

GATEWAY



Gracefully Galloping Racehorse Excites Crowd
(Except if you live in NSW)

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

October 2007

Next General Meeting:
19th of October

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	Albert Hubbard	VK3BQO (5659 6562)

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

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.

Incorporation Number A0016893M

The Pres Says...

This month I would like to extend the Clubs best wishes to our fellow members Yarn Onken and Andrew Clinkaberry, both of whom are recovering from a spell in Hospital. We wish you both a speedy recovery.

The month of October is just underway and already I feel exhausted. Planning is nearly finished for the Club room naming ceremony and JOTA needs your commitment to help, for it to be a success. The Melbourne Cup weekend planning is under way but a change of venue to the Kilcunda Caravan Park left a few members confused, sorry about that, my fault.



The Committee has been planning events for next year and your input is required. Have a think of where you would like to go to next Labour Day weekend and let the committee know about it.

Amateur momentum is also growing behind the Central Victorian Hamfest that will be on the 10th of Feb '08. Make sure you pencil this event on your calendar for next year. Planning events this much in advance has an effect of compressing time. As soon as you have planned, written about and been to an event a whole month or two has passed. A bit like fast forwarding time. Now where is my sonic screwdriver.....

Bruno Tonizzo, VK3BFT

New Club Treasurer

Due to ongoing work commitments, Andrew Clinkaberry has had to resign as GGREC Treasurer. I would like to thank Andrew for the work he has done to date and he will be handing over the books to Albert Hubbard. Albert has volunteered to act as Club Treasurer until the next election. I'm sure we all wish Andrew well or his contribution to date and thank Albert for standing in at short notice.



The Editors Ramblings

By Ross Jackson, ZAP-ed

I'm excited. For ages and ages there has been a word that I've always been waiting to use, but the opportunity has never really come up, not properly, but now the time has finally come. It's a good word, it's a fantastic word, its long, but not too long, it has lots of different letters in it, but its not too hard to spell, it even has the bonus extra feature of been able to be hyphenated, which always impresses people. It also sounds cool, it's the kind of word that if you said at just the right moment, at just the right place, all your friends will become overwhelmed with awe at your fantastic linguistic skills. You would have realised by now that I haven't actually told you what the word is yet, and that all I've done so far is fill up a paragraph or so of interesting yet nevertheless pointless, rambling text. This is true. But before I reveal the mysterious yet almost certainly disappointing word to everyone, I'd like to draw your anticipation out even further.



Given that the Melbourne Cup is rapidly approaching, I thought it appropriate that this month's GGREC acronym should reflect this. And if it bags New South Wales, its even better. The problem that I have though, is that I only have one more edition of this magazine to produce before I hand over the reigns to the next, poor, unfortunate editor, and I haven't yet made up my mind what should be the final GGREC acronym. But you can make my decision easier by sending me one that you have thought of yourself. It's not hard to do, and can be a lot of fun, so if you have any really good ones worthy of appearing on my final edition, send them to me at editor@ggrec.org.au or over the air.

If you read last month's magazine, then you will be fully aware of the heroic and epic saga of the ancient sea monster. Thankfully, no such battle took place this time, and I have the list of everybody's birthday safe, sound and as yet un-moistened. An epic battle that did take place, however, was the Geelong v Collingwood semi-final match at the MCG. Unfortunately, by staying at home and watching the football, I missed out on

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The Cake Is A Lie

Upcoming Events

19th October, Friday	General Meeting: Albert Hubbard - Fox hunting
20th October, Saturday	JOTA & Naming ceremony for GGREC Club Rooms.
29th October, Monday	Committee Meeting 8:00 PM.
2nd November, Friday	Prac Night – Antenna Building Project
3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, No- vember	Melbourne Cup Long Weekend. Camping at Kilcunda Caravan Park. 0356787260
17th, 18th November, Weekend	VHF/UFH field day, and pub night!
8th December, Saturday	Christmas break-up, At Graeme VK3BXG QTH

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

Birthdays For October.....

As promised, here is the list of birthdays for September:

David Rosenfield *VK3ADM* *Judy Robertson*

James Shilton *VK3ZRG*

And here is the list for October:

Graham Brennan *VK3KCS* *Lindsay Allen* *VK3IQ*

John Wickham *VK3ZK*

For the benefit of everybody, I glued this month's list to the desk, and I again apologise for not printing your name in last month's magazine.

Have A Happy Birthday Everybody!

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all the fun and excitement of the memorabilia night, which was apparently hugely successful. And by the sounds of it, everybody ended up having a great time, including me, it's just a shame that the Grand Final wasn't as spectacular as the match that night.

