



# GATEWAY

March 2008

**NEXT MEETING** March 14 2008

**WHERE :** Cranbourne Girl Guide Hall, Grant St off Sladen St.

**SPEAKER :** No, chat-fest.

## **In Search of the 1940 Mt Torbeck Air Disaster**

*By Graeme Brown VK3BXG*

For Andrew and me, a memorable expedition occurred last April. A month before whilst assisting with the safety communications for the Pajero Challenge, a four wheel-drive event, I noticed my map arrowed to a 1940 WW2 aero' crash site in a remote rugged mountainous section. I later made some inquiries and was informed that there was indeed a crash site with some wreckage and that there was supposed to be an engine from it still, in one of the almost inaccessible gullies down below the crash site.

So it was that Andrew and I planned a weekend to go on a search for it. *Cont'd page 4*



GIPPSLAND GATE RADIO & ELECTRONICS CLUB

Club Meetings are held on the third Friday of each month at the Cranbourne GirlGuide Hall in Grant Street. Prac nights are held on the first Friday night in the Peter Pavey clubrooms. Both nights commence at 8:00 PM. **Visitors will be made welcome.** Committee meetings are also held in the clubrooms.

President	Bruno Tonizzo	VK3BFT (9700 4526)
Secretary	Phil Pavey	VK3YB (5995 7484)
Treasurer	Albert Hubbard	VK3BQO (5659 6562)

Committee Members: Reg VK3UK, Max VK3TMK, Pat VK3OZ,  
Mike VK3KTO

Magazine Editor: Susan Coleman VK3FXXX

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:

Susan Coleman 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)

**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.

## From the president ... Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT

This month the committee has been very busy preparing events for All GGREC members.

The Foundation course has been concluded for February with 3 out of 3 candidates successfully passing their Foundation Licence exam. Special thanks to Mike Ide, Albert Hubbard, Phil Pavey and Grahame Coleman for giving up part and in Mike's case, all of their weekend to further the cause of Amateur radio.

The bowling day was well attended and lots of us had a great outing. Lots of discussion took place about our IRLP repeater between bowls with many strategies and solutions worked out.

At the time of writing this message, the Bike Ride, Shack visit, Fox hunt, Working bees, Midyear Dinner, Hamfest & JOTA are all waiting to be enjoyed by you, the GGREC members. See you there!



*cont'd page 6*

## STOP PRESS

- \* GGREC BikeRide at Braeside 30 March Sunday (details last issue)
- \* John Moyle Memorial Field Day contest. On March 15/16.
- \* MidYear Dinner at Tooradin Sports Club, 6.30 Sat June 14th.

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**FROM THE EDITOR** For my third issue I would like to thank Graeme VK3BXG, Paul VK3TGX, Albert VK3BQO, Bruno VK3BFT, Russ VK3MWR, Mike VK3KTO, and technical advisor Grahame VK3YCG. Thanks always to David VK3FW and Geoff VK3HGG who take care of printing and mailing.

**Susan.**

*Cont'd from page 1*

## **In Search of the 1940 Mt Torbeck Air Disaster**

And because Andrew was on his learner's permit, he could do all the driving. On the Saturday, following my map we were not successful as it did not seem specific enough as to the crash site location. We eventually followed a four-wheel (4wd) drive track running off another 4wd track that was not shown on the map and the ruggedness and thick vegetation prevented any visual sighting of anything that might be there. We all but gave up deciding that it was all a rumour.

That evening we spent the night at Adrian's, one of my other sons, and Andrew's half brother, who now lives at Jamieson. Telling Adrian of our quest and he being a motor cyclist and deer hunter he produced a very detailed contoured map which actually pin-pointed the crash site and "memorial", and the other tracks not shown on my map.

