



# GATEWAY

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

*Incorporation Number A0016893M*

## *April 2012 - From the President ...*

April is time for our Annual General Meeting. If you want to get involved in the running of your radio club, then now is the perfect time. So far we have received some nominations, but it is still not too late. You can nominate yourself (must be seconded) or someone else, provided you get their consent.

*VK3JDI*



*Dianne Jackson*

There will not be a guest speaker for the April meeting because of the length of time it takes to conduct two complete meetings. The April general meeting and the AGM. However as some members are about to head back to Vanuatu on another DX-pedition we will show the 22 minute video on how this comes together from the operators perspective

New mats for the Peter Pavey Club rooms have been ordered and we are now awaiting for the shipment to arrive. To save shipping fees they will be bundled with other items within a shipping container.

New name badges, for those who ordered last month, are ready and will be available at the April meeting.

On Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April, we will be holding an auction of assets superfluous to club needs. The start time will be 11am, followed by a free sausage sizzle. As this auction is for club members only, we would appreciate prompt payment of annual club fees, at the April meeting.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the April meeting.

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## GGREC Event Queue from April 2012

### **April 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>– Sat & Sun. WIA National Field Day**

Amateur clubs and radio enthusiasts will activate public relations demonstration stations in prominent locations all over Australia. This will raise public awareness and showcase the hobby see the site at <http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/nfd/> for details.

### **April 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday Night. AGM Meeting at the Cranbourne Guide Hall**

This will be the annual AGM for 2012, please remember to get your nominations in

### **May 4<sup>th</sup> – Friday Night. Prac Night at the Peter Pavey Clubrooms**

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

### **May 18<sup>th</sup> – Friday Night. Gen Meeting at the Cranbourne Guide Hall**

Talk to be announced.

### **June 1<sup>st</sup> – Friday Night. Prac Night at the Peter Pavey Clubrooms**

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

### **June 15<sup>th</sup> – Friday Night. Gen Meeting at the Cranbourne Guide Hall**

Talk to be announced.

### **June 23<sup>rd</sup> – Saturday Night. Club Midyear Dinner**

Theme will be the Olympics more details to come.

### **June 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> – Saturday & Sunday. UHF/VHF Winter Field Day**

See the WIA contest site <http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/vhfuhf/> for more information

### **July 6<sup>th</sup> – Friday Night. Prac Night at the Peter Pavey Clubrooms**

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

### **July 20<sup>th</sup> – Friday Night. Gen Meeting at the Cranbourne Guide Hall**

Talk to be announced.

### **July 21<sup>st</sup> – Saturday. The GGREC Hamfest at Cranbourne Community Hall**

Corner of Clarendon and High streets, Cranbourne Entry from 10am for buyers \$6.00 entry see the website at <http://ggrec.org.au/hamfest> for more details.

### **August 3<sup>rd</sup> – Friday Night. Prac Night at the Peter Pavey Clubrooms**

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

### **Gippsland Gate Radio and Electronics Club Inc. Committee Position Nomination form**

| <i>Position</i>  | <i>Nominee</i> | <i>Proposed by..</i> | <i>Seconded by..</i> |
|------------------|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| <b>President</b> |                |                      |                      |
| <b>Secretary</b> |                |                      |                      |
| <b>Treasurer</b> |                |                      |                      |
| <b>Member #1</b> |                |                      |                      |
| <b>Member #2</b> |                |                      |                      |

Nominations must be approved by the Nominee before they can be accepted

## Solar storm of 1859

### The Carrington Event

During the period of August 28<sup>th</sup> to September 2<sup>nd</sup> numerous solar flares and sunspots were observed then on September 1<sup>st</sup> British Astronomer Richard Carrington detected a large solar flare that resulted in a massive coronal mass ejection (CME). This CME was on a direct course with the earth taking about seventeen hours to get here. This in itself was a remarkable point as most CME's take three to four days to reach the earth as they are travelling rather slowly. The reason this CME moved so fast was it was following a former CME that had cleared the path of ambient solar wind plasma. This ejection was to be known as the Carrington super flare.

