

# GATEWAY



Greatly Gifted Ross Excelled Conclusively

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

**November 2007**

Next General Meeting:  
**16<sup>th</sup> of November**

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](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:

Ross Jackson email [editor@ggrec.org.au](mailto:editor@ggrec.org.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.

Incorporation Number A0016893M

## The Pres Says...

Looking back over the year makes me feel proud to be a member of such a diverse Club that is going places. We have trained new amateurs to start their journey into amateur radio. We have trained existing amateurs in the exciting field of microprocessors. We are currently celebrating GGREC 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and have had time to reflect on our past.

We have enjoyed camping trips, Hamfest, JOTA / JOTI and the VHF/UHF field day and Christmas party are still to come. The Gateway magazine has been well and truly ZAP'ed and will soon to be FXXX'ed.

Pub nights are still proving to be very popular with members. So popular, that we are running out of local pubs to visit. (*Maybe we can get a liquor licence for the Club rooms and install an indoor BBQ??*)

I hope you have all enjoyed the year and acknowledge that it could not have happened without the committees and the volunteers that have given up their time to benefit all GGREC members.

Bruno Tonizzo  
VK3BFT

## A Quick Reminder

<> Don't forget that the Christmas Hamper raffle will be drawn at Graeme's Christmas Break-up, and the lucky winner will take the much coveted hamper home for Christmas.

<> In order for the aforementioned Christmas hamper to be much coveted, it will need some more stuff in it! So don't hesitate to come down to the club shack and add extra goodies.

<> Make sure you make an order for the 2008 Call Book at the next General Meeting.

<> We are going to have to start preparing for the Labour Day weekend pretty soon, so let's hear some great holiday locations at the next General Meeting.

## The Editors Ramblings

By Ross Jackson, ZAP-ed

I have a problem. Some, perhaps, might argue that I have several, but the one that's bothering me right now is that for the past few months I've been signing the articles and emails I write with a "ZAP-ed" at the end. Sadly, because this is my last edition, I will no longer be able to do so, and I haven't yet come up with a something good to replace it. I think Phil suggested ZapXed, but I don't know if it has the same zing. So in order to lighten me from my somewhat dampened mood I decided that the best course of action would be to include what I believe to be a pretty good GGREC acronym on the front cover. Now, in my defence, I didn't actually think of it myself, but in order to protect the interests of the person who sent it in, it'd be best if I don't mention her OZy name. She also sent in a whole lot of other good ones, and I have lots of other GGREC's that didn't manage make the cut, so look out for a list later in the magazine.

But as this is my last magazine, I thought I should credit the people who helped make it happen. First on the list, Naree Ide and everybody else who brought those delicious snacks at every committee meeting, without which I would not have had the stamina to take the notes. Which brings me to my second thanks, to Bruno for being a fantastic president who put a lot of work into the committee meetings and spent lots of time of writing many articles for the mag for which I am forever grateful. For those people who regularly filled the blank spaces with their great articles, namely Geoff Williams, Ian and Di Jackson, Paul Stubbs, Graeme Brown, Pat Pavey and everybody else who wrote an article, the more you write the less work I have to do, which I think is a good thing. To Andrew Clinkerberry for showing me the ropes, and Susan Coleman for taking up the role for 2008. And finally to all the readers for encouraging me and reading the magazine and to everybody else who helped but I forgot to mention.



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***I'm Sorry, I Can't Hear You Over the Sound Of How  
Awesome I Am***

## Upcoming Events

16th November, Friday	General Meeting
17th November, Saturday	VHF/UFH field day
26th November, Monday	Committee Meeting 8:00 PM.
7th December, Friday	Prac Night
15th December, Saturday	Christmas break-up at Graeme BXG's QTH ( <i>see page 13 for map</i> )
New Years Eve	At the home of BUF, JDI, ZAP and FTEN in Drouin West
18th January, Friday	First General Meeting of 2008

*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 November.....

According to the records that I keep, the only person to have a birthday in November and December is Albert Hubbard VK3BQO. I don't think that is entirely correct, I'm sure somebody else must have their birthday in both months. So if it is your birthday and I haven't mentioned you, then have a happy birthday, and if you want to see your name here in this spot next year then please notify the treasurer so that he can get your details.

