



# GATEWAY

January 2010

**NEXT MEETING** This Friday Jan 15 2010 at 8 pm

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

**SPEAKER:** Chris Chapman VK3QB

**TOPIC:** Kidney Health, Organ Donation and Amateur Radio

This month Chris will talk to members about kidney health and what it means to be an organ transplant recipient. As well as describing the silent killer, kidney disease, and how we can minimise risks, Chris will also present the facts associated with organ donation. This all ties in with an "Awareness Event" planned for April when members are invited to participate in a houseboat/kayaking trip down the Murray River with a river mobile HF radio station, VK3KHA.

**XMAS  
AT  
CHRIS '  
&  
HEGE 'S  
AT MT.  
ELIZA**

*Photo by Albert  
VK3BQO*



**GATEWAY MAGAZINE IS THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE GIPPSLAND GATE RADIO AND ELECTRONICS CLUB inc.**

## A few good Senior Moments

Three old guys are out walking.

First one says, 'Windy, isn't it?'

Second one says, 'No, it's Thursday!'

Third one says, 'So am I. Let's get a beer.'

A man was telling his neighbor, 'I just bought a new hearing aid. It cost me four thousand dollars, but it's state of the art. It's perfect.'

'Really,' answered the neighbor. 'What kind is it?'

'Twelve thirty.'

An elderly couple had dinner at another couple's house, and after eating, the wives left the table and went into the kitchen.

The two gentlemen were talking, and one said, 'Last night we went out to a new restaurant and it was really great.. I would recommend it very highly.'

The other man said, 'What is the name of the restaurant?'

The first man thought and thought and finally said, 'What is the name of that flower you give to someone you love? You know.... The one that's red and has thorns.'

'Do you mean a rose?'

'Yes, that's the one,' replied the man. He then turned towards the kitchen and yelled, 'Rose, what's the name of that restaurant we went to last night?'

Two elderly gentlemen from a retirement center were sitting on a bench under a tree when one turns to the other and says: 'Slim, I'm 83 years old now and I'm just full of aches and pains. I know you're about my age.. How do you feel?'

Slim says, 'I feel just like a newborn baby.'

'Really!? Like a newborn baby!?'

'Yep. No hair, no teeth, and I think I just wet my pants.'

*A-Nony-Nony-Mus*

## **BUNNINGS FUNDRAISER SAUSAGE SIZZLE - A LONG DAY AT BLACK ROCK**

January 2010 is shaping up to be a very busy month for the club. We just received notification that we have been allocated the 30<sup>th</sup> January by Bunnings in Cranbourne to host the BBQ Stall. This is very good news as it will provide us with a great opportunity to promote the club and the hobby to a broad cross section of the community right on our doorstep. In addition this will provide a fantastic chance to raise significant additional funds for our club.

We still have 7 weeks to get ourselves organised, and on behalf of the club I thank Brian VK3BSN who has been diligently working in the background to secure this opportunity and will be working to get the paperwork in order over the coming weeks. Also, thanks to Pat VK3OZ who has once again put her hand up as the nominated food handling representative. I am now looking for helpers on the day. 15 people would make things very easy and the time spent there would be about 3 hours per person.

This is not a YL only event but one that requires some OMs to cook and prepare bread with a sausage and sauce on top. I know OMs can do this task as I have been trained at BBQ's before. OMs can also pass a can of drink to people who have paid the YLs. So if you suspect that you could be qualified to lift a piece of bread and a sausage, pass a can of drink, point to a sauce bottle and get your hands on a pair of tongs then I need your help. Start time is 0800hrs. Selling starts at 0900 to after 1600 and knock off is prior to 1800hrs.

YLs if you want to take this opportunity to help the mere OMs out, your help is most appreciated as I am looking for people with food handling training to be in attendance during the event.

