



GATEWAY

The official journal of the Gippsland Gate Radio & Electronics Club Inc.

Incorporation Number A0016893M

January 2012 - From the President ...

VK3JDI



Dianne Jackson

A very happy new year to all at the GGREC. The GGREC Christmas party was a huge success. Thank you to Pat for letting us use her backyard. The weather was a little hot but we all had plenty to eat and lots of fun and games. Steve VK3EGD won the Christmas hamper, congratulations Steve.

At our November meeting last year, we had a fun evening with some Yaesu 101s. This year is looking pretty good too. In January, Chris Chapman will be talking to us about DXing and computer logging. In February we hope to hear from Clint VK3CSJ about his Radio Astronomy experiences. In March, Helmut will tell us all about APRS, the tracking system he uses when he is away on holiday

This month, we will be celebrating Australia Day with a lunch time barbecue at the Club rooms in Cranbourne. Thursday the 26th of January. BYO food and, drinks. Details will be discussed at the Jan meeting.

At the beginning of this month we experienced some difficulties with the electronic access system to the Club shack. The electronic key-fob reader died and had to be replaced after about seven years of service. By the time you read this, it should be all up and running once more. Remember that any Club Member who has been financial for more than a year is eligible to apply for an access key-fob to the Shack. There is a ten-dollar deposit that is paid for the key-fob, but that is the only cost involved. See the Treasurer for details.

On the 4th of February, we will be conducting a fund raising sausage sizzle at Bunnings in Cranbourne. If anyone can spare some time on Saturday the 4th of Feb, to flip some snags on the barbecue, then let us know at the January meeting, and we will work out some times.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the January meeting.

Item	Page
Event Queue	2
6m Repeater News	2
IRLP A brief history and usage instructions	3
Passing of Ron Robertson VK3EXJ	4
Shack CLeaup	5
Yaesu FT-101 40 th Anniversary Night	6
General Meeting Minutes	7-8
GGREC Club Information	9

GGREC Event Queue from January 2012

January 20th – Friday Night. Gen Meeting at the Cranbourne Guide Hall

This is likely to be a DX night, with a talk on how to set up a DX station, use Logging software and will feature a short video clip on the Vanuatu DXpedition from last October.

January 26th – Thursday. Australia Day BBQ Peter Pavey Clubrooms

An annual tradition. The bbq and shade will be set up. Come along, cook a few snags and celebrate our national day with fellow amateurs. Kicks off at 11:30 am. BYO meat & drinks

February 3rd – Friday Night. Prac Night at the Peter Pavey Clubrooms

From 7:30pm come along to socialise and have a chinwag or use the clubs transceivers for a QSO

February 4th – Saturday Afternoon. Fund Raising Sausage Sizzle

This will take place at the Bunnings store in Cranbourne from 8:30am for 9:00am start until 4:00pm. The more volunteers we have the less they will each have to do.

February 17th – Friday Night. Gen Meeting at the Cranbourne Guide Hall

If all goes according to plan, we should have Clint Jefferies, VK3CSJ present to talk about his experiences with Amateur Radio Astronomy

March 2nd – Friday Night. Prac Night at the Peter Pavey Clubrooms

From 7:30pm come along to socialise and have a chinwag or use the clubs transceivers for a QSO

March 16th – Friday Night. Gen Meeting at the Cranbourne Guide Hall

Helmut VK3 DHI will be giving a lecture and demonstration about the APRS system and how amateurs can put themselves on an electronic map as they travel around our country.

Electronic parts for sale...Deceased Estate

A large selection of electronic parts, computer equipment, test equipment etc, is available for sale by Jan Pfiefer. Her late husband was not an Amateur, but was a keen electronics hobbyist. He has left behind a lot of parts available for sale at their home in Warragul South. If you are interested you may call Jan on **03 5626 1327** for more detail or to arrange a time to view the items.