When the CME hit the earth it resulted in the largest Geomagnetic storm in recorded history. It arrived on the evening of September the 1<sup>st</sup> in to the 2<sup>nd</sup>. The storm resulted in Aurora that were seen all over the world. Including the Caribbean and over the Rocky mountains they were so bright that they awakened gold miners who started making breakfast thinking it was already morning.

People awake in the the northern USA could read by the light of the Aurora they were so bright. On September the 3<sup>rd</sup> a newspaper the *Baltimore American and Commercial Advertiser* reported as follows...

*"Those who happened to be out late on Thursday night had an opportunity of witnessing another magnificent display of the auroral lights. The phenomenon was very similar to the display on Sunday night, though at times the light was, if possible, more brilliant, and the prismatic hues more varied and gorgeous. The light appeared to cover the whole firmament, apparently like a luminous cloud, through which the stars of the larger magnitude indistinctly shone. The light was greater than that of the moon at its full, but had an indescribable softness and delicacy that seemed to envelop everything upon which it rested. Between 12 and 1 o'clock, when the display was at its full brilliancy, the quiet streets of the city resting under this strange light, presented a beautiful as well as singular appearance."*

Telegraph systems over North America and Europe failed in some cases shocking the operators. Sparks flew from the wires and it was reported that the telegraphs would operate with out having a power supply connected due to the induced current in the lines.

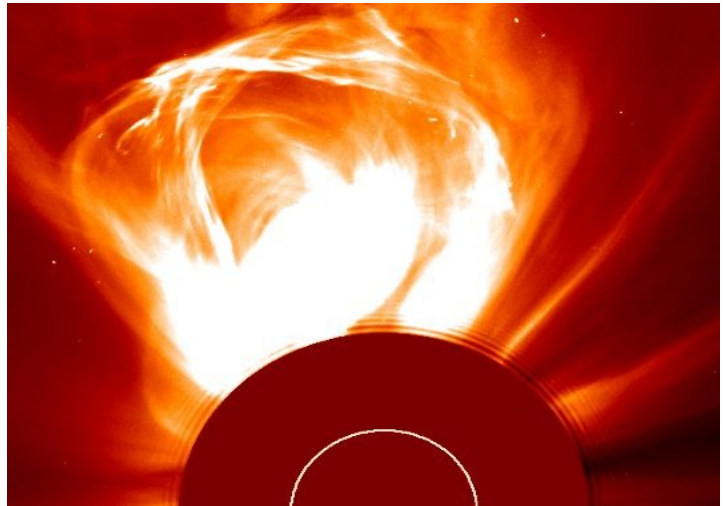
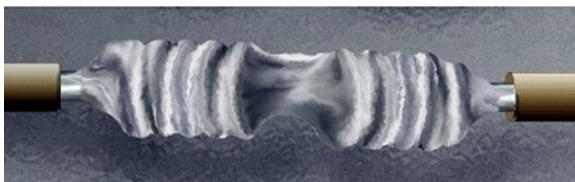
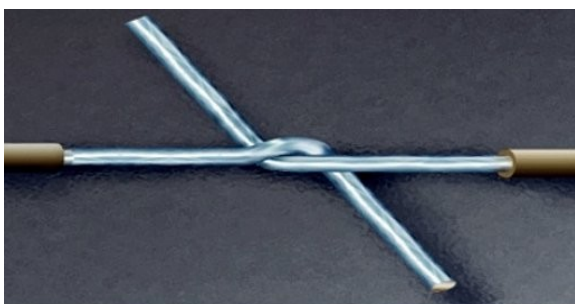


Image of Coronal Mass Ejection



### NASA Standard Wire Splicing

#### The linesman's splice...

1. The conductors shall be pre-tinned.
2. There shall be at least 3 turns around each conductor and the wraps shall be tight with no gaps between adjacent turns.
3. The wraps shall not overlap and the ends of the wrap shall be trimmed flush prior to soldering to prevent protruding ends.
4. Conductors shall not overlap the insulation of the other wire.
5. Solder shall wet all elements of the connection.
6. The solder shall fillet between connection elements over the complete periphery of the connection.

