



# GATEWAY

May 2010

**NEXT MEETING** Friday May 21 2010 at 8 pm

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

**TOPIC:** AUCTION OF CLUB SURPLUS RADIO GEAR

**SPEAKER:** Chris Chapman VK3QB



**GGREC CELEBRATES 100 YEARS OF AMATEUR RADIO BROADCASTING JUN 16-18** Photo: KooWeeRup  
'shack' for the original morse communication with the UK. See story page 9

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

A man was riding his Harley through East Coast Park in Singapore when suddenly the sky clouded above his head and, in a booming voice, the Lord said, "Because you have tried to be faithful to me in all ways, I will grant you one wish."

The biker pulled over and said, "Build a bridge to Bali so I can ride over anytime I want."

The Lord said, "Your request is materialistic; think of the enormous challenges for that kind of undertaking; the supports required to resist the currents and to reach the ocean floor; of the concrete and steel it would take!

It will nearly exhaust several natural resources.

I can do it, but it is hard for me to justify your desire for worldly things. Take a little more time and think of something that could possibly help mankind."

The biker thought about it for a long time. Finally, he said,

"Lord, I wish that I and all men could understand women.

I want to know how she feels inside; what she's thinking when she gives me the silent treatment; why she cries, what she means when she says nothing's wrong, and how I can make a woman truly happy."

The Lord replied,

"You want two lanes or four on that bridge?"

*A-nony-nony-mus*

**ECHUCA CAMP GATHERING FOR CHRIS VK3QB'S MARATHON PADDLE**

*As many members will be aware, Chris VK3QB was paddling 160kms along the Murray River between 27th April and 3rd May. The long weekend prior to this event (24-26 April) was a camping weekend along the River at Echuca.*



**“Paddle boats with Echuca wharf in rear—** During the floods, the water made it almost to the top of the wharf ...” **Paul VK3TGX**

“Chris, VK3QB's Murray River paddle had gotten off to a shaky start. Me , Marianna and Pat were the only club members to attend, Chris was to follow shortly. However, during storms in Frankston, a gum tree fell across his driveway delaying him for a day. I had a job interview to attend, so we returned on Tuesday, to monitor the bands to see if we could pick up Chris's houseboat station ....”

*Continued page 5*

*Photos and Words by Paul Stubbs VK3TGX*

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	Brenton Vowles	VK3CBV (5944 4258)

Committee Members: Nev VK3ADG and Bruno VK3BFT

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 : Roslyn Wright  
 Distribution Email : Stephen Harding VK3EGD  
 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



*Another camper on hearing of Pat's achey knees in her tent promptly donated her a cushion to kneel on. (You don't see this interaction in a hotel!)*

**ECHUCA**  
**CAMP**  
**CELEBRATES**  
**CHRIS VK3QB'**  
**MURRAY PAD-**  
**DLE**

*Cont'd from page 3* “– so far no luck. I'm not sure why there was such a poor showing - a real pity. As we approached Frankston the weather turned VERY wet, I would have loved to turn around and go back to Echuca – much better weather! “



*I hopped onto the Big4 web-site and looked up this site, which (after booking) turned out to be in Moama, NSW, the other side of the river!  
 Cont'd over*





*Poor Old River!*



**ECHUCA**  
**CAMP**  
*Cont'd*

*Marianna & Pat at the Echuca bakery*

*Cont'd p 10*

## From the president ... Chris Chapman VK3QB

*"Just before paddling down the Murray".....Photo by Paul VK3TGX*



Here we go again; a new year for the club and a new committee. As last year was my first as a committee member (let alone President) I extend an extra thanks to the outgoing committee for showing me the ropes and helping me get through the protocol that goes along with such postings.

On the new committee we have Steve VK3EGD as Secretary once again, Brenton VK3CBV as Treasurer and Nev VK3ADG and Bruno VK3BFT as committee members. I extend a very warm welcome to the new committee, especially to Nev and Brenton who are new to our club.

The new committee will be reviewing the club's strategy and direction in the next four weeks and I hope to communicate more on this to you in the June issue of Gateway. If you have any thoughts or wishes as to where you'd like to see our club going for the next 12-24 months, please drop me an email to [president@ggrec.org.au](mailto:president@ggrec.org.au). What works well for you at the club? What would you like to see done differently? Are there any projects you would like to see take place? Let me know.