6 Meter Repeater News

Owing to an as yet unresolved interference issue's at the repeater site, the GGREC 6 metre repeater VK3RDD has now had CTCSS access enabled. The tone frequency is 91.5Hz. Although most 6 metre users will already have radios with CTCSS capability, we apologise to those who will no longer have access to the repeater without installing a tone encoder into their radios. If we track down and eliminate the interference in the future, the access tone may be disabled but as it is common these days to have tone access on repeaters, it may be decided to leave it on. If you would like to contact me regarding this issue, please email me at vk3bqo@hubbatech.com.au. Thank you for your understanding.



Albert (Repeater Officer)

I.R.L.P.

Internet Relay Linking Project

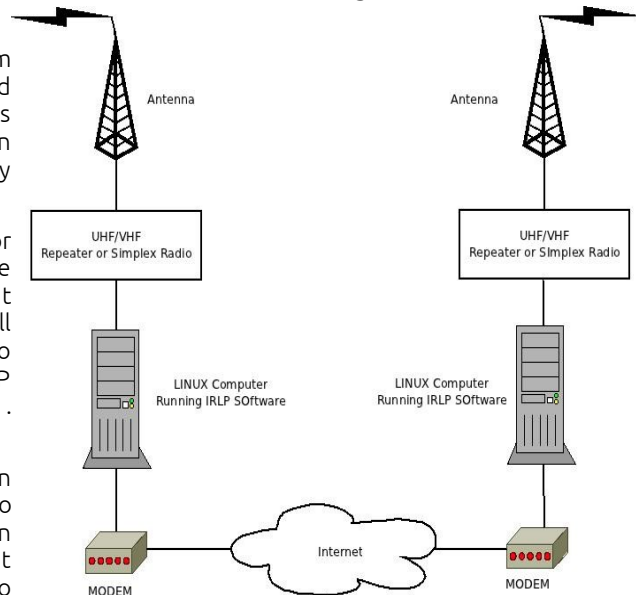
How to access IRLP with a brief history

The IRLP project was started in 1997 in Canada with a link running on MS Windows this was taken down about 5 months later due to PC crashes and other problems. It was then undertaken to improve the system. Linux was chosen as a platform due to its security and stability. Custom Hardware was also designed to interface the radios with a PC, this was to minimise delays in the system.

IRLP does not allow a user to connect to the system with a home PC like echolink does, it must be accessed via a radio in to an IRLP node usually UHF or VHF. This is by design and helps to eliminate usage by non amateurs as you must have access to the frequency used by the nodes radio to access it.

The system takes the input from the repeater or simplex node and routes it to the remote node via the Internet to be transmitted at the remote end via that nodes radio. The control to access remote nodes is all implemented in DTMF and all that is required is a radio with DTMF and a list of nodes. You can go to the IRLP website and check nodes at <http://status.irlp.net> . There are over 1500 nodes to access.

The most important thing to remember when accessing IRLP is **PAUSE....PAUSE....PAUSE....** Due to IRLP accessing more than one radio, especially when using a reflector that allows many nodes to connect at once there is a need to pause to allow all the nodes to reset timers on the radio link and for other users to disconnect, an example of what to do follows.



Let us say we want to connect to node 1810 (VE6PWT) in Calgary Canada. The procedure is as follows.