## General Meeting Minutes - March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2012

**Start time :** 20 : 05pm.

**Location :** Guide Hall . –

**Chairperson :** Dianne Jackson VK3JDI

**Minute Taker :** G. Brown, VK3BXG

**Present :** as per attendance sheet

**Apologies:** as per attendance sheet

**Visitors:** as per attendance sheet.

### Correspondence received :

- “Amateur Radio” magazine.
- WIA notifying of the AGM in Mildura on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2012
- VK3RDD licence from the ACAMA
- FAMPARC news.
- EMDRC news
- WANSARC e-mail link news.
- E-mail from NERG regarding the John Moyle field day this next weekend.
- NERG news.

### Correspondence sent :

- A letter of thank you to Judy Robinson for the generous donation of radio and electronic equipment.
- Clubs lists regarding our Hamfest.

**Treasurer’s report :** Income: \$366.00. Expenses \$554.73. Net Income: -\$188.73

**Moved:** Ian, VK3BUF. **Seconded:** Russ, VK3MWR. All in favour. Carried

- Previous Minutes :as distributed in Gateways.  
Moved : Dianne VK3JDI .Seconded : Helmut, VK3DHI..  
All in favour --- Carried.

### Business arising from the previous minutes :

- Hamfest update, Bruno reports that the sale of tables is progressing well. Eighteen tables have now been booked and of which nine are already paid. A door prize is yet to be sourced.
- Carpet in the shack has not yet been replaced Ian VK3BUF reports but is still looking for a suitable type. Suppliers approached are too expensive but a supply should be available by the next meeting.
- Assets sale after the AGM next month. Some items donated will remain with the club. Initially it was envisaged assets were to be listed at a reserve price and members were to tender. Any item unsold would be presented at our Hamfest. Discussion arose amongst members over an open auction, tender or an on-line bidding.
- To sell the listed items – Dianne VK3JDI proposed and moved, seconded Yarn, all in favour. Carried.
- Motion forwarded by the committee that the items be sold by tender. Proposed Ian VK3BUF, seconded Bruno VK3BFT. Majority against. Not carried.
- By consensus, a bid auction and on a day to be determined.
- Proposed by Dianne, VK3JDI, that the Sunday after the AGM, 22nd April, be set aside for the auction. Seconded by Steve VK3EGD. All in favour, carried.
- Auctioneers Doug and Steve. Auction 11am start with a barbecue to follow all at the club shack.
- Repeater reports – Albert VK3BQO reports that Geoff VK3ZGW, Bruno VK3BFT and he are working on an on-line application to the ACAMA regarding the noise that VK3RDD is experience with Albert to send the application. On 23rd March Albert reports he hopes to go to the Frankston Water tower with other members to pull down the UHF equipment.

- ILLW to Wilsons Promontory I, VK3BXG reported that a telephone call to Parks Victoria revealed that the track to the Lighthouse was still not yet open but they would have a better idea next month April.
- Michael VK3GHM reports that under "new call signs" (missed at the opening of tonight's meeting), he is now using a second call sign VK3KKR for a rally in a few months time in aid of "kids" (children) with kidney disease.

**New business :**

- Mid year dinner, Dianne VK3JDI requested a sub-committee be formed for ideas needed for games and direction. Narree, Bruno and Dianne volunteered for the sub-committee. The agreed date to meet will be the May Prac.-night.
- A new supply of coffee mugs has been sourced by Michael VK3GHM for the club dinner. By consensus, the black and white style at \$11 per cup was agreed upon. Glasses with the club logo will also be made available. Ian VK3BUF is now taking orders for mugs and glasses
- AGM nomination forms for the committee are printed in the March Gateways and are required to be used for the AGM
- Club badges - will be ordered for those members wanting them. Ian VK3BUF is now taking orders.
- Club advertisement hand-outs are near completion for displaying in public.
- Geoff VK3ZGW inquired as to courses the club was running. VK3BXG reported that nothing is planned as response to courses has been poor but we do continue to do one off individual candidate requests for foundation examinations.