Anyways, it seems apparent to me now that I can no longer delay the inevitable. The word of which you have so long waited to find out, and that has so far been kept secret, and is only a few words away, will be finally revealed. The word is...que drum roll...pause for a second or so..."Penultimate". Yeah, I'd thought you'd be impressed. It really is pretty good. But the reason why I get to say this word right now is because this is my "Penultimate" edition of Gateway. And because I only have one edition left to go, I haven't skimmed on the quality, and as usual, it is packed full of really groovy stuff.

I look forward to seeing everybody at the next General Meeting.

The Melbourne Cup Weekend

Please finalize your booking for this event so that we know how many members are coming. Numbers are needed so that we can book a Pub Night during the weekend. The country side is in good shape with rolling green hills and spectacular ocean views fight outside your door. A good weekend for the fisherman!

Remember, the venue is the Kilcunda Caravan Park, Bass Hyw Kilcunda 0356787260.

If caravan parks are not your scene, Wonthaggi has numerous quality motels for you to choose from.

Foundation License Training

Do you know someone that wants to get their Foundation License? You do! Then tell them that the next GGREC Foundation training/ Examination weekend will be the 16th & 17th Feb 2008.

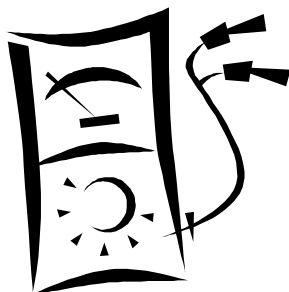
Contact Mike Ide for bookings. 0359987590.

Finally a good contact on 20 metres

By Geoff Williams

Friday night the 12th October, 1830 local time in Dili, after having no hair left pondering a nagging AVR programming problem on my current project, I knocked the 706's on button and selected scan on the 20 m band which sent the display counting up from 14.116 up to 350 and back again. At .183 this weak VK2 signal arrived and I was just able to QSO VK2BJ in St Ives in Sydney giving a 1/6.

The noise level was low tonight, around S3 so me thinks....Ah ha, maybe we give it a go. Then all of a sudden VK8BN at 5/9 from Darwin got me Skype-ing to VK3 land to see who was around. Only one I found in a shack was Albert VK3BQO. So arranging a QSO we had a very good contact with 5/6 both ways. This lasted for about 5 minutes when the QSB shut us down.



But still, goes to show that when the band opens, all things are possible. Later that night a long workable path existed between myself and VK6ZAI who is approximately 100km east of Perth.

So, all better DX news this trip.

Cheers
4W6AAD
Dili, Timor Leste

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*

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.

A Tribute To Peter

By Pat Pavey, VK3OZ

[ZAP-ed writes: Given that the club shack naming ceremony is so quickly approaching us, I'd like to thank Pat for sending this article for me to print in the magazine.]

Peter was born on November 11th 1939 and became aware of short wave radio as a very young teenager when his father provided a receiver and a long piece of wire to amuse him in his bedroom while living in the quiet English countryside. Leaving school and beginning an electrical apprenticeship at age 15 he discovered the hobby of “ham “ radio and began going along to the local radio club in Exeter and finding out how to set about getting a licence. The study was done with the aid of the Radio communication Handbook published by the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB). All sections of the exam had to be passed at the same time including 12wpm morse which Peter learned with one on one tuition by members of the club. Interested prospective amateurs were also used as log keepers in the many field days and such activities that were part of the life of the club and which gave great experience and preparation before going on air. Every transmission put to air by a “ham” had to be logged even if it was only an unanswered CQ or a test transmission!. After many months of study Peter sat and passed his exams – the CW exam had to be taken at the post office in Cardiff, Wales and as Peter lived in Exeter, Devon, it was a journey of approx 130 miles on the train, with a bicycle ride too and from the stations. On arrival at the post office they were taken in by a sympathetic postmaster who thawed them out in front of his radiator before asking them to send and receive the CW passages. Fortunately both Peter and his friend were able to obtain a pass.

On Dec 12th 1958 Peter received his licence in the mail and became G3NFT. This was one of the proudest moments of his life and represented a huge effort and began a lifelong love of amateur radio. Peter served the Exeter radio Club in many different capacities including chairman and was actively involved in amateur radio until his death on July 1st 2006.

