be QRV on 20m, 40m and in the evening on 80 metres.

Our schedule is as follows::

20m on the travellers net on 14,116 Mhz at 03.00Z

40m during the day and around 17.00 EST (if it works) on 7,100 Mhz +/- QRM

80m every Wednesday and Sunday at 20.00 EST on 3,640 Mhz +/- QRM

Hope to see you at some time during the duration of our trip.

Best 73 de VK3DHI (Helmut) and XYL Dorothy

Harry Potter and the GGREC Hamfest

By Ross Jackson, ZAP-ed

Something really good happens on July 21st, and I think it's got something to do with white elephants, or ham sandwiches, or some sort of sale that's on, I'm not really sure though, because it is on that date that the seventh Harry Potter book comes out, and I'm totally obsessed with it. At long last all the questions will be answered; will professor Snape be proven evil? Who is going to be killed off? Will good triumph over evil? I just need to know! I have been marking the days off on the calendar in eager anticipation for the last few months, and the moment of truth is near at hand. I can hardly wait! But something that radio enthusiasts and Harry Potter fans alike are both looking forward to is the annual



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GGREC Hamfest. Yep, it's that time of year again to clear some space in the back shed for that special antique steam operated radio that was first used by the great Morse himself! Or failing that, another one of the many great bargains that can be found at this fun-filled event. With, hot and tasty snacks on sale, glamorous door prizes, and not to mention over 40 tables packed full with electronic goodies, you'd be a fool to miss out (albeit, a slightly richer fool). So why not come down and join the fun, where you can meet fellow amateurs with a similar passion for buying boxes that make lots of noise (you can try to justify the expenses by saying that you were getting in touch with your inner child, it won't work though). And remember, all proceeds go to the club, so come along and give your club the support it needs.

Entry is \$6.00

**Location: Cranbourne Public Hall, at the corner of
Clarendon St and High St Cranbourne**

A Special Thanks

I would like to take this space to thank my dad, Ian VK3BUF, for fixing a bug that managed to creep into the door software used in the club shack. I thought about going into lengthy and detailed discussion about handshake software and dodgy relays, but I think I'll just condense all that interesting information into a quick sentence: it got fixed. So if you have been noticing lots of random buzzing whilst in the shack over the last month or so, it will no longer be an issue. Thanks dad.

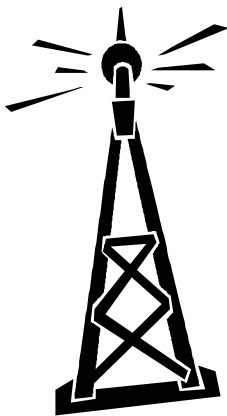
VK3RHF Needs You

A summary of a flyer written by Mick Lammer VK3UUU

The 10Metre repeater VK3RHF was setup by Dave Tilson VK3UR and the 10FM group in 1987. This repeater has since been managed by Steve VK3JSR, who has spent a lot of time and money in maintaining this repeater over the past several years. The problem is that it has recently bro-

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ken down and is irreparable. The cost of a new system is in excess of \$1800 and Steve cannot possibly be expected to pay such large sum. He has appealed to the radio amateur community to donate a small amount of money so that a new system can be purchased, and a 10m repeater that can be enjoyed by all. If you would like to give a personal donation to Steve, his details can be found on the flyer that will no doubt be available at the next general meeting. The flyer also contains much more information on the subject and in much more detail. It would be a shame to see this much used repeater disappear from our airways, so please consider donating for a worthy cause.

“O Stone, be not so”

Umm...Yeah...

As you can see, there is a small gap between the above article and the bottom of this page. The problem I have is that I have run out of material to put in this magazine, and I have nothing short enough to fill the gap. Strictly speaking, some people have given me articles to put into the magazine, however, they are all too long to for this half-page vacancy, so I



A convenient Picture to fill up space

apologise if you have sent me some stuff and it hasn't made it through into the final cut, I will try my best next month to ensure that your contributions make it in. Having said that, I am still always looking for more articles to put into the mag, as well as some humorous GGREC's, so please keep sending me some new articles, and make this magazine even better.

Email: editor@ggrec.org.au

“Yawn a more Roman way!”

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting Minutes

Date: 15th June 2007

Start time: 08:00 PM.

Location: Guide Hall Cranbourne.

Chairperson: Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT

Minute Taker: Bruno Tonizzo followed by Phil Pavey VK3YB

Present: As per attendance sheet.

Visitors and Guests: Mark Tell VK4KMT, Elizabeth King, Tim Morgan

Apologies: Ron VK3EXJ & Judy Robertson, Helmut VK3DHI and Dorothy Inhoven, Dave Campbell VK3XMF, Graeme Brown VK3BXG, Bobby Bishop, Joe Rotenberg VK3BBN, Geoff Williams VK3ZGW

Correspondence Received:

nil

Correspondence Sent:

nil.

Treasurer's Report: tabled

Read by: Andrew Clinkaberry VK3HFA **Moved by:** Andrew Clinkaberry VK3HFA **Seconded by:** Noel King VK3CJJ

Carried: yes

New Call signs – nil

Previous Minutes: As printed in the June '07 GATEWAY magazine.

Moved by: Seconded by: I

Business Arising from Previous Minutes:

Bruno (president) reminded everyone to read events queue in gateway magazine

Dianne reported only 12 tables remain for hamfest

RD contest is coming soon – 11/12 August

Club visit to Cannibal Hill was a great success

Helmut VK3DHI and Dorothy have been heard on HF regularly on there trip, including this morning on 80m. Schedules have been published, but also heard on 3.539 at 8am

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AVR course has concluded, but informal meeting continuing every second Thursday in shack. Ian Jackson VK3BUF was thanked and Andrew Clinkaberry presented him with certificate

New Business:

Bruno reported that the Mt St Leonards 70cm Repeater has moved freq

Di Jackson VK3JDI presented with certificate by Andrew Clinkaberry for enabling Ian to run AVR course!

Albert gave hamfest report

Meeting for food people to be held (Thursday 7pm)

As many helpers as possible needed on the day

Meeting Closed at around 8:50 PM.

Next Committee Meeting: 29 July 2007 at the Club Rooms @ 8pm.

Next Prac Night: 6th July 2007.

Next General Meeting: 20th July 2007.

“Was it a car, or a cat I saw?”

GGREC
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3977