**Meeting closed :** 21:10 : -- pm.

**Next Meeting :** Friday 18<sup>th</sup> April 2012 – will be followed by the AGM

**Talk** this evening was given by Helmut VK3DHI on Automatic Packet Reporting Service (APRS) and its many uses and benefits.

**Random Wire Antenna's for Multi band HF**

½ Wave and Multiples. These are lengths to avoid

| F in MHz | Feet   |                          |                          |                          | Meters |                          |                          |                          |
|----------|--------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
|          | ½ Wave | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Multiple | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Multiple | 4 <sup>th</sup> Multiple | ½ Wave | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Multiple | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Multiple | 4 <sup>th</sup> Multiple |
| 1.9      | 246    | 492                      | 738                      | 984                      | 74.98  | 149.96                   | 224.94                   | 299.92                   |
| 3.8      | 123    | 246                      | 369                      | 492                      | 37.49  | 74.98                    | 112.47                   | 149.96                   |
| 7.2      | 65     | 130                      | 195                      | 260                      | 19.81  | 39.62                    | 59.43                    | 79.24                    |
| 10.1     | 46     | 92                       | 138                      | 184                      | 14.02  | 28.04                    | 42.06                    | 56.08                    |
| 14.2     | 33     | 66                       | 99                       | 132                      | 10.05  | 20.11                    | 30.17                    | 40.23                    |
| 18.1     | 26     | 52                       | 78                       | 104                      | 7.92   | 15.85                    | 23.77                    | 31.69                    |
| 21.3     | 22     | 44                       | 66                       | 88                       | 6.70   | 13.41                    | 20.11                    | 26.82                    |
| 24.9     | 19     | 38                       | 57                       | 76                       | 5.79   | 11.58                    | 17.37                    | 23.16                    |
| 28.5     | 16     | 32                       | 48                       | 64                       | 4.87   | 9.75                     | 14.63                    | 19.50                    |

Some of these numbers are too close to squeeze in between them. So below is a list of lengths that do not fall on these ½ wave lengths or multiples. They are a good starting point for a wire antenna or even the two halves of a dipole that should tune up with an ATU across multiple bands. (You may want to make a note of them)

|        |      |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |        |        |        |
|--------|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|
| Feet   | 29   | 35.5  | 41    | 58    | 71    | 84    | 107   | 119   | 148   | 203   | 347    | 407    | 423    |
| Meters | 8.84 | 10.82 | 12.49 | 17.67 | 21.64 | 25.60 | 32.61 | 36.27 | 45.11 | 61.87 | 105.76 | 124.05 | 128.93 |

These lengths have been calculated out to 500 feet or about 152 meters you could go longer but I will leave the maths up to you, that and you would need a pretty large property to put that amount of wire in the air. Thanks to VE3EED for the original calculations...

# INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF GIPPSLAND GATE RADIO AND ELECTRONIC CLUB

## Scope

I have audited the financial report, of the Gippsland Gate Radio and Electronic Club for the financial year ended 31 March 2012, being the Income Statement and Balance Sheet prepared by the Honorary Treasurer. The Treasurer is responsible for the financial report and has determined the policies used are appropriate to meet the needs of the members. I have conducted an independent audit of this financial report in order to express an opinion on it to the members of Gippsland Gate Radio and Electronic Club.

No opinion is expressed as to whether the accounting policies used, are appropriate to the needs of the members.

I disclaim any assumption of responsibility for any reliance on this audit report or on the financial report to which it relates to any person other than the members, or for any purpose other than that for which it was prepared.

My procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial report, and the evaluation of significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial report is presented fairly so as to present a view, which is consistent with my understanding of the association's financial position, and performance as represented by the results of its operations and its cash flows. These policies do not require the application of all Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements in Australia.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formed on the above basis.

## Audit Opinion

In my opinion, the financial report of Gippsland Gate Radio and Electronic Club presents a true and fair view of the financial position of Gippsland Gate Radio and Electronic Club as at 31 March 2012 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the financial year then ended.