As I listen to people on 45.45 and at club meetings it is very clear that we have a great cross-reference of skills, experience and interest levels in the various aspects of our hobby. I would like to encourage everyone to write up a short report (even 1-2 paragraphs) from time to time describing an interesting experience or result they have had ... *Cont'd over*

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

*Continued from previous page*

with their particular field of the hobby; it may be a long distance low power QSO, a satellite QSO, an experiment that worked, an experiment that didn't work, kit construction, breaking through a pileup to work a new one, or portable operation. It doesn't really matter; the idea is to share what you are doing with other members and perhaps even find another aspect of the hobby that may be of interest. I hope that we can publish one or two members' reports each month in the magazine.

The next couple of months will be very busy as we work up to the VK100WIA Koo-Wee-Rup re-enactment in June, the mid-year dinner in June and our annual Hamfest in July. Please consider how you may be able to assist with these events. We still need to fill the roster for operators for VK100WIA between 16<sup>th</sup> June and 20<sup>th</sup> June. It will be a lot of fun so please drop me a note or give me a call if you are able to spend some time behind the microphone, or manning the information/display table.

Well, 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. See you at the May meeting – and don't forget to wear your silly tie!

Til next month, vry 73 /*Chris VK3QB* -...- -- . . .



The GGREC crew gets their own back after the previous general meeting!!



## CELEBRATE 100 YEARS

*By Steve Harding VK3EGD*

On June 16th to 18th 2010 GGREC will be re-enacting the historically important reception of the very first direct press message sent from the UK to Australia, which was received at 5am on the 5th December 1921 by a Mr. T. W. Bearup at an AWA experimental receiving station established at Koo Wee Rup.

With the highly appreciated cooperation of the Dragon Radio Club in Wales, it is intended that the re-enacted message be transmitted from the original Marconi MUJ station buildings at the original Waunfawr location in Caernarfon, Wales, UK, to the original location of the AWA manned Experimental Station site in Koo Wee Rup.

This first message and the many that followed it over the next six months proved that direct radio communication between the UK and Australia could be reliable and therefore commercially viable.

It would also lead to the crucial discovery of long path transmissions, and then the effect of ionospheric propagation that varied between day and night. These fundamental principles that were discovered in Koo Wee Rup are still used by radio amateurs and professionals to this day to predict the best signal paths for radio transmissions around the planet.

We will be using the special event call sign VK100WIA for the duration of the re-enactment to align the activity as part of the WIA celebrations. Contacts and QSL will be made by the station at Koo Wee Rup to all callers, with a concentration on UK stations. The station will be listening and calling on several bands, and will be coordinating activities through IRLP Node 6794. *Steve VK3EGD*

**STOP PRESS We need to get our operator roster for VK100WIA finalised by the end of May. If you would like to be an operator, or man the information/display table during this event, please contact me or Graeme VK3BXC to indicate your availability.**

**ECHUCA CAMP CELEBRATES CHRIS VK3QB' MURRAY PADDLE**

“The Moama Big 4 Pool was on my activities list, but the weather never got there. When we arrived, it was quite humid, but that quickly disappeared to be replaced by rain the next day .”



*The Paddle Steamer Adelaide*

*Words and photos by Paul Stubbs VK3TGXJ*

## Turn on your Ducati!

*By Bruno Tonizzo VK3BKT*

It was a surprise to me that Ducati wasn't always the name of a motorcycle.

The Ducati family moved to Bologna in the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century at a time when the industrial revolution was at its peak.

In 1924 Adriano Ducati achieved fame with his experimental radio connection between Italy and America, using a short wave device of his own design.

Bologna, the birthplace of Guglielmo Marconi, inventor of radio, was where the Ducati brothers established the Ducati Scientific Radio Patent Company on the 4<sup>th</sup> July 1926.

To cut a long story short, Ducati became the largest manufacturing company in Bologna in the 30's. Ducati manufactured its own condensers and radio equipment until the factory was bombed by the Allies in the second half of 1945.

The Ducati brothers were not discouraged by these setbacks and the plant was already partly rebuilt by the end of 1945. The first motorcycle, the Cucciolo, was built in March 1946. Unfortunately, due to the wartime damage, the Ducati brothers found themselves unable to run the company profitably, and it was ceded to the state in 1948. Adriano Ducati moved to California, where he worked with Werner Von Braun on the American space program which resulted in the lunar landings in 1969.

Marcello Ducati moved to Milan to manufacture automatic gates. The third brother, Bruno Ducati, also moved to Milan where he established an estate agency which is still active today. Bruno Ducati died on May 18, 2001 at the age of 96, the last of the three Ducati brothers.