Of course, I can't finish this segment without mentioning a very special happy birthday to my little brother Hal Jackson VK3FTEN, for it is his 18<sup>th</sup> birthday this year, and I hope by wishing him a happy birthday in the magazine I won't have to buy him any presents, for surely that is great enough an honour. Somehow I don't think he's going to believe me.

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Yet again this magazine is exploding with fun and excitement, especially because a staggering three people wrote articles about Melbourne Cup Weekend. Unfortunately I only had the space for two, but I'm sure if you ask Paul Stubbs for his article he would gladly send it to you. I did use some of his pictures though, so I guess he didn't miss out on too much.

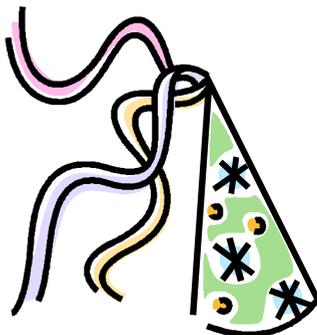
2008 will be my first year at university, so I will not be able to continue on with the magazine for next year. I did have a lot of fun producing it though, and will certainly look forward to having another crack at it sometime into the future, but until then, I'll leave you in the very capable hands of Susan, and maybe you'll see the occasional article signed with a ZapXed.

Goodbye, so long, and thanks for all the fish.

## The Tale of Two Parties

By Ross Jackson, ZAP-ed

It's official, if you didn't previously have any plans for your New Year's celebrations, you do now. That's because you will be bringing in the New Year at the octagonal and somewhat donut-esque party haven at Drouin West. Yep, that's right; BUF, JDI, ZAP and FTEN will be hosting the greatest New Years Party since 2006. How all four of us managed to get call-signs still remains a mystery to me to this day, but if you join all those call-signs together in a big sausage, you will end up with the word "*Bufjdizapften*". "What on earth does that mean?" I hear you ask, well, its epistemological origins have sadly been lost in the depths of time, but the modern usage of the word has been taken to refer to someone who is a Jedi vampire slayer who has the unfortunate yet sadly repeatable tendency of getting zapped if he hits F10 on his keyboard. Clearly, it has a very common usage amongst today's youth, however, this term has been somewhat simplified in recent times to refer to someone who is "*totally bonkers*".



Anyways, speaking of awesome parties, Graeme BXG will be the host of the Xmas break-up party on the 15th of December. Sadly, the call-sign

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BXG is somewhat lacking in obvious references to popular culture, it could, however, stand for “*Big Xmas Gig*”, or maybe “*Barbeque with Xtra Grease*”. Either way, this event is going to “*go off*”, and promises to be an event only slightly less awesome than the one we will be hosting ourselves on New years (but only by the smallest of margins). Now I know what you’re thinking, and yes the date has changed. If you read last month’s magazine it said that the Christmas break-up was going to be a week earlier, however, because of events beyond our control it has had to be bumped up a week, its still going to be awesome, but it’ll be on the 15th of December instead of the 8th. Whilst we’re on the topic, I made the delightful realisation that the Christmas break-up party can be also be summarised in a series of seemingly incomprehensible three letter words.

Xmas BBQ @ BXG’s QTH, BYO

And just where is Graeme’s home? He lives at 225 Pryor Rd Drouin, but you probably don’t know where that is, so I found a map (*see page 13*) and marked his home with a dot at the bottom. Be there or be a polygon of the quadrilateral persuasion!

## *Kilcunda Cup Weekend*

**By Pat Pavey**

Just to let you all know that those of us who were able to make the trip to Kilcunda had a great weekend of fun and fellowship together even in spite of the weather conditions. Friday was warm and sunny and after arriving about lunch time and setting up camp I was joined by Henry and Marie and we were able to enjoy a walk on the beach and a scramble over some very fascinating rock formations before being joined by Paul and Marianna, Susan and Graham for a BBQ. Phil and Kerri arrived a little later having bought dinner on the way. Saturday we had a very leisurely breakfast and another walk along the beach and then made our way into Wonthaggi where we had lunch at the bakery followed by some sight-seeing at Powlett River on our way back to the caravan park.