Armed with Adrian's map, Andrew and I returned the next day but we found that the walking track into the memorial had gone – overgrown and no longer there. So from the 4wd track where we had only been the day before, we decided to search each of three gullies, shown on the map, leading up to the "memorial". In the second gully we found it, about a hundred meters up from the track, a seven cylinder radial aircraft engine wedged in between two large rocks

Four of the cylinders had been smashed off, but the rest of it was in remarkably good condition considering it had laid there since 1940. The engine I guessed was from an Avro-Anson. It was too small to be from either a WW2 fighter or bomber. From the engine and by dead-reckoning off the map we made our way up the mountain, about a 45 degree climb to the crash site – roughly about 300 meters further up. The memorial turned out to be a concrete cairn with a brass plaque and the names of the four airmen killed in the crash. Near the cairn was also a small amount of wreckage from a wing of the 'plane but we later learned that the crash was salvaged for the metal during the war. The engine may have been stripped a bit looking at it, but there is no way of getting it out.

Andrew did a Google search when we arrived home later that Sunday and it indeed did prove to be an Avro Anson, a twin engine 'plane but obviously the other engine was able to be salvaged during the war. The 'plane was one of a squadron of four which left Point Cook in Victoria for New South Wales. It apparently ran into trouble on the way up and turned back but never made it. The write up on it does not say what the "trouble" was.

(Google "Air crash Mt Torbeck May 1940").

So ended our expedition weekend and the highlight of the year for Andrew and me.  
*Graeme VK3BXG*

DATE	DETAILS
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup> Feb	Prac Night 8:00 PM start.
Sun 10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Central Victorian Hamfest Visit: <a href="http://www.radiofest.amateurradio.com.au">www.radiofest.amateurradio.com.au</a>
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> Feb	General Meeting 8:00 PM start
Wed 13, Sat 16 & Sun 17 Feb	Foundation Licence Training & Examination
Sat 23 <sup>rd</sup> Feb	Bowling at Cranbourne 2:30 PM start. Dinner at Kellys Hotel Cranbourne. Contact Reg Goddard for Bookings.
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Committee Meeting 8:00 PM start
<b>MARCH</b>	
1 <sup>st</sup> March	Visit to Mike Ide's Radio Shack. 14 Edgewater TCE Warneet 3980 Ph. 0359987590 BYO BBQ food & drink for dinner. <b>3:00 PM start</b>
7 <sup>th</sup> March	Prac Night
8 <sup>th</sup> - 10 <sup>th</sup> March	Labour day weekend – proposed visit to VK3RDD (TBA)
Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> & Sun 16 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>John Moyle Memorial Field Day contest.</b> 0100 UTC Sat - 0059 Sun. <a href="http://www.wia.org.au/contests/john_moyle/index.php">www.wia.org.au/contests/john_moyle/index.php</a>
(TBA) March	<b>General Meeting</b>
Fri 21 <sup>st</sup> March	<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>
Sun 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Bike Ride at Braeside Park Keysborough 10:30 AM
Mon 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Committee Meeting <i>cont'd page 14</i>

From page 3 **President's Message Continued**

The Annual General Meeting is also fast approaching. If you haven't been on the committee before, please have a go. It is very rewarding and will help you get the most out of Amateur Radio. If it's been some time since you were on the committee, we need you to share your experience and knowledge with others so put your hand up for a position.

*Bruno VK3BFT*

**"ARRIVE"** If we were to use this word only with regard to its source and original sense we would use it exclusively when the destination was reached by water. That was the usual application until about four centuries ago. The source was the Latin ad, to, and ripa, land or shore. Its meaning was "to come to the shore; to reach land."

*Russ VK3MWR*

### Reward offered

A reward of 500 microfarads is offered for information leading to the arrest of Hop-a-long Capacity. This unrectified criminal escaped from a western primary cell where he had been clamped in ions awaiting the gauss chamber. He is charged with the induction of an 18 turn coil named Milli Henry who was found choked and robbed of valuable joules. He is armed with a carbon rod and is a potential killer. Capacity is also charged with driving dc motor over a wheatstone bridge and refusing to let the band-pass. If encountered, he may offer series of resistance. The Electromotive Force spent the night searching for him in a magnetic field, where he had gone to earth. They had no success and believed he had returned ohm via a short circuit. He was last seen riding a kilocycle with his friend Eddy Current who was playing a harmonic.