### January 2010

- |                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 15 <sup>th</sup>                    | Club General Meeting – 8pm   |
| 16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> | Bonnie Doon & Summer VHF/UHF Field Day at Mt Buggery               |
| 19 <sup>th</sup>                    | News Broadcast on 145.450 & 3.670 – 8pm                            |
| 26 <sup>th</sup>                    | Australia Day BBQ at Peter Pavey Club Rooms – 12.30pm              |
| 28 <sup>th</sup>                    | GGREC Morsecodeians Evening at the Peter Pavey Club Rooms - 7.30pm |
| 30 <sup>th</sup>                    | BBQ Stall at Bunnings – start 8am finish 6pm                       |

GIPPSLAND GATE RADIO & ELECTRONICS CLUB

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 Peter Pavey clubrooms. Both nights commence at 8:00 PM. **Visitors will be made welcome.** Committee meetings are also held in the clubrooms.

President	Chris Chapman	VK3QB (9708 8320)
Secretary	Stephen Harding	VK3EGD (9791 3182)
Treasurer	Albert Hubbard	VK3BQO (5659 6562)
Committee Members: Max VK3TMK, Graeme VK3BXG,		

Magazine Editor : Susan Coleman VK3LOV  
Magazine Photographer : Paul VK3TGX [www.paulstubbs.pozzie.net](http://www.paulstubbs.pozzie.net)  
Magazine Printer : David Wright VK3FW  
Distribution Snail Mail : The Clifton Family VK3HGG  
Distribution Email : Albert Hubbard VK3BQO  
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** : HF on 28.325 MHz, USB, VHF 145.450 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 magazine items is the third day of each month.**

Please direct magazine articles 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)

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Incorporation Number A0016893M

## From the president ... *Chris Chapman VK3QB*

Happy New Year everyone! On behalf of the committee I wish all members, families and friends the very best for a safe and healthy 2010. Hege and I have enjoyed a very, very white Christmas here with about 60cms of snow coming down on 24<sup>th</sup> December, and about -8C. It has continued to snow on and off and the temperature is now -15C, so the accumulation sits about 80-90 cms in Oslo and it is quite a sight to see a major city sitting under this much snow.

I hope you have all had a very enjoyable and peaceful Christmas, and that the New Year celebrations have not been too crazy. The Club's Christmas breakup was very well attended and the weather was kind to us – congrats to Bruno VK3BFT who took home the Hamper.



We now head into not only a New Year, but also a new decade. As a club we will continue to enjoy many social and radio events, and if January is any measure then it is going to be a full year.

We'll be trying a few different things this year:-

First, our Social Secretary, Brian VK3BSN, will shortly be issuing a list of dates which are ear-marked for club social events. We don't yet know what all the events will be, but at least we will know well in advance which dates have been allocated for club socials. This list will be 3-6 months in advance and will be published in the event calendar on the club's website, as well as in the magazine. *Cont'd over*

*Cont'd from previous page*

## **From the president ...** *Chris Chapman VK3QB*

Second, we are planning some more ambitious events as a club, and will once again provide members with plenty of notice; so please have a look at these events and if you are interested get involved in the planning – it's usually a lot of fun and provides an opportunity to shape the event. As a teaser, we currently have on the list:

- April - Murray River Houseboat Trip: more on this one at the January meeting
- June - WIA 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations: the club will establish and reenact a significant historical event aligned with the spirit of the WIAs centenary celebrations.
- August - International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend at Wilsons Promontory: Hike in/Hike out combined with camping at Tidal River.

Third, we will get some more organised operational activity occurring with the aims of building confidence in radio operation, procedures and skills with a continued emphasis on having fun. The key activities planned are:-

- The Morsecodeians: this group will follow on from the Morse Code classes which finished up in December 2009. Every second Thursday at the Peter Pavey rooms this group will focus on socialising and improving Morse code skills as well as HF and DX operation.
- The GGREC Contest Group: In 2010 we'll put in some more serious efforts for a few contests; this will include some technical activities to improve our contest station at the club rooms
- The Prac Nights & Training: we'll continue to promote and support various kit building and club projects.

And as I say every month, we are always looking for interesting topics and speakers for the monthly General Meetings.

Lastly, regarding the Bunnings BBQ Stall on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2010. This event will give us a great chance to get free exposure to the local community and promote the hobby and our club. In addition, it will provide a boost to our finances; so all good stuff. But we do need your support on the day. Please contact Brian VK3BSN and let him know when you can help – even if it's only for 2-3 hours on the day.

That's it from me for now. As always, please refer to the Club's website for the most up-to-date calendar of events and news.

Til next month, vry 73 trying to stay warm, /Chris VK3QB portable LA -...- -- . . .

*As mentioned at the last General Meeting and on the News Broadcast, the club is organising a social event which will be tied in with the Summer VHF/UHF Field Day on 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> January 2010.*

## **Social Weekend – Camping at Bonnie Doon**

As this weekend immediately follows the General Meeting (this Friday 15<sup>th</sup> January) the plan is that interested members would drive to Bonnie Doon on the Saturday morning. Members can stay at the Lakeside Resort in accommodation of their choice

- En-suite Cabins
- Caravan sites
- Powered camp sites

Everyone is responsible for their own accommodation. Please make your booking direct with the Bonnie Doon Lakeside Resort on 5778 7252 – and let them know you are with GGREC (The Radio Club) and they'll try to keep us tucked away in our own corner of the park. Those not needing to get back to Melbourne for work could also book to stay over until the Monday.

If you intend to join the club for this weekend away, let Chris VK3QB and Brian VK3BSN know, preferably by email – or, of course over the radio!

### **Summer VHF/UHF Field Day**

For those interested, we will gather into a group and drive approx 40kms from Bonnie Doon to Mt Buggery to participate in the Summer VHF/UHF Field Day. If you are keen to participate please let Chris VK3QB and Phil VK3YB know.

This promises to be a fun weekend away coupled with a radio event for those interested. We look forward to hearing from you in due course and hopefully seeing you at Bonnie Doon in January.

73 fer nw

Chris VK3QB, Brian VK3BSN and Phil VK3YB

**A - NONY - NONY - MUS**

Did you ever wonder why there are no dead penguins on the ice in Antarctica

- where do they go?

Wonder no more!!!

It is a known fact that the penguin is a very ritualistic bird which lives an extremely ordered and complex life.

The penguin is very committed to its family and will mate for life, as well as maintaining a form of compassionate contact with its offspring throughout its life.

If a penguin is found dead on the ice surface, other members of the family and social circle have been known to dig holes in the ice, using their vestigial wings and beaks, until the hole is deep enough for the dead bird to be rolled into and buried.

The male penguins then gather in a circle around the fresh grave and sing:

"Freeze a jolly good fellow."

Then they kick him in the ice hole!

**WANTED****Unwanted Antenna Analyser Kit.**

Anyone with one of the Antenna Analyser kits that they recently purchased and who has subsequently decided not to proceed with its assembly, I have a need to have one at my work location and would purchase the kit if it was no longer required. Please contact me, Geoff VK3ZGW, in person or email at [vk3zgw@wia.org.au](mailto:vk3zgw@wia.org.au)



## **International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend**

As reported at the last General Meeting the club is planning to participate in the International Lighthouse & Lightship Weekend in August 2010. It is our intention to operate from the Wilsons Promontory Lighthouse and we'll hike in/hike out, the day prior to, and after the event.

In a nutshell, the event will be as follows:

### ***\*\* Friday 20<sup>th</sup> August***

Be at Tidal River by late morning so we can hike to the lighthouse. Approx 18kms – we expect about 5 hours duration and 4 hours walking – it will not be a race.

We are working on the assumption that this is a hike in/hike out event where we will carry all our gear.

If we arrive in time we'll set the station up Friday afternoon/evening.

Friday evening can be recovery from the hike and maybe a few contacts if we get the antenna up

### ***\*\* Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> August***

Early AM setup the radio station

Operate ILLW through til late night Saturday/early hours of Sunday morning

### ***\*\* Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> August***

Pack up the station and hike back to Tidal River

We expect to be back at Tidal River by 3-4pm at the latest – again 5 hours duration, 4 hours walking.

Separate to the above, we will invite any other members and families to camp at Tidal River for the weekend and act as "base camp" and perhaps they will operate the RD Contest.

Over the course of the next 3-4 months we will lock down the finer details and I hope run one or two trial/practice hikes. In order for us to confirm the accommodation and get the ball rolling I need to have confirmation from any interested members – for the Lighthouse accommodation only at this stage please.