The Kilcunda Hotel fed us very well in the evening after which we retreated to Graham and Susan’s motel room for coffee, drinks and chocolates. The weather continued to deteriorate and developed into a gale and rain by the time we went to bed. About 1am I realized that my tent had been damaged by the wind and so spent the next hour taking the fly sheet down and emptying all the contents of my tent into the car while trying not to disturb anyone. Unfortunately my lilo was

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very stubborn and refused to go down even when the bung was taken out and a lot of time was spent getting enough air out to be able to get it out of the tent door and into the car. The tent pegs were also exceedingly stubborn and did not want to give up their hold on the ground. Fortunately Bruno had arranged for me to have a key to his cabin which was empty so I arrived there about 2.30 for a well deserved cuppa before getting a little sleep.

Sunday morning we all descended on Bruno's cabin where we had a cooked breakfast, Phil and Kerri had already left to go home for the rest of the family, Paul and Marianna headed off to church, Bruno arrived and we set about planning the rest of the day. It was decided that a winery tour seemed a popular option so after regrouping for lunch at the local café (once again, excellent food),

we headed for the Purple Hen winery on Philip Island. Here we found a large crowd of people also taking shelter from the elements but we were able to squeeze in, sample a range of wines and purchase a bottle and a cheese platter which was much enjoyed by all. Bruno and I enjoyed a trip to Seal Rocks which now is a great place from which to view the water, seabirds and of course the seals themselves. Also a café and souvenir shop are part of the complex which is free of admission fees and a great place to visit. It was decided to utilise the take-away shops in San Remo for dinner so a range of food was bought and consumed back in the caravan park after which we congregated in Bruno's cabin. I was very grateful to be able to use the spare bunk in Phil and Kathy's cabin for the rest of the weekend.



*All that was left of the tent*



Monday morning saw Phil working and his family relaxing in the cabin, Bruno also taking a break and the rest of us heading off for a walk along the rail trail towards Wonthaggi although we only walked for a couple of hours before feeling the need for coffee winning over the eagerness for exercise. We piled in the cars and headed off to the emporium

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which sold all manner of goodies, then said our goodbyes to Susan and Graham who headed back to Lower Plenty while we again visited the Nobbies and Seal Rocks where we again had to stay inside as the wind was very strong and very cold. Nearly forgot to mention our visit to the chocolate factory on Philip Island where we stocked up on some delicious goodies. Arriving back at Bruno's cabin we feasted on biscuits, fruit and cheeses and decided to have dinner in Wonthaggi. Phil and family needed to eat early so went to the hotel while we made our way to the working mans club where we found a Bistro and Restaurant and were able to get a very good meal in the Bistro although they were obviously been very busy as several items were unavailable. Port was enjoyed back at the caravan park before we retired for our last night. This was the night when Bradley managed to fall out of a three tier bunk in the middle of the night with a tremendous crash and not wake his mum and dad! He did give me an awful scare. Tuesday morning saw us all packing up and heading home after a very successful weekend.

## Melbourne Cup Camping Weekend

By Bruno Tonizzo

Well, as the old saying goes, make the most of what you've got! And make the most we did. Grahame & Susan Coleman, Pat Pavey, Phil Pavey and family, Paul & Mariana Stubbs, Henry & Maree Vandelight braved the elements and headed south for the long weekend. I caught up with them on Sunday afternoon as they were deciding on a suitable lunch venue. They were sitting in my cabin. Pat was still traumatized by the collapse of her much loved tent. Henry & Maree had cold feet from the rain water in their tent. My cabin, which I had book but could not use until Sunday had been used as a refuge / breakfast room and had a lovely smell of bacon & eggs lingering in it. Once the stories of the past night were over, we strolled over the road to the café for lunch. I must admit that the food was good and most enjoyable.

Revitalized, we headed off to Philip Island to visit the Purple Hen Winery. After a tasting or two with some delicious cheese & biscuits, we found that inner glow that only wine can induce. It was a very pleasant way to spend an afternoon. To cap it off, we dropped into the Chocolate factory to see and sample a variety of delicious chocolate.



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As Grahame & Susan left for Melbourne the rest of us settled for take away back at the caravan park. Pat & I took a detour and had a sneak at the Seal Rocks centre that we were going to visit on Monday, followed by a quick tour of Cows to see what was new in town.

Monday morning was sunny. Pat, Henry & Maree decided to take one of the sea side walks leading away from the caravan park while I settled for a seat in front of my cabin enjoying the uninterrupted ocean views. Phil switched on his laptop and by the magic of wireless was connected to work and processed some emails and phoned into some meetings (*I wish I could do that!!*).