*Albert VK3BQO*

### HILLARY OH HILLARY!

**Hillary Clinton** goes to her doctor for a check-up only to find out that she's pregnant. She is furious... Here she is in the middle of her first run for President... She calls home, gets Bill on the phone and immediately starts screaming: How could you have let this happen? With all that's going on right now, you go and get me pregnant! How could you? I can't believe this! I've just found out I'm five weeks pregnant and it's all your fault! Well, what have you got to say? There is nothing but dead silence on the phone. She screams again: - Did you hear me? Finally she hears Bill's very, very quiet voice in a barely audible whisper, he asks: - Who is this?

*Russ VK3MWR*

## An Inexpensive Vertical Antenna for 2m

by Graeme Brown VK3BXG

This antenna is constructed from RG58 coax and a length of 20mm "Telstra Communication Conduit". As shown in the diagram to the right, the radiating elements are housed inside the conduit while the de-coupling coil is wound around the conduit itself.

The first antenna I made had dimensions calculated for 146.000 MHz:

- Wavelength =  $300/146 = 2.054\text{m} = 2054\text{mm}$
- Physical  $\frac{1}{4}$  wavelength =  $2054/4 = 513\text{mm}$
- Electrical  $\frac{1}{4}$  wavelength =  $513\text{mm} \times \text{velocity factor} = 0.513 \times 0.66 = 339\text{mm}$

These dimensions gave SWR readings from 1.5:1 at 144.000 MHz down to 1.2:1 at 147.975 MHz. Clearly the elements were too short, so I recalculated for 144 Mhz and got the following dimensions:

- Wavelength =  $300/144 = 2.083\text{m} - 2083\text{mm}$
- Physical  $\frac{1}{4}$  wavelength =  $2083/4 = 520\text{mm}$
- Electrical  $\frac{1}{4}$  wavelength =  $520\text{mm} \times \text{velocity factor} = 520 \times 0.66 = 344\text{mm}$

The SWR readings for this antenna are shown as #2 in the SWR table next page.

Finally I made a third antenna with the following dimensions:

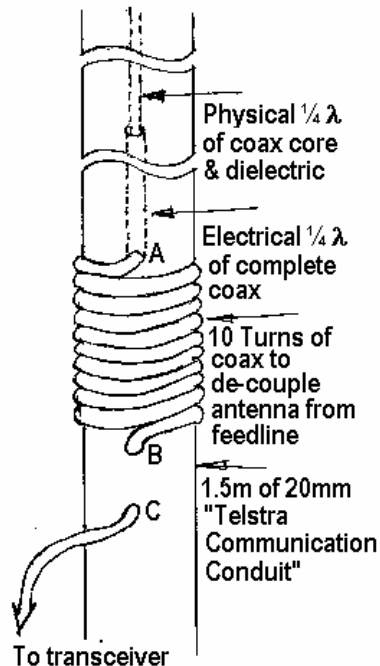
- Core & Dielectric length: 530mm
- Complete Coax length: 351mm

Antenna #3 seems to work pretty well, so to reverse engineer it assuming a centre freq. of 146.000 MHz:

- Physical  $\frac{1}{4}$  wavelength
  - o Theoretical = 513mm
  - o Experimental Physical  $\frac{1}{4}$  wavelength=530 mm
  - o Conversion factor =  $530/513 = 1.03$
- Electrical  $\frac{1}{4}$  wavelength
  - o Theoretical = 339mm
  - o Experimental = 351mm
  - o Conversion factor =  $351/339 = 1.04$

So it looks as though our elements should be 3% - 4% longer than the theoretical lengths.