Our move to Australia in 1976 meant that Peter became VK3BFA before changing to VK3VB. He was active in FAMPARC and a member of WIA

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and always had rigs in every car and caravan we owned as well as at home. He was very thrilled in 1982 when Phil inherited his interest in radio and after studying received the call VK3PMJ. In 1991 I decided the time had come to join the ranks as it seemed to be a case of “if you can’t beat ‘em, join ‘em!” so I became VK3PAT and we began to share the rig, which Peter found hard at first but was really thrilled to have me on board and sharing the same hobby. Most of you will know of the years we have spent as members of GGREC and the many activities we shared with you all in this time. The support we received when Peter became sick was wonderful and Phil and I will always be grateful, also for the ongoing friendship of club members. This means a great deal to me and I know Peter would be very pleased, proud and surprised at having the club rooms named after him.

Ode to the half-page of space we had left

By Dianne VK3JDI

One day last week, as I was soldering away,
Our magazine editor was heard to say
“I need one more article to fill half a page
But what can I do at this late stage.”

I shrugged my shoulders and drank from my cup
We hoped that something good would come up.

As I sat there soldering, I had an idea
If I wrote a poem, maybe it could appear
But nothing will rhyme with radio or frequency,
And a rhyme for “amateur” escapes me completely.

Perhaps writing poems is not my best thing,
But if I submit it on time, it just might get in.

ZAP-ed writes: Despite mum’s total lack of imagination, I have managed to find some words that rhyme with “amateur”. Here they are:

squelcher	pincher	moisture
torture	juncture	culture
lecture	vulture	launcher
puncher	lyncher	moocher

Club Room Naming Ceremony

The following agenda is proposed for the Naming Ceremony.

10:00 AM GGREC arrives at Hall to start setting up JOTA and prepare for the celebration.

11:30 AM Start BBQ cooking and start eating when ready.

12:00 MD Formal naming of Club room followed by socializing.

1:00 PM Start JOTA and continue with celebrations.

This will be a great celebration to carryout GGREC member's wishes to name the completed Club rooms after Peter Pavey.

Please come along and be part of this great memorable occasion.

Fox Hunting

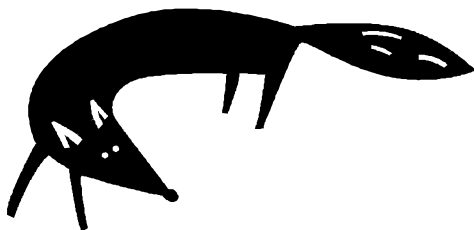
OR

How to find a hidden transmitter when you are lost, hungry and swatting mosquitoes.

By Bruno Tonizzo, VK3BFT

Fox hunting is fun. I recall trying out my hand held with a directional antenna in sunny Gippsland one day, much to the amusement of passing local farmers.

"What are you doing mate? Looking for escaped Koalas I replied....."



For those of you that have not tried this amateur sport, you are in for a surprisingly pleasant experience. Understanding the receiving pattern of your antenna and the impact that signal lobes have on picking the location of the

target is enlightening. The day is not stressful and it doesn't take long to get through the event. A civilized BBQ is always enjoyed and a tall story or two spoken over a glass of red.

Hear more about Fox Hunting from Albert Hubbard at the October GM.



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

THEREBY HANGS A TALE

"Afraid"

Scarcely known nowadays, except in stories laid in olden times, is the verb affray. Its ancient meaning was "to startle out of one's rest," as by a clap of thunder or other sharp noise. That is, one who was affrayed was one who was alarmed. From alarm to fright was a natural development in meaning, so affrayed, in the sense of "frightened," had come to be common usage in the fourteenth century. Thanks to lack of uniform spelling before the eighteenth century, it has come down to us in the form afraid.

Thanks to Harper Collins, Book Publishers for permission to reprint. The above excerpt is from the book "Thereby Hangs a Tale: Stories of Curious Word Origins" by Charles Earl Funk, copyright 1950.

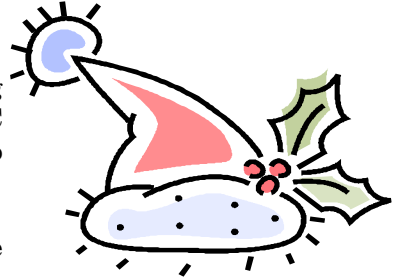
Next month I will have yet another phrase from this interesting book, so be on the lookout for more!

Christmas Hamper

By Bruno Tonizzo, VK3BFT

Dear Members,

Due to the drought, floods, global warming Al Nino and his wife La Nina etc, GGREC members will again need to contribute to their own Christmas Hamper.



An empty hamper will be made available for members to fill with Christmas fare.

Some suggestions are bottles of wine, shortbreads and a log periodic antenna. GGREC, I am told, will contribute a leg of ham to the approx value of \$50.00.

With no general Meeting in December, there are only 2 GMs (and 3 Prac nights) to fill the hamper. The committee has set the price of hamper raffle tickets at \$1.00 each or 3 for \$2.00 to win the lot.