1. Listen to the local node you intend to access IRLP from for 30-60 seconds to make sure it is not in use.
2. Announce your call-sign and ask if the node is in use *This is VK3FWSP is the node in use over* then pause for another 10-15 seconds.
3. Announce that you are accessing node 1810 e.g. *This is VK3FWSP accessing node 1810 Calgary* then dial the nodes number in this case 1810 by dialling it on your DTMF keypad.
4. You will hear a welcome in this case *Welcome to node number 1810 link active*, wait again for 15-30 seconds to make sure the remote node is not already being used.
5. If a conversation is taking place on the remote node wait until the end of the over then pause for 3 seconds to allow the system to reset key the mic and wait 1 second before talking to allow the squelch on the node to turn off, announce your call and then wait for a response as if you were interrupting a conversation on a local repeater. Remember to wait for TX tails and squelch to drop off so the remote timer can reset.
6. If no conversation is taking place put out a call, it is okay to call CQ but it is not required to do it 3 x 3 keep this for HF, remember it is FM and your signal is rebroadcast via the remote node so if someone is listening you will be heard. A simple call *This is VK3FWSP calling CQ and listening*. Is more than adequate and remember to key the mic for a second before transmitting to allow the remote node to come up.
7. After the other stations over wait 3 seconds for all the time out timers to reset then key your mic pause for a second and then transmit.
8. When you are finished you need to disconnect the node. To do this key the mic for a second then announce you are dropping the node, *This is VK3FWSP disconnecting node* and then dial 73 on the DTMF keypad, you will hear a disconnect message from the remote node and that's it you are disconnected from the remote node.

Our local node connected to **VK3RLP** is **6794** if you want someone to call this is the number to give them to connect from a remote node. As outlined the most important thing is to pause between transmissions to allow talk timers to reset and then to pause after keying the mic to allow remote squelches to turn off or you will lose parts of you transmissions. Also make sure you announce your intentions before keying in the DTMF commands as in most countries it is a legal requirement to do so before transmitting DTMF control codes.

Mark VK3FWSP

It is with regret that we announce the death of Ron Robertson VK3EXJ, who passed away on Saturday the 14th of January after a long illness.



Ron Robertson VK3EXJ

Ron and Judy have both been active in the Club since 1992 when Ron joined the AOC class being run at the time.

Ron has always had a keen interest in many different fields. He was an accomplished pilot, and worked with the MAF in New Guinea for many years. He was an enthusiast with model aircraft and astronomy, building & grinding the lenses for his own telescopes. Ron was a fine engineer with the capability of putting together anything he had set his mind to.

As an Amateur Radio Operator, Ron participated in many Club events and camping trips over the years. He put a good amount of time towards the construction of the Club Shack. While not being able to participate in Club events for the past 18 months, he was always keen to know what activities were going on. Ron has many friends who will sadly miss him.



SHACK CLEANUP

The Committee is getting a bit concerned about some of the clutter building up in the Club Shack. We don't have a lot of room in there and it is important that the items that are present in the Shack are actually being used productively. Over the next 6 months we want to tidy the place up. As a starting point we have made up a list of items that we believe the Club Shack can do without. That list is reprinted here. We figure it is made up of items on loan that can be returned to their owners, items that are Club property which would be made available for sale within the Club (on a date to be set) and remaining items that will appear on the Club Hamfest table to be sold for the best price, with the Hamfest Sale leftovers to be disposed of as junk.

If you recognise any item placed there on loan and want it back, then please reclaim it as soon as possible. Some items are on the list because they have not been used in the past 5-7 years. If you think there is a strong case why the Club should keep a particular item, please present your reasons in writing or as an email to one of the committee. We will give it another look.

There are a lot of old callbooks and magazines languishing in boxes in the Shack. We have neither the space or the demand to catalogue & shelve all of these items. The Committee has decided that old magazines more than 2 years out of date will automatically be added to the list .