Someone with more antenna theory than I may like to explain this? *Cont'd over.*



## The Guru Say

Twisted pair not to be confused with painful medical problem.

VK3KTO

*Cont'd from previous page*

### An Inexpensive Vertical Antenna for 2m - Construction

1. In a 1.5m length of conduit, drill three holes (marked A, B & C on diagram). A is 900mm from the top, B is 955mm from the top, and C is 985mm from the top. The holes should be just big enough to accommodate the RG58 coax.
2. From a length of RG58 coax (minimum length is 2m) remove the sheath & braid to obtain the exposed physical quarter wavelength of dielectric & core.
3. Mark the bottom end of the antenna (where the coil starts) with a piece of non black electrical tape.
4. Attach a piece of string (approx 300mm long) to the end of the exposed dielectric.
5. Insert the string into the bottom hole (C) in the conduit, feeding it towards the top of the conduit.
6. Using a hook made from coat hanger or similar, hook the string out thru hole B.
7. Use the string to draw the coax out through hole B until you have about 1m of coax in addition to the antenna section hanging out.
8. Wrap the coax ten times around the conduit and insert the string into hole A.
9. Feed the antenna into hole A until the marker tape is right up to the hole.
10. Starting from hole A tighten the coil around the conduit and feed any excess coax back into hole B.
11. Secure the string hanging out of the top of the conduit by pulling it tight and clamping it with an end cap. (Actual Telstra conduit end caps are hard to obtain, but Clark Rubber sells a white rubber chair leg stopper that is a good tight fit over the end of the conduit.
12. Use electricians tape to weather proof the coil and associated holes in the conduit.

Reprinted with permission from Mark, VK3XMU for WICEN.

The SWR readings for this antenna are shown as #3 in the [SWR table](#) below:

(MHz)	144.000	145.000	146.000	146.250	146.500	146.750	147.000	147.975
SWR #2	1.3:1	1.2:1	1.1:1	1.1:1	1.1:1	1.1:1	1.1:1	1.2:1
#3	1.1:1	1.1:1	1.1:1	1.1:1	1.1:1	1.1:1	1.1:1	1.15:1

*Graeme Brown*



## D-Star – just another mode OR.....??

*By Albert Hubbard VK3BQQ*

[Digital Smart Technologies for Amateur Radio.]

I have been doing some reading lately about this new mode of operation called “D-Star”.

Although I have not seen much from those who are using this mode, there has been a lot about what it can do and how good it must be. However I have heard several comments “on air” which will cause me to wait a little longer before I go out and buy another radio. So what is this mode and what can it do?

D-Star is an open platform meaning that any manufacturer can produce equipment that will talk to another manufacturer’s equipment. However ICOM has been the major pusher of said equipment.

Yaesu may not release anything as there is another standard that their gear may use due to Motorola having acquired Vertex recently. Kenwood is tipped to be a supporter of D-Star though. D-Star is simply “digital radio”.

The concept of data over radio is not new and can be used for many things – take your mobile phone for example. Since data is the basis for a high percentage of our daily activities, it seems that D-Star can provide us with the Amateur equivalent of many of those activities. I do wonder though who will be utilising these features in NON Amateur activities.

Some of the current uses of D-Star are:

**Digital Voice**; your voice is converted to a digital signal and after transmission as a digital stream, is converted back to analog again. As in all digital voice processing, the recovered audio is not a 100% representation of the input audio as the voice is sampled at a very fast rate and then digitized.

The audio is extremely good, although when I heard the recovered audio, it did sound digitized. However with anything digital, if the signal is strong enough you will get good audio, poor signal strength means no signal at all so you probably won’t be giving readability 1 to 4 reports on D-Star.

**Data Messages**; I suppose you could liken this to SMS as a message can be directed to an individual radio due to the *To page12*

**PROFILE** by Paul Stubbs

**"I decided the best position for me was to lie on the lounge room couch....."** VK3TGX



My first intro to radio was with crystal sets, old valve mantel radio's and my aunt's portable short wave set, at age 8.

At age 10 after acquiring a short wave radio or two, I started decoding RTTY and weather fax, then I decided I would like to try transmitting some of this stuff. There had to be a better way than RF burns from a severely hotted up electronic experimenter's board, trying to get an AM signal more than one block.

I started young, trying to electrocute my babysitter with those nasty little zappers that came in Melbourne show bags. Then progressed to making tadpoles do synchronised swimming with the aid of an old telephone crank generator. (my Dad was also not impressed when I hooked it up to his bare toes after he fell asleep reading the newspaper!)

The only two decent exams I have done was for my radio ticket, & my entry into Telstra.

The GGREC is the only radio club I have ever joined. I think Graeme, VK3XTA mentioned the club to me, so I followed him over and signed up

I have not been that active in the antenna field, my first mast was a length of 50mm square steel in the parents' back yard. When I bought my own place, that was upgraded to a secondhand Nally tower. For HF I started out with random lengths of wire & lots of TVI. For VHF/UHF it was commercial car whips. Beams are usually home made at someone else's QTH that has the necessary equipment, room, and experience.

I suffer a lot of QRM on HF, so I have been wanting to try some loop antennas, but I never seem to find the time. I seem to have more success in my caravan, away from the noise.

My first amateur set was a 2M Yaesu FT290R, which I still have, and is my most used.

On HF I usually start on 7MHz, have a tune around, get sick of the QRM & lack of

## PROFILE CONT'D

readable signals, kill the HF, and either warm up the soldering iron or computer while monitoring 144.600 in the background.

Things I hate - People harping on about G5RV antennas, saying how good they are without being able to give me any information to support their arguments.

### Best tricks with a radio:-

In my house (as apposed to the radio shack), I have an old AWA carphone radio, to which I have fitted a 4 meter microphone cable, mainly so I can choose a seat, rather than standing in front of the shelf where it lives.

1 - While listening one day, I was standing in the doorway with the mic almost down by my feet, swinging it back and forth like a pendulum. When it was my turn I would pull the cord with my other hand causing it to quickly zip up into the 'talking position'. Anyway, after the odd over I miscued the mic retrieval somewhat, with the mic shooting into my eye. Of course I wrenched it away & cursed somewhat, just as Marianna came around the corner to see what all the commotion was about - she also being a bit 'colourful' - then I looked at my clenched hand, darn the button is down, it's all gone to air!

2 - During an extended session, I decided the best position for me was to lie on the lounge room couch. The next thing I know, Marianna is poking me saying "*It's your turn, you've fallen asleep*" - maybe I should shorten that cord.

## THOSE HALCYON DAYS OF YORE

*By Mike Ide VK3KTO*

I was saddened to read recently of the passing of that great country music legend "Smoky Dawson". Many of the newspapers mentioned his early days of broadcasting on Melbourne radio stations, 3KZ and 3DB. What is not commonly known is that in the nineteen thirties when Amateurs were permitted to use the broadcast band, Smoky would travel to the shack of Chris Rainbow VK3JR—situated at Preston—where on Sunday mornings Chris would provide a venue for aspiring performers and on occasions would feature the Preston Brass Band.

Smoky became a very popular performer on the station, but in those days public transport did not run on Sundays for fear of disturbing worshippers in Melbourne churches. This meant Smoky would walk about five miles with his guitar to Preston.

It was on one of these journeys he first met Florence Cheers and her sister Jean, also on their way to perform on VK3JR. Some years later Florence (Dot) and Smoky would marry and commence a long and devoted life together. *Cont'd over*

Cont'd from previous page **THOSE HALCYON DAYS OF YORE**

Chris Rainbow lived in Preston for many years but eventually moved to Rosebud on the Mornington Peninsular and was still listed at that Qth in the 1989 callbook. Some years ago at a Club meeting, Ron Fisher VK3OM presented a very interesting talk on his recollections of life in radio. It was during his talk that Ron mentioned that as far as he knew, Australia was the only country ever to allow Amateurs to transmit entertainment on the broadcast band. These transmissions would take place late at night, after the ABC and commercial stations had closed down and on Sunday mornings before these stations came on air. In 1939 all amateur stations were closed down and were never again permitted to use the broadcast band. One cannot help but wonder how many radio stars had their start on VK3JR or some other amateur station. *Mike VK3KTO*  
Reference "*Smoky Dawson A Life*" George Allen and Unwin

From page 10 **D-Star – just another mode OR.....??**

digital identification of callsigns within the radio equipment.

Internet Access; I suppose with Echolink, IRLP and other internet linked Amateur modes, Amateur Radio already has ties with the Internet so one more cannot hurt. However in this case, you may even collect your email, browse or download files and programs. Of course these require you have the equipment set up to perform the interfacing with the D-Star radio.

**APRS tracking**; is now called DPRS and can be used to send information regarding the radio's location using a GPS receiver.

**Repeater Linking**; although repeater linking via IRLP is now commonplace, D-Star takes it another step again. Imagine a large scale network of repeaters that are all linked via the internet. If you were looking for a particular person (callsign), that callsign could be tracked over all the networked repeaters and a call to that radio would be automatically linked to the correct repeater. If you are within range of one of the repeaters, everyone will know.

Because of the bandwidth required for D-Star, only VHF and UHF radios are used with different data rates used on different bands. Other uses for D-Star will come to light as its popularity grows so keep your ear to the radio to learn more.

Well the above information was only supposed to be an introduction to D-star and not a full explanation of how it works and what frequencies to find it on. I suggest you do some reading on the WIA site or Google it as there is plenty of information on the Web. Then talk to users of the equipment and decide if you need to buy a rig or not. *Albert VK3BQQ*

**ALBERT'S ALMANAC***by Albert Hubbard VK3BQO***VK3RLP Club Repeater Follow up.**

Last month I reported strange happenings with our UHF repeater. Local interference was the suspected cause of the problem. Well this month we have a different story. I happened to be doing some research on "Tuning of Duplexers" on the internet when I came across a website with a great deal of information about repeaters and problem solving. One problem that this person had solved many times in a repeater installation was a crackling noise on the received signal. He found it was not emanating from an outside source but that it was generated by a bad connection between metal surfaces. This could be just a loose antenna clamp or as complex as the shield on the coax used to feed the antenna. A great read is to be had if you visit the following site: <http://www.repeater-builder.com/antenna/cracking.html> So we are embarking on a journey of discovery to see if this may be the cause of our repeater problem as it sounds identical to what we are experiencing. More news as it comes to hand

**DUPLEXER / DIPLEXER**

Does anyone know the difference between the two? Well here is the explanation.

Duplexers are devices which separate 2 frequencies within the same band while Diplexers separate frequencies on different bands. Think of the Diplexer you would insert in between your antenna and radio to utilise 2 different antennas on different bands to connect to one antenna socket on the radio. Or the other way around, a Diplexer can be used to split a multi band antenna to operate multiple radios. I have a Triple Diplexer connected to a 3 band antenna (6m, 2m, 70cm.). The 3 outputs of the Diplexer are connected to 3 different radios. Duplexers are commonly found in repeater use where 2 frequencies close to each other need to be separated when transmitting and receiving at the same time. Duplexers can be very expensive and require careful tuning whereas Diplexers are relatively inexpensive and commercial types require no tuning.

So now you know the difference. It isn't all that confusing is it?

*Albert VK3BQO*

<i>from p5</i> <b>EVENT</b>	<b>DETAILS</b>
<b>APRIL</b>	
4 <sup>th</sup> April	Prac night
18 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>GM/AGM</b>
19 <sup>th</sup> April	Fox Hunt - Details are currently being planned.
28 <sup>th</sup> April	Committee Meeting
<b>MAY</b>	
10 <sup>th</sup> May	Pub Night (TBA)
<b>JUNE</b>	
Mon 9 <sup>th</sup> JUNE	Queen's Birthday
<b>JULY</b>	GGREC Hamfest 19 <sup>th</sup> July

Committee Meetings – Last Monday of the Month.