Remember, I know who has been naughty and who has been nice Ho Ho Ho.

Merry Christmas, from Santa Clause.

(P.S. Ed, it's only tooooo dollars but sanctioned by Santa.)

Spring VHF / UHF Field Day

Saturday 17th November

This Year GGREC will be participating in the Spring VHF / UHF Field day. We plan to set up our portable station at the site at Albert Hubbard's house and operate for approx 6 hours. After this, we plan to visit a local pub for dinner.

The fine details are still being sorted out so please liaise with Phil Pavey for the latest info and locations.

If you are interested in setting up a temporary VHF / UHF station then don't miss this event.

Antenna Building Project

Things are moving quickly thanks to your enthusiastic support. Mike Ide has a list of members that would like to build a multi-band wire antenna, a two meter beam and a 70 cm beam.

The next get together will decide the best designs to go with. Some mathematics to check the theory would not go astray before a prototype is built and tested.

Please contact Mike Ide if you need further information.

JOTA 2007

This year, JOTA / JOTI celebrates its 50th Birthday on the 20th October. Come along and help make this day a success for the Cranbourne Guides.

GGREC will be required to provide amateur radio communications for the Guides between 1:00 and 4:00 PM on Saturday. We will be providing Morse code, VHF / UHF transceivers in the hall and HF communications in the Club rooms. If we have 8 to 10 members there on the day it will go very smoothly.

Please contact Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT if you are coming to help.

2007 Christmas Party

This year the GGREC Christmas Party will be hosted by Graeme Brown VK3BXG and his family on the 8th of December.



Graeme's address is 225 Pryor Rd Drouin, and as always, this will be the last official GGREC event of 2007. BYO everything and relax in the quiet country atmosphere that only Drouin can provide. Don't forget that the Christmas Hamper raffle will be drawn on this day and the lucky winner will take the much coveted hamper home for Christmas.

See you there!

Meeting Minutes

General Meeting Minutes

Date: 18 August 2007

Start time: 08:10 PM.

Location: Guide Hall Cranbourne.

Chairperson: Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT

Minute Taker: Phil Pavey VK3YB

Present: See attendance Sheet

Visitors and Guests: Neil VK3END, Alex, Roland VK3NYV

Apologies: Steve & Maria Harding, Graeme Brown VK3BXG, Andrew Brown, Helmut VK3DHI and Dorothy Inhoven, Ron VK3EXJ and Judy Robertson, Elizabeth King VK3FLIZ, Andrew Clinkaberry VK3HFA, Mark Glickman, Ross Jackson VK3ZAP

Correspondence Received:

Doveton & Eummemmering newsletter, EMDRC News, QSL card from VK3TLA

Correspondence Sent:

Nil

Treasurer's Report: as tabled. Read by Phil VK3YB Moved Albert Hubbard VK3BQO, Seconded Reg Goddard VK3UKA
Income: As printed in Gateway

Previous Minutes: As printed in the Magazine. Russ White should have been recorded as apology for August Meeting. Proposed Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT, Seconded Mike Ide VK3KTO

New Call signs – nil

Business Arising from Previous Minutes:

Congratulations to G&C Communications on winning Leader business award

Andrew Clinkaberry has indicated he will need to resign as club treas-

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urer. Albert Hubbard indicated he would be prepared to take on this function

JOTA 20th October, preceded by naming ceremony. Salads and Sausages. Mayor will be present

Cup Day weekend, Kilcunda Caravan Park. Keep trying to book in.

Patricia VK3OZ reported that ALARA luncheon went well. Next luncheon will be 24 November.

Bruno reported Yarn still recovering in monash medical.

Please give treasurer latest address / email / phone details for club membership list

Banner. Considering new banner.

New Business:

Basket for Christmas hamper has been purchased and will be at meetings – please bring your donations along.

Bruno asked for volunteers to host Christmas party

Discussion took place on “antenna making day” and a list was taken

Moorabin Radio Club will be doing a tour of Watsonia Barracks Services Radio Museum on Tuesday 9th October, leaving from Moorabin clubrooms at 9:30am, \$10.

November General Meeting will be talk on test equipment

Sat/Sun 17/18 November VHF/UHF Field Day contest. Phil organising. 6 hours from Midday Saturday followed by pub night.

Helmut & Dorothy report. Last heard heading towards Canarvon WA.

Coming Events

JOTA & shack naming – 20th October from midday

VHF/UHF Field Day – Sat 17th November. Venue TBA

Meeting Closed at around 20:50 PM.

GGREC
PO BOX 1098
CRANBOURNE
3977