



# GATEWAY

***The Official Magazine of the Gippsland Gate Radio & Electronics Club Inc.***

## ***July 2014 From The President***

Well, winter is here and the rain is setting in as I write these words. However, the soldering irons are warming up for another Club construction project. The last prac nights saw members finish off their baluns and some discussion took place about what to project to tackle next. Looks like the projects are increasing in complexity as members skills increase. I wouldn't mind having a go to the SDR kit that was mentioned because it would be fun to decode the many digital signals that now fill so much of the VHF / UHF radio spectrum.

The Hamfest will be held on the day after our July general meeting and all is ready for this great event. It's great to see the amateurs of Melbourne and country Victoria turning up to find a bargain and to catch up with other amateurs at our hamfest.

With the Internet now available in the Club rooms, we have the opportunity to explore what other uses we can put the Internet access to. Your input will be sought on a range of options that are now available to us. Hear more about these facilities at the July General Meeting.



*Bruno Tonizzo*

We have a "Pub Night" scheduled for a Saturday night the 9th of August at the Cardinia Hotel (to be confirmed) and we will need to know how many members to book for. Contact Bryan the Club Secretary if you would like to attend. Please note that we will need firm numbers by the 2nd of August.

See you at the July GM,

*Bruno VK3BFT*

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## **Event Queue from June 2014**

July 18<sup>th</sup> – Friday Night. General Meeting at the Guide Hall  
From 2000hrs No talk tonight early finish for Hamfest

July 19<sup>th</sup> – Saturday. GGREC Hamfest  
From 1000hrs Cranbourne Public Hall Melway 133 K4

August 1<sup>st</sup> – Friday Night. Prac Night at the Club Shack  
From 1930hrs

August 15<sup>th</sup> – Friday Night. General Meeting at the Guide Hall  
From 2000hrs Talk to be announced

August 16<sup>th</sup> 17<sup>th</sup> – Sat-Sun Remembrance Day Contest  
see [wia.org](http://wia.org) for information

### **New Magazine Editor Required**

I have been compiling the magazine now for three years but will be unable to continue past the end of the year due to health concerns. The club requires a new editor to take over from January 2015 please contact the committee if you can take on the role. A computer & Internet connection is required and the magazine can be done in a program called LibreOffice if you don't have a word processing package on your PC, LibreOffice is free to download

# **Club Pub Night**

The committee is organising a pub night for the club. A date of Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> of August has been pencilled in with the night to be held at the Cardinia park hotel in Beaconsfield. If you going to be coming along then please register your interest with the secretary by email

[secretary@ggrec.org.au](mailto:secretary@ggrec.org.au)

Numbers need to be finalised by the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August for a booking to be made, a deposit will NOT be required.



# **2014 GGREC Hamfest**

Well it is that time of the year again with the GGREC hamfest on Saturday, we need all hands on deck to help set up from 7am and with food preparation and security during the day.

If you have any items you would like to sell remember that members may use the club table to sell items. Please bring along your 2mt Hand helds for communications on the day, we will be using 145.45Mhz on the day.