Want to read more? Then go to:- [http://www.ducati.com/heritage/protagonisti/protagonisti\\_flliducati.jhtml](http://www.ducati.com/heritage/protagonisti/protagonisti_flliducati.jhtml)

*Bruno VK3BKT*



## AN INVITATION TO GGREC's HAMFEST

On Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2009, the Club shall be conducting its annual HAMFEST for the sale of new and used electronics and radio equipment. As per last year, the venue will be at the **Cranbourne Community Hall** on the corner of Clarendon and High streets, Cranbourne. [NB High Street is part of the Sth Gippsland Highway. Melway 133 K4.]

The club takes pleasure in offering you the opportunity to become a Seller at our 2010 event. Forty tables will be available for stall holders, but demand will be high as usual. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

Table hire will be unchanged at \$20 per table. This fee provides access for TWO people to operate the stall. It will also include *two* tickets for the door prize and free tea/coffee throughout the day.

The \$20 fee must be paid in full to the Club within 7 days *of booking your table*. Cancellations made more than 14 days prior to the event will be given a full refund by cheque.

To make a booking contact **Chris Chapman VK3QB** on **0429 187 593**. Or email details to [hamfest@ggrec.org.au](mailto:hamfest@ggrec.org.au) Payment may be made by sending a cheque or money order (payable to 'GGREC') to Post Office Box 1098 Cranbourne 3977 or by direct payment to: **BSB 633000 ACC 134761279** with remittance advice to Chris upon transfer. If you do a direct transfer please include your callsign/name and "Hamfest" on the transfer.

When making a table booking, Stall Holders will be asked to provide a **Name**, **Postal address** and **Contact phone number**.

Upon receipt of the \$20 fee and contact details, a **Booking Number** will be posted with a receipt of payment.

**IMPORTANT! No booking is confirmed until this number has been received by the Stall Holder.**

Access to the Hall shall be from 8:30am for Stall Holders (not later than 9:30 am unless by arrangement).

Transfer of your booking to another person is not permitted. Please contact Chris if you cannot attend or wish to discuss your booking.

The doors will open for buyers at 10am with a \$6.00 entry fee.

**PRIZE DRAWS:** Major and minor draws during the day.



## MID YEAR DINNER SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2010.

### Hot Roast Meats & Veggies Night

Yes folks it's that time of year again, time to get together in the Guide Hall and party.

Last year's dinner was such a success we have decided to do it again.

The 2010 Mid Year Dinner is one month away so get those imaginations working.

**This year's theme is  
"Favourite TV Show Character"  
so get dressing up.**

BYO Drinks, glasses, nibbles, metal cutlery if you don't like plastic.

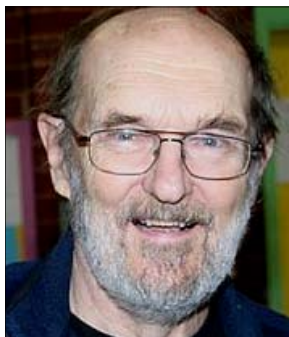
Cost per person is \$15.00 payable in advance to our new treasurer Brenton VK3CBV



### Event Queue

#### Upcoming Events

Thu	May	6th	8:00pm	<a href="#">Morsecodeians</a>	<a href="#">Club Shack</a>
Fri	May	7th	8:00pm	Natter Night	<a href="#">Club Shack</a>
Tue	May	18th	8:00pm	<a href="#">GGREC Broadcast</a>	145.450 & 3.670+QRM
Fri	May	21st	8:00pm	General Meeting	<a href="#">Guide Hall</a>
Mon	May	31st	8:00pm	Committee Meeting	<a href="#">Club Shack</a>
Wed	Jun	16th		<a href="#">WIA Centenary Event</a>	Koo Wee Rup - June 16-18
Fri	Jun	18th	8:00pm	General Meeting	<a href="#">Guide Hall</a>
Sat	Jun	26th		Mid-year Dinner	<a href="#">Guide Hall</a>
Mon	Jun	28th	8:00pm	Committee Meeting	<a href="#">Club Shack</a>
Sat	Jul	17th	10:00am	<a href="#">GGREC Hamfest</a>	<a href="#">Cranbourne Public Hall</a>
Sat	Aug	21st		<a href="#">ILLW at Wilsons Prom</a>	<a href="#">Wilsons Prom Lighthouse</a>



**Brenton Vowles VK3CBV**  
NEW TREASURER

**Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT**  
COMMITTEE

**Nev Kidson VK3ADG**  
COMMITTEE

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES APRIL 2010 *cont'd from opposite***

*Equip Surplus to Requirements* – A set of equipment surplus to requirements is to be auctioned at the next general meeting. Chris gave an overview of rules re purchasing.