Lunch was at San Remo where we sat outside a bakery enjoying a hot bite to eat. We strolled along the harbor looking at the fishing and crayfish boats that were moored there. When our lunch had settled, we headed off to the Seal Rocks centre. It was free to enter but you were soon relieved of many dollars to view the seals and purchase something from the gift shop.

Dinner was at the Wonthaggi Club where the service was a bit slow but the food and surroundings were quite pleasant. We soon found ourselves back in my cabin for coffee, chocolate and port. After a good sleep in on Tuesday morning I packed up the car and headed home to spend some time with my family, leaving the others behind to do some more touring.

Thanks to everyone for being so kind, generous and good company during the weekend.

## *Absurd Acronyms*

Over the past few months I have gathered quite a number of good GGREC acronyms, sadly, I have run out of magazines in which to print them. So here they are:

Gentlemen Greedily Rent Expensive Cars  
Goo Generally Reacts Explosively with Chemicals

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Growing Gardens Require Extra Care  
 Gateway Generally Reaches Every Club-member  
 Greasy Gourmet Rarely Eats Chips  
 Grumbling Grandparents Resent Everything Cool  
 Grumpy Grandparents Rest Every Chance

Here are some ones that Pat VK3OZ sent me: (*what can I say, they're all true*)

Good Girls Read Everything Contributed  
 Greatly Gifted Ross Exhibited Competence  
 Good Grief, Ross Excelled Continuously  
 Great Gifts Ross Excellently Communicated

And Finally, Russ White sent me this one by the email:

Get Good Results Every Chance

## 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 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> Feb 2008.

Contact Mike Ide for bookings. 0359987590.

## THEREBY HANGS A TALE

*"Afraid"*

*Literally, alert means "on the watchtower." It came from an Italian military expression of the sixteenth century, all'erta, in which all' is a common contraction of alla, on. The original phrase was stare all' erta, "to stand on the watchtower." As conditions changed, the phrase merely meant "to stand watch." Ultimately, with the omission of the verb, it came into English in the seventeenth century further contracted to alert, and with its meaning altered to signify "on watch; vigilant."*

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.

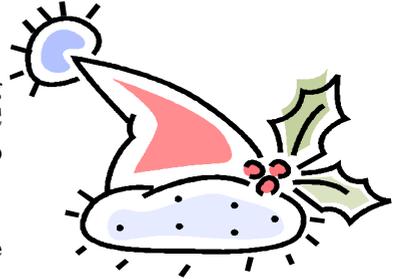
I will send the next editor some of the phrases that I have so that she might include them in her magazine.