As we move into the New Year, we will communicate further details in relation to the camping at Tidal River for those interested.

If you are keen to participate in the hike to the Lighthouse please let Albert know ([treasurer@ggrec.org.au](mailto:treasurer@ggrec.org.au)) and also make a payment of \$130 for the accommodation to the GGREC bank account, Bendigo Bank - Cranbourne.

*Bibs and Bobs*

## **BOLT THE BLANKETY BLANK DOOR**

In recent times there have been reports that the back door (i.e. The door at the radio operating end of the rooms) has not been dead bolted either fully or at both the top and bottom of the door. This obviously exposes the rooms and our equipment to being an easy target for would be thieves or vandals – and none of us want that.

If you are one of the last to leave the rooms please double and triple check that the back door has been closed and dead bolted fully. I understand that it is sometimes easy to overlook this matter, and with many people in the rooms from time to time it can be difficult to know whether the door has been unlocked or not. So, please err on the side of caution and be certain to double check that the door is closed and both dead bolts are in the locked position. In the New Year the committee will investigate a more secure method that reduces the risk of this occurring. However, we all must be responsible for the safe and secure use of the club rooms.

Thanks all for your co-operation with this, and if you have any questions please contact president Chris.

## **QSL CARDS**

Oceania DX Group (ODXG) has secured a good deal on QSL Cards.

2,000 Standard size QSL cards

Front side in full colour as per image provided by you with artwork, callsign placement etc

Back side in one colour only with room for QSO details and the usual station info.

I understand they will be printed on 250gsm paper.

Price is \$135 for the 2,000. If anyone is interested please let me know. This is not a club initiative – but I know that some people have had trouble sourcing cards in the past and if you are interested I can pass your details onto ODXG/ *Chris VK3QB*

## **Club Rules Update**

Changes to the Associations Incorporation Act 1981 that came into force in April this year require some changes to our Rules. As a result, and because it is a good opportunity to clarify some ambiguities and increase transparency, I will be drafting a restructured Club Rules for consideration by the Membership.

I will be giving a short summary of the requirements and reasoning behind this activity at the November general meeting. If the membership agrees I will proceed to present new rules with a set of explanatory notes at the January general meeting and will table a special resolution so that the new rules can be adopted at the March meeting./ *Steve VK3EGD*

## SCOUTS HAM JAMBOREE

*The amateur radio special event station VI2AJ2010 is on the air over 10 days using HF and Echolink.*

The 22nd Australian National Scout Jamboree, 3-13 January at the Cataract Scout Park 85km south-west of Sydney, will have special event station VI2AJ2010 on air.



**Our trusty leader goes for a paddle**

The Fisher's Ghost Amateur Radio Club is the caretaker organisation of the amateur radio shack at the park and has worked for the past 12 months getting everything ready.

The shack has been refurbished thanks to a number of sponsors and a big voluntary effort. It includes ICOM IC-7000 and Kenwood TS-680 transceivers.

Antennas are a four-element tribander, a 20m monobander, 1/4 wave elevated vertical, two-element beam on 40m, and an 80m dipole.

The club advised that the best hours will be 2200 to 1100 UTC, with activity planned for the HF bands, plus 6m and 2m including simplex 145.400 IRLP 6111, plus 2m repeater VK2RMB IRLP 6366 and Echolink 63666.

The best HF frequencies are 3690 & 3790, 7090 & 7190, 14290, 18140, 21360, 24960 and 28390.

The 10 day jamboree has attracted some 12,000 scouts and their leaders from throughout Australia and more than 26 overseas countries, who will make it their temporary home.

The site becomes a small town with shops, ATMs, 10 internet cafes, and 325 temporary structures, including two performance stages.

There's an onsite hospital with eight doctors and a dentist, police station with 16 officers, an ambulance for any accidents or emergencies and a helipad is on standby should it be needed. Four appliances and volunteer crews from the NSW rural fire services are also in attendance.