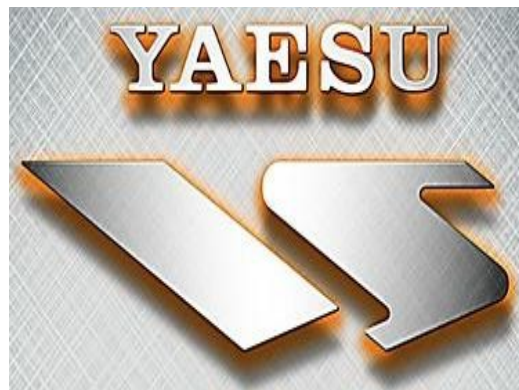
GTS Plastic indoor TV antenna
Heathkit resistor substitution box
Heathkit capacitor substitution box
Spinning desk toy
Cassette radio
Sansei logic pulse injector
PCB production assembly frame, (large orange)
HP8690A Sweep Osc & plugins, 2-6ghz, 4-8ghz, 8-12ghz, 12-18ghz,
Old AR and ARA magazines
BWD141 Sig Gen to 1 mhz.
Home brew resistor substitution box
Panasonic SD240 VHS Video Recorder & remote
Motorola Syntrex 2M radio
Belco sig gen ARF-300 to 5mhz.
A box of misc homemade RF filters.
10mhz TEK storage oscilloscope
Marconi TF2300B AM/FM modulation meter
Bell & Howell 301F OHP
A large box of morse code training cassette tapes
Overhead projector
Overhead Projector screen & stand (damaged)
Systra&Donner 809-1 microwave tuning unit
Philips vidicon B&W tv camera with integral B&W screen
GGREC 70cm ATV transmitter (2 units)
Hatfield audio level meter
Micronta transistor tester
Blue & black pc speakers
EPROM eraser (ultraviolet)
'Funway into electronics kit' (complete & unused)
A box of old VHF/UHF mobile antenna brackets
A box of resistors, capacitors and ex Tandy & Dick Smith component bubble packs.



FT 101 40th Anniversary Night

A great evening was had by all that attended the celebration of the Yaesu FT 101 rig. A large collection of radios and add ons were on display for everyone to have a look at including a very large collection from Clint VK3CSJ that included the 101 and a great many add ons, a marvel to take in for sure.

A variety of different variants of the 101 were on display from the first generation to the last.



ACMA Inspectors issue warning notices to unlicensed radio Communications enthusiasts



Inspectors from the ACMA's Field Operations Sections have issued warning notices to six radio communications hobbyists citing breaches of the Radio-communications Act 1992. The hobbyists, comprising Citizen Band (CB) and Amateur Radio operators from Tasmania, Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia, were operating on High Frequency (HF) frequencies outside the radio bands they were authorised to use. In addition to the issuing of warning notices, a number of non compliant radio communications devices were surrendered to the ACMA.

General Meeting Minutes - November 18, 2011

Date : 18th November 2011
Start time : 2000 hours
Location : Guide Hall Club rooms.
Chairperson : Dianne Jackson VK3JDI, President.
Minute Taker : Graeme VK3BXG
Present : As per attendance sheet
Apologies : As per attendance sheet
Visitors : Clint Jeffrey VK3CSJ, Rodger Dooger VK3ROD, Victor VK4WST, Lee VK3GK, Brian Kidd ZL1AHZ/VK3FHI

Preamble : Tonight to commemorate the 40th Anniversary of the FT101, there is on display the collection owned by Clint VK3CSJ.

Correspondence received :

- FAMPARC news.
- EMDRC news
- WANSARC e-mail link news.
- "Amateur Radio" magazine.
- Letter from Bunnings offering us a date for a sausage sizzle.
- AR Clubs Mailing re: call books now available
- AR Victoria re: VK100 roster for November
- Vic First Aid re: courses that are currently available
- Greg Halley wanting to book a table for our next ham-fest.

Correspondence sent : None.

Treasurer's report :

Income: \$29.00 **Expenditure :** \$246.90 **Total Balance :** \$5978.95
Moved : Ian VK3BUF. **Seconded:** Mike VK3GMH All in favour

Previous Minutes :

Read : as per November "Gateways" distributed.
Moved: Dianne VK3JDI. All in favour.

Business arising from the previous minutes :

Foundation Course weekend 13th November one candidate only attended and successfully passed.

VK3RDD repeater the ACMA have tried to bill us for \$41 for a licence variation fee – this was a correction as to the exact location of the repeater. Ian VK3BUF reports that in discussion with ACAMA they have technically agreed that it was their mistake.