*Thomas Wilson*

Thomas P Wilson CPA  
Accountants  
PO Box 1086 Hartwell 3124  
April 04, 2012



## GGREC Auction This Sunday

The GGREC will be conducting an auction of various items on Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> of April. This will be at the Club Shack or the Guide Hall, depending upon access on the day. The event will commence from 11:00 in the morning. A free Sausage Sizzle will be running during this day.

The Auction will be conducted to these rules:

- Bidding will commence from the advertised Reserve Price
- Bidding will only be accepted by paid-up GGREC members. (member fees due from March 31)
- Bidding on transmitter equipment will only be accepted by licensed Amateurs.
- Proxy bids from absent (financial) members will be accepted
- When the Auctioneer declares a winning bid to a person, the Auctioneers declaration is final
- All items are sold on an as-is basis, and will be purchased and operated at the buyers risk.
- Items not sold will be available at the Club Hamfest Sale in July at the Reserve Price or higher.
- Payment may be made to the Club Treasurer by Cash, Cheque or EFT transfer to the Club account.
- Items will not be handed to the winning bidder until they have been paid for in full.
- Some items will not be available for inspection, but will be represented by photograph only.
- Fixed items such as tower, rotator and associated antennas will be available within 2 weeks of the sale.
- The tower and the HF beam will be carefully lowered to the ground and prepared for transport, but it will be the responsibility of the buyer to transport these items from their present location in Glen Waverly.

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Further to the list of items approved for sale at the last General Meeting, some additional items will be added to the Auction following a vote of acceptance for their sale at the April General Meeting.

|    |  |           |
|----|--|-----------|
| 56 | 80M HF mobile antenna, top loaded whip                                       | \$ 20.00  |
| 57 | 20M HF mobile antenna, top loaded whip                                       | \$ 20.00  |
| 58 | 40M HF mobile antenna, top loaded whip                                       | \$ 20.00  |
| 59 | 2M (Plus 70cm?) mobile whip antenna  | \$ 20.00  |
| 60 | 27MHZ CB mobile antenna  | \$ 5.00   |
| 61 | Terlin Outreach 500 Multi-band HF whip in cloth bag (VGC)                    | \$ 100.00 |
| 62 | 2 Metre FM Transceiver, Dragon, 50 Watt                                      | \$80.00   |
| 63 | Kenwood HF Transceiver TS440S & Desk microphone                              | \$400.00  |
| 64 | AA NMHI battery charger unit   | None      |
| 65 | 5 metres (approx) of RG59 coax on wind-up spool, with BNC connectors         | None      |
| 66 | Switch mode Power supply 13.4V, 20A, working, (built from PC power supplies) | \$10.00   |

## YJ0VK ON THE AIR AGAIN FOR 2012

GGREC members may be interested to know about our upcoming DX-pedition. The ODXG is once again off to Vanuatu.

We arrive on 21st April and should be on-air approx 0600utc. We depart on 5th May. This year there are 6 operators, including 3 GGREC members; Chris **VK3QB**, Brenton **VK3CBV** and Michael **VK3GHM**. The other operators are Lee **VK3GK**, Luke **VK3HJ** and Allan **VK2CA**.

We'll be operating 3 stations this year, all Kenwood TS-480 radios. Antennas will be a combination of verticals on the beach and a 80mtr wire dipole up about 15mtrs supported by coconut palms.



We plan to get a much better 160m antenna up this year and hope it will improve our signal, both on receive as well as transmit. We will try to be active every evening on 160 and 80mtrs, as many amateurs need to work Vanuatu on these low bands.

For more info please visit our web site <http://yj0vk.odxg.org>. Once again we'll be QRV for GGREC members and hope we can work with as many of you as possible. We will also pop up each morning if we are able to access the 10m FM repeater **VK3RHF**. It has links to 2m and 70cm for those interested.

We look forward to working you from **YJ0VK**,

73, Chris **VK3QB**







# 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: [editor@ggrec.org.au](mailto:editor@ggrec.org.au)  
 All other Club correspondence to: [secretary@ggrec.org.au](mailto:secretary@ggrec.org.au)  
 or via Snail Mail : Box 1098, Cranbourne 3977

GGREC Web Site & Archive may be viewed at: [www.ggrec.org.au](http://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.**