## **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 toooo dollars but sanctioned by Santa.)

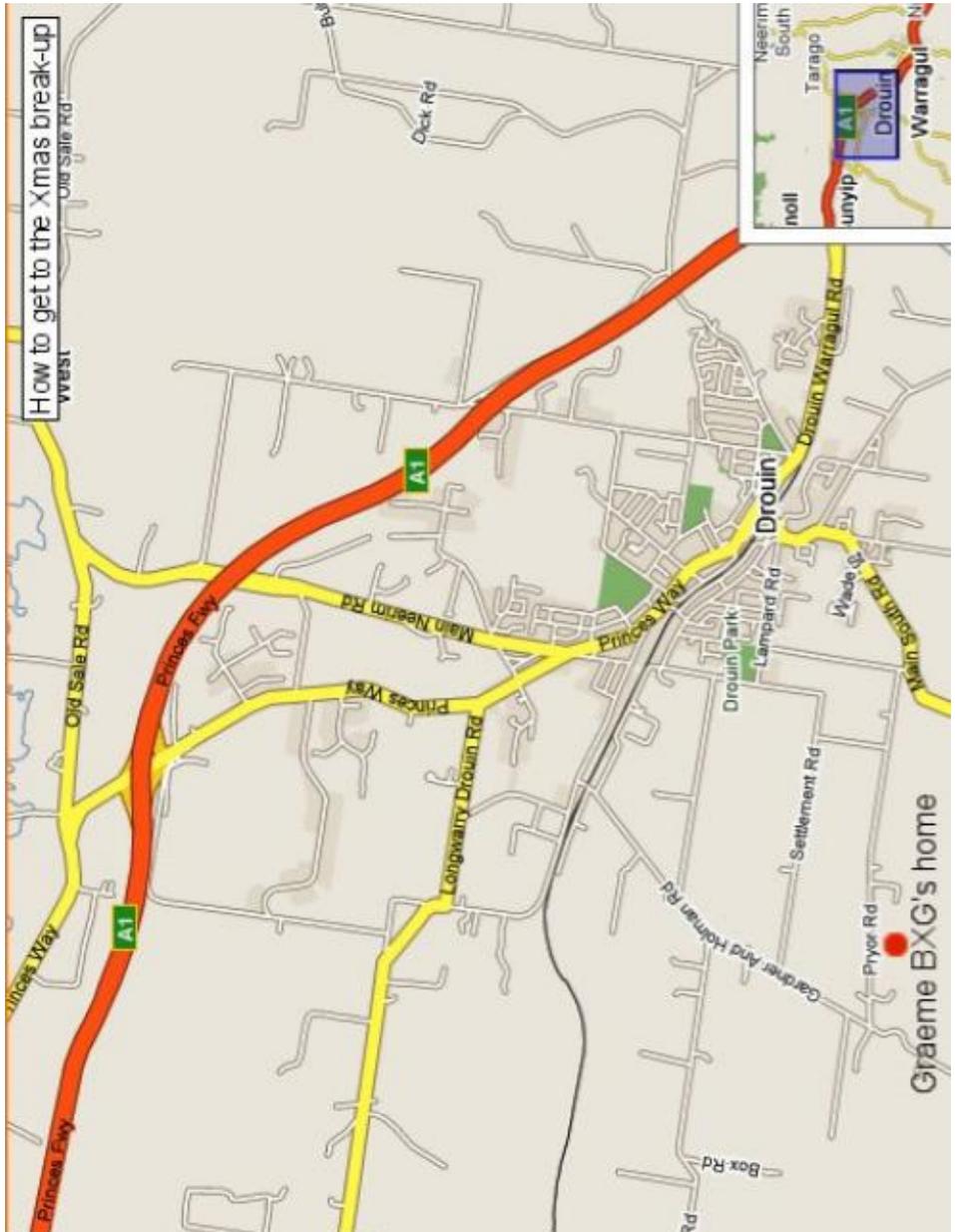
## **Spring VHF / UHF Field Day**

Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> 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.

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.



## Meeting Minutes

### General Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 19 Oct 2007

**Start time:** 08:05 PM.

**Location:** Guide Hall Cranbourne.

**Chairperson:** Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT

**Minute Taker:** Megan Woods (Guest)

**Present:** See attendance Sheet

**Visitors and Guests:** Megan Woods

**Apologies:** Phil Pavey VK3YB, Kerry-May Pavey VK3FDSD, Steve VK3EGD & Maria Harding, Helmut VK3DHI & Dorothy Inhoven, Albert Hubbard VK3BQO, Ian VK3KSZ & Val VK3FVMB Benson, Bill Connelly VK3DOU, Ian VK3BUF, Dianne VK3JDI, Ross VK3ZAP & Hal VK3FTEN Jackson, Ron VK3EXJ & Judy Robertson, Geoff Williams VK3ZGW

**Correspondence Received:** EMDRC Magazine, FAMPARC news & VK3RLP licence renewal.

**Correspondence Sent:** - Nil

**New Call signs:** – Nil

**Treasurer's Report:** Not Available

**Previous Minutes:** As printed in the Magazine.

**Read by:** Bruno Tonizzo **Moved by:** Bruno Tonizzo. **Seconded by:** Reg Goddard, **Carried:** YES.

### Business Arising from Previous Minutes:

The coming events were reviewed in detail.

### New Business:

Now date for next Foundation Training / exam weekend is 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> February 2008.

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### **Coming Events**

Melbourne Cup Weekend - Camping weekend at Kilcunda Caravan Park.

17<sup>th</sup> Nov 2007 VHF / UHF Field day at Albert's property in Nyora.

15<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas party at Graeme Brown's property in Drouin. *(Note new date)*

Guest Speaker Mike Ide VK3KTO – Rob Roy Hill Climb movie.

Meeting Closed at around 09:30 PM.

**Next Prac Night:** Fri 2 Nov 2007.

**Next General Meeting:** Friday 16 Nov 2007.

**Next Committee Meeting:** Mon 26 Nov 2007.

# **See You Space Cowboy!**

GGREC  
PO BOX 1098  
CRANBOURNE  
3977