*Moorabbin Hamfest* – Is on the 8 May. A brochure was tabled. There will possibly be problems with parking.

*QRP contest* – A WIA activity in May with a club prize for the highest score.

*Contests* – Chris gave some reminders about other contests coming up.

*RLP award* – Chris presented Reg VK3UK with a prize for winning the contest with his bicycle portable. Albert spoke about his attempt chaining repeaters including from overseas.

*WIA Membership* – The Club is now paying \$45 per annum for the AR magazine.

*General discussion* - on Ambulance coverage.

New club – It was noted that the Macedon Ranges ARC has started and has an active website.

*AGM housekeeping* - **Moved** Chris VK3QB, Seconded Steve VK3EGD, **Carried** without dissent: *that Bruno chair the AGM.* **Moved** Chris VK3QB, Seconded Steve VK3EGD, **Carried** without dissent: *that Brenton's and Nev's nominations for committee positions be accepted.*

*Items of interest* – Brian VK3BSN spoke about antenna launcher. Chris VK3QB is paddling in two weeks and will be on air during the event. Reg VK3UK has chocolates for sale.

*Thanks* - Chris thanked outgoing committee, the magazine printers, Susan VK3LOV the magazine editor, Paul VK3TGX for all the photos he takes and published on his website, Brian VK3BSN for his event organising, Bruno VK3BFT for his work as equipment and facilities officer, Steve VK3EGD for his website work, and Dorothy for the cakes she usually brings.

**Meeting closed** : 20:54 pm

**Next Committee Meeting** : Monday 26th April **Next Prac Night** : Friday 7th May

**Next General Meeting** : Friday 21st May **Next Committee Meeting** : Monday 29th March

**Next Prac Night** : Friday 2nd April

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES APRIL 2010**

**Date :** 16 Apr 2010

**Start time :** 8:04 pm.

**Location :** Guide Hall.

**Chairperson :** Chris VK3QB

**Minute Taker :** Steve VK3EGD

**Guest Speaker:** None due to AGM.

**Present :** Attendance sheet

**Visitors and guests :** David and Sarah.

**Apologies :** Maria, Ron VK3EXJ, Judy, Phil VK3YB, Ian VK3BUF, Dianne VK3JDI

**Correspondence received :** listed and tabled

**Correspondence sent :** listed and tabled

**Treasurer's report :** **Read :** Albert VK3BQO **Moved :** Albert VK3BQO **Seconded :** Dave VK3XMF **Carried.** **Income :** \$692.70 **Expenditure :** \$524.19 **Balance :** \$168.51 **Total:** \$6,173.88

**New Call signs :** nil

**Previous Minutes :**

**Read :** as per magazine **Moved :** Steve VK3EGD **Seconded :** Russ VK3MWR **Approved.**

**Business arising from the previous minutes :**

*VK100WIA* - report from EGD on the outcome of the site search. Chris reported on other activities. Formal permission has been obtained to use KWRSHS rooms. A draft design for a plaque is in circulation. Thanks to Michael VK3GHM for plaque pricing. Chris needs input on operator availability. There was also a suggestion for a pub night at KWR on 19th June. 17 hands went up indicating they would attend one. Steve mentioned the Historical Society's appreciation. Chris requested items for a display table, and gave some ideas. Paul suggested a projector to show material. Chris requested feedback on DX to Geoff VK3GW. The event should be combined with the museum weekend. Mike VK3KTO gave an overview. Publicity should appear in the May issue of AR.

*Call books* – The Club still has some.

*Airways Museum* - Brian reported on the trip. Reimbursements will be made for bus payments.

*RDD* – This seems to be working OK. Reports that TX is down. **Motion** *that a GP15 antenna estimated at \$200 be purchased for Albert to replace his antenna used at the RDD site.* Moved Geoff VK3HGG, Seconded Megan VK3HOP **Carried.**

*Hamfest* - Chris reported on progress - Good tables are still available.

**New business :**

*Presentation* - Thanks to Brenton for his presentation at the last meeting.

*ILLW* - Chris reported on the recent practice walk that happened on Easter Monday over 15km with 7 participants. Thanks to Pat VK3OZ for organising it.

*Mid Year Dinner* - Bruno reported on progress. Date set as 26th June. \$15 full payment is required by the end of the next general meeting.

*Continued opposite*