TBA – To Be Announced.

### **NEC REPORTS ON BROADCAST OVER POWERLINES [BPL]**

“The industry is reviewing current BPL standards as they apply in Australia and as NEC is inputting to the process, it does not feel it is appropriate to address amateurs until the standards have been agreed.

“The following is background on the process and some of the technical items into which the Ham operators will also have input:

Standards Australia TE-003-20 Sub-Committee of TE-003 (covering BPL) will meet in late February or early March to consider standards developments.

“The industry has until the end of May to consider and respond to the draft International CISPR Compliance Document. The responses will be on a country-by-country basis and an agreement on the Australian response is to be made.

“The importance of differences in electricity supply wiring practices of different countries is becoming evident. e.g. German regulations prohibit wiring in ceilings, which reduces BPL radiation. U.K. practices require a Ring distribution within buildings, which differs from the Tree distribution used by a number of other countries including Australia.

“These differences make it highly likely that CISPR will leave the setting of regulations to individual National organizations. It will be important for the participants to the National Committees have a good appreciation of the relevant technical issues. “

## General Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 15 Feb 2008

**Start time:** 08:10 PM.

**Location:** Guide Hall Cranbourne.

**Chairperson:** Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT

**Minute Taker:** David Campbell VK3XMF

**Present:** See attendance Sheet

**Visitors and Guests:** Colin Dyson VK3BJ

**Apologies:** Phil Pavey VK3YB, Steve VK3EGD and Maria, Noel VK3CJJ, Ivan VK3ARV, Doug VK3KMN, Bobby Bishop, Geoff Williams VK3ZGW, Ross VK3ZAP, Geoff VK3HGG

**Correspondence Received:**

EMDRC QSL cards, EMDRC mag, FAMPARC mag, receipts from guides.

**Correspondence Sent:**

Nil

**Treasurer's Report:** as tabled. Read by Albert VK3BQO Moved Yarn VK3NOV, Seconded Russ VK3MWR Carried.

Income: \$358.80 Expenditure \$704.50 Balance \$6192.93

**Previous Minutes:** As printed in the Magazine. Proposed Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT,

**New Call signs** – nil

**Business Arising from Previous Minutes:**

SWR Warning Device. Ian Jackson asked for interest and some technical discussion followed. Ian suggested it be kept simple and be a kit project.

Club shack being kept clean by volunteers.

Bowling day and bistro has now changed to 4pm for bowls and dinner at 7:30pm.

6m repeater site visit. Key still to be arranged.

John Moyle Field Day contest being organised.

Next meeting date to be announced via repeater and email due to clash with easter Friday.

70cm repeater interference is external and not a problem with repeater. Possible frequency changer required (albert vk3bqo)

**New Business:**

WIA web site has updated licence conditions – [www.wia.org.au](http://www.wia.org.au)

Reciprocal licences for overseas guests ok for 90 days.

Central Vic hamfest was held last weekend.

Mt Macedon 70cm repeater is now DSTAR 438.050.

RSGB website reports UK amateurs have power increased to 1Watt for 501-504khz (MF).

[www.rsgb.org](http://www.rsgb.org)

Space shuttle has 23cm and 13cm rigs.

GGREC award for contacts with VK3BJA and members.

Mid year dinner – dates and venue to be discussed.

Fox Hunt – Ian VK3BUF proposed a "sniffer hunt". Some demo foxes to be shown at the bike ride April 19<sup>th</sup>.

Hamfest. Bruno VK3BFT said cooking will be outside this year. Looking for volunteers.

Albert to look at problems with keyfob system.

Meeting Closed at around 22:20 PM.

GGREC  
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