*Photos by Albert VK3BQO because Paul VK3TGX was 'crook and arrived late without his camera'*

At a recent meeting it was suggested that the committee should maintain a list of those members who have current Working With Children cards. As a result, the Club membership database has now been updated to include the facility for recording those members who have cards. I would be grateful if each member who has a current Working With Children card could let me know, and also tell me what their card expiry date is./Steve VK3EGD

cont'd from page opposite **GENERAL MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 2009**

Activities from midday onwards. BYO meat . Chris advised that extra tables & chairs are needed. Bring your own shade if you need it.

*Event queue for 2010* – Chris asked for ideas.

*Centenary Call books* – Chris asked how many were interested. 10 hands up – Chris will get a box of 15 next week.

*Broadcast* – Chris asked for feedback and volunteers.

*Morse code classes* - Chris advised they will finish in 3 weeks.

*HRIF cards* – Chris asked that Members take some to give out. Steve advised that a nearest to postcode search is possible and will be put on the HRIF web page.

*Chocolate* – Reg VK3UK will get some on spec.

*Prac night in December* - yes.

*Rules* – Steve VK3EGD outlined the plans and timing to restructure the Club Rules.

*Life Membership* – Ian VK3BUF spoke about a life membership for Albert VK3BQO who Joined the club in 1979 and has been on the committee 21 times.

**Moved** Ian VK3BUF *'that the club bestow life membership on Albert'* **Seconded** Chris VK3QB.

Steve VK3EGD spoke in support. **Carried** by acclamation. Chris presented Albert with a Life Membership Certificate.

*XMAS cards* - Pat VK3OZ will be donating to the CFA this year instead of sending XMAS cards, and encouraged others to do the same.

*Willow road water tank* – John VK3XJW handed over the keys to the site and advised that the needs be formally reviewed.

**Meeting closed** : 9 pm

**Next Committee Meeting** : Monday 30th November 2009

**Next Prac Night** : Friday 4th December 2009

**Next General Meeting** : Friday 15th January 2009

## GENERAL MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 2009

**Date :** 20 Nov 2009

**Start time :** 8:05 pm.

**Location :** Guide Hall.

**Chairperson :** Chris VK3QB

**Minute taker :** Steve VK3EGD

**Guest Speaker:** Phil VK3YB & Bruno VK3BFT demonstrated the Club's new FT-950.

**Present :** Attendance sheet

**Visitors and guests :** nil

**Apologies :** Maria, Noel VK3CJJ, Ivan VK3ARV, Mike VK3KTO, Naree, Dorothy, Judy, Geoff VK3ZGW, Megan VK3HOP, Geoff VK3HDD.

**Correspondence received :** listed and tabled

**Correspondence sent :** listed and tabled

**Treasurer's report :** **Read :** Albert VK3BQO **Moved :** Chris VK3QB **Seconded :** Russ VK3MWR **Carried. Income :** \$37.00 **Expenditure :** \$2876.77 **Balance :** \$-2839.77 **Total :** \$6024.71

**New Call signs :** nil

**Previous Minutes :**

**Read :** as per magazine **Moved :** Steve VK3EGD **Seconded :** Brian VK3BSN **Approved.**

**Business arising from the previous minutes :**

*XMAS Hamper* - The basket is coming along well - see Max VK3TMK for tickets at \$2 ea or 3 for \$5.

*Club mugs* - Mugs are still available for purchase.

*QSL Cards* - There are to be collected. Steve VK3EGD will bring them in from now on if Mike is unavailable.

*Lighthouse Contest* - Chris VK3QB updated the status. He asked for committed numbers in order to book accommodation. The plan is to walk in on Friday pm and walk out on Sunday am. Ian VK3BUF, Chris VK3QB and Graeme VK3BXG are firm starters. Graeme knows 2 non-members who are also interested. The booking must be paid for in full within 7 days and will be approximately \$48 per person. The walk is about 18km and is a comfortable 4-5 hours one way.

*VK100WIA* - The Committee will have a firm proposal in January.

**New business :**

*VHF/UHF Field day* - Will be held at Albert's next weekend. 6 showed an intention to attend and Megan. Activities from midday onwards. Albert will forward details and a map.

*Ten-Tec* - an email was received offering a Ten-Tec 445 to be disposed Of.

*XMAS Breakup* - Is at Chris VK3QB's This year. 33 indicated they would attend.

Cont'd opposite