The repeater is still suffering the interference despite Yarra Valley Water switching off one of their transmitters. Further tests will now have to be carried out to seek out the problem Albert VK3BQO reports.

Christmas Party will be at Pat's VK3OZ on Saturday 10th December with a barbecue lunch and byo including table and chairs.

Christmas hamper now taking donations and selling tickets at \$1 each or 6 for \$5. It is filling up fast and the winning ticket will be drawn on the day but the winner does not have to be present on the day.

Printed copies of the club magazine will now be available at the meetings but will not be posted.

New Business:

A new editor is now needed for the club magazine. It will no longer be in A5 format but a continuous flow in A4. Now calling for volunteer(s). Mark Clohesy VK3FWSP volunteered without hesitation. His offer was accepted.

Working-bee team is being called for Frankston water tower 10:30 am Saturday 20th November 2011 (tomorrow) to recover equipment – that is the two UHF beacons and antenna. The equipment is being offered to the microwave group with the aim of renovating the 1296 MHz beacon and returning it to the site.

Sausage Sizzle at Bunnings on 4th February 2012, the question was asked by Dianne VK3JDI do we want to proceed with it? The consensus was that we do and it was agreed that a quorum of at least five members was needed for the occasion. Five members have volunteered. Sausage sizzle arrangements to proceed.

Meeting closed : 2025 hours





Information for Club Members



General Club meetings are held at 8:00pm on the third Friday of each month at the **Cranbourne Girl Guide Hall in Grant Street, Cranbourne.**

Prac nights are held on the first Friday night in the **Peter Pavey clubrooms,** (at the rear of the Guide Hall) they commence from around 7:30 PM.

Visitors are always welcome to attend.

Office bearers

President:	Dianne Jackson	VK3JDI
Secretary:	Graeme Brown	VK3BXG
Treasurer:	Ian Jackson	VK3BUF
Gen. Comm Members:	Paul Stubbs	VK3TGX
	Russ White	VK3MWR
	Michael Van Den Acker	VK3GHM
Public Officer:	Ian Jackson	VK3BUF
Distribution Email :	Graeme Brown	VK3BXG
Property Officer:	Bruno Tonizzo	VK3BFT
Repeater Officer:	Albert Hubbard	VK3BQO
Web Master:	Stephen Harding	VK3EGD
Magazine Editor:	Mark 'Pockets' Clohesy	VK3FWSP

Call in Frequencies and Repeaters

- The Club Station is **VK3BJA** which operates from the Cranbourne Clubrooms.
- 6m Repeater at Cockatoo is **VK3RDD** : Freq. In **52.575**, Out **53.575** MHz
The 6m Repeater requires **CTCSS** tone access of **91.5** Hz
- 70cm Repeater Cranbourne is **VK3RLP** Freq. In **434.475**, Out **439.475** MHz
The 70cm Repeater requires **CTCSS** tone access of **123** Hz
The 70cm Repeater supports Remote Internet access (IRLP) **Node 6794.**
- Simplex VHF - **145.450** MHz FM
- Simplex UHF - **438.850** MHz FM

Membership Fee Schedule

Standard Member rate	\$37.00	Junior Member rate	\$22.00
Pension Member rate	\$22.00	Extra Family Member	\$17.00

- Fees can be paid by EFT to **BSB 633000 - Account 134761279.**
- Always identify your EFT payments.
- Due after each April Annual General Meeting.

Please direct all magazine articles to:
All other Club correspondence to:
or via Snail Mail :

editor@ggrec.org.au
secretary@ggrec.org.au
Box 1098, Cranbourne 3977

GGREC Web Site & Archive may be viewed at: www.ggrec.org.au

Disclaimer. The opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the official view of GGREC Inc. and the Club cannot be held responsible for incorrect information published.

The deadline for magazine items is the Tenth day of each month.