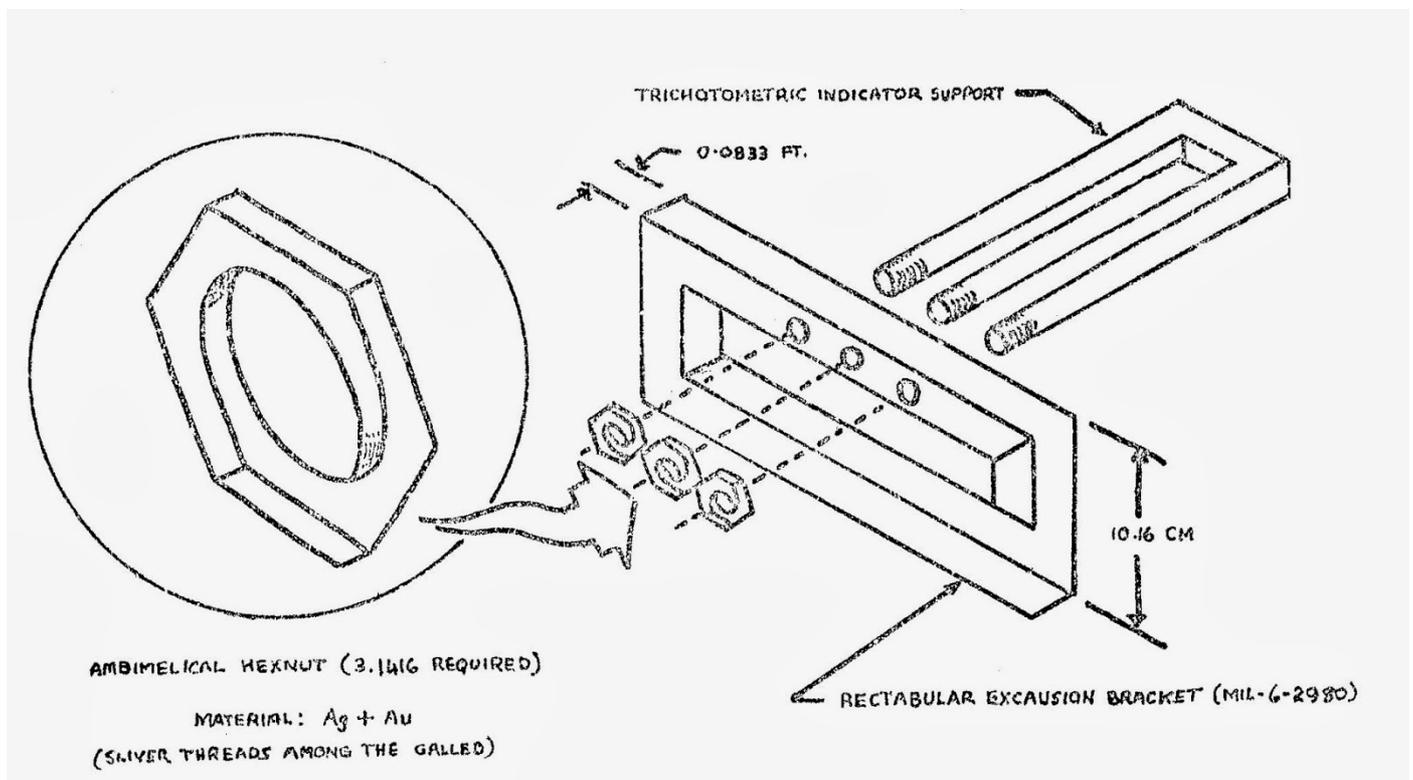
So make your way to the Cranbourne Public Hall for a great day and a big fund raiser for the club, remember the hamfest profits keep our yearly dues down so all help is appreciated.

# THE DIE-CAST DROP-FORGED PLASTIC TRICHOTOMETRIC INDICATOR-SUPPORT

Inquiries concerning the mounting of the Trichotometric Indicator Support indicate that some difficulty is being experienced with the brackets which attach the support.

As an aid toward fabricating the support brackets, the accompanying illustration is provided to show the type of material as well as the dimensional data needed. It will be noted that in attaching the bracket to the support a special ambimelical hex nut is used.

The application of this nut is unique in that any attempt to remove it in the conventional manner only tightens it. Because of this design, the nut must be fully screwed on before it can be screwed off.



## **General Meeting 20<sup>th</sup> June 2014**

<b>Location:</b>	Guide Hall Cranbourne
<b>Start Time:</b>	Meeting commenced at 2000 hrs.
<b>Chairperson:</b>	Bruno VK3BFT
<b>Minutes taken:</b>	Graeme VK3BXG
<b>Present and Guests:</b>	As per attendance sheet.
<b>Apologies:</b>	As per attendance sheet
<b>Visitors:</b>	John VK3JNC

### **Correspondence received :**

1. Email for distribution, reminding members of working bee on 31 May.
2. Apology from Mike VK3KTO re. inability to attend working bee.
3. Breakout magazine for May 2014.
4. Radio Bulletin magazine from the EMDRC for June 2014.
5. Email Steve VK3EGD hamfest seller's payment returned by Aust. Post.
6. Email from Ian VK3BUF re. balun kits having arrived for prac night, and payment arrangements.
7. Email from Steve VK3EGD re. request from Graham VK4BB seeking audio and text re. our hamfest.
8. Email from Tom Otley VK3ATO seeking a Werner Wulf HB-9 Butternut antenna if anyone has one.
9. Letter from Bruno VK3BFT to Rockby Electronics re. sponsorship of hamfest.
10. Letter from Bruno VK3BFT to Altronics re. sponsorship of hamfest.
11. Email from Ross Pittard VK3CE re. proposed meeting of Victorian Technical Advisory Committee, and inviting reps to attend.
12. Email from Andrew Scott VK3BQ re. a meeting concerning the future of D-Star repeater VK3RWN, and inviting interested persons to attend.

### **Correspondence sent :**

1. Email from Albert VK3BQO seeking numbers interested in obtaining microphone cords for PRM80 transceivers.
2. Email to membership re. upcoming events with NERG.
3. Email to membership re. working bee on 31 May 2014.
4. Email to membership of Breakout magazine, May 2014.
5. Email to Tom Otley advising that his request would be made known to club members via the club magazine.
6. Reminder to members re. Mid-Year Lunch at Hastings on 14 June.

## Treasurer's report :

Graeme VK3BXC presented the Treasurer's report, covering the period 16 May-15 June 2014 as follows:

Income: Membership fees -	\$507.00
Hamfest income (table fees)	\$330.00
Other income --	\$199.19
Total Income:	\$1036.19
Expenditure:	
RLP Project:	\$14.00
Utilities – gas & electric	\$216.21
Miscellaneous	\$286.05
Other	\$8.00
Total Expenses:	\$524.26
Net Income:	\$511.93

Quickbooks balance:	\$1805.46
Bendigo Bank balance:	\$2080.07
Difference being	\$275.61 (three unrepresented cheques)
Investment Account:	\$9776.89

Read : Moved : Graeme VK3BXC Seconded : Lee VK3GK Carried : yes  
Income : Expenditure : Balance : Total :

New Callsigns : nil

## Previous Minutes :

Read : as distributed, with the amendment that minutes were taken by Bryan VK3FOAB, rather than Graeme VK3BXC Moved : Seconded :  
Approved : yes

Business arising from the previous minutes :

Mid-Year Dinner: A good time was had by all. Photos will be placed on the club website. Thanks to Naree and Wayne for scoping out the venue. Members are asked to starting thinking where our next lunch should be. Perhaps somewhere to the north of Cranbourne?

Beacons: Rob VK3BRS reported that power amps are now held for the 23cm and 13cm beacons. Both units will be set so that we get maximum longevity out of them. They will be fan-cooled. We have managed to get a \$400 grant from the WIA to enable them to be GPS locked, courtesy of

an arrangement with Alan [VK3XPD](#). A site survey will be undertaken prior to installation of the new antennas. At this stage, consideration is being given to Alford slot antennas. A generous donation of cable for the project has been made by Geoff, [VK3HGG](#) – thank you very much, Geoff. Telstra Museum: Bruno reported that the tours, in Hawthorn, at the telephone exchange, take place only on Wednesdays during daylight hours. They seemed reluctant to consider an evening visit. Further enquiries to be made, and level of interest of members to be gauged. Working Bee: The working bee held on 31 May was very successful. Thanks to Diane [VK3JDI](#) and Ian [VK3BUF](#) for the use of their boom lift on the day. Thanks also to Graeme [VK3BXG](#) for his pruning skills. The roof of the shack and the skylights have been cleared of debris/leaf litter (thanks Paul [VK3TGX](#)), the OCF is back up, and the inverted L has also been secured. In addition, thanks largely to the efforts of Steve [VK3EGD](#), Michael [VK3GHM](#) and Ian [VK3BUF](#), we now have an internet link in the shack. Thanks to all those members who attended on the day and assisted in the multitude of tasks, big and small, that were involved. The post-event BBQ revealed a number of deficiencies with our existing BBQ unit.

Licence fee structure: Russell [VK3MWR](#) advised that nothing more has been heard from Russell Broadbent MP, regarding any relief in terms of fees charged to amateurs for their licences.

Hamfest: Preparations for the hamfest are proceeding well, with just one table left. Both Rockby Electronics and Altronics have been approached for sponsorship, with the latter providing a frequency counter, and the former a lab grade power supply. There was some discussion re. the need to purchase door prizes, since it cuts into what would otherwise be profits for the club, and the idea of providing radios as door prizes. The view was put that we would not provide radios as door prizes, in case they were won by non-licensed persons. Additional suggestions for prizes were welcomed from the floor.

The question of the food to be provided at the hamfest was raised, and the prices for same, and it was agreed that we should obtain similar quantities of sausages/bread as last year, and maintain the same prices that were charged in 2013.

BBQ: In view of concerns expressed in previous meetings, and the difficulties experienced with the BBQ after the working bee, Albert [VK3BQO](#) agreed to look at suitable units, which he may be able to acquire at a discount, on account of personal contacts.

## New business :

Letter from Ross Pittard re. the Victorian Advisory Technical Committee. Albert **VK3BQO** agreed to attend this event on 26 July on our behalf, which is looking at the future of the Victorian repeater network.

Use of D-Star repeater: Albert **VK3BQO** and Rob **VK3BRS** agreed to attend this meeting, on 26 June, to gather further information about the future of the **VK3RWN** D-Star repeater system, and to report back to the club.

Internet Connection to the Shack: Steve **VK3EGD** detailed the 2.4GHz link which is now in place between his QTH and the clubrooms. A solid transmission path has been achieved, and Committee needs to make a decision about how this facility should be used to the benefit of the club. Thanks again to Steve, Ian and Michael for their work in bringing it to life.

Amateur Radio articles: The RWD repeater antenna article, prepared by Ian **VK3BUF**, came up well. Ian advised that a further article on RWD will also be appearing in AR in coming months. Keep an eye out for it!

Astronomical Society of Victoria: Following **VK3CSJ** Clint Jeffrey's talk on the radio astronomy work of the society, Russell **VK3MWR** suggested that the club consider making a donation towards their work. After further discussion, the suggestion was made that we provide practical assistance, in the form of a working bee/site visit at a future mutually convenient date.

Pub Night: The suggestion was made that we resurrect pub nights, which used to be a feature of club life some years ago. If this appeals to you, please speak to a Committee member.

Licence assessments: Graeme **VK3BXG** advised that he and Lee **VK3GK** would be doing assessments on Sunday 22 June.

RD Contest: A reminder that the RD Contest is fast approaching. Speak up if this takes your fancy -- you never know, there may be others who are also keen to take part.

**Meeting closed** : 10:35 pm



## **Club Information**

Meetings 2000hrs on third Friday of the month at the Cranbourne  
Guide Grant Street Cranbourne

Prac nights first Friday in the Peter Pavey Clubrooms Cranbourne 1930hrs  
Visitors are always welcome to attend

### **Office bearers**

President	Bruno Tonizzo	VK3BFT	Repeater Officer	Albert Hubbard	VK3BQO
Admin Sec	Bryan Simm	VK3FOAB	Web Master	Stephen Harding	VK3EGD
Treasurer	Ian Jackson	VK3BUF	Magazine Editor	Mark Clohesy	VK3PKT
General 1	Mark Clohesy	VK3PKT	Property Officer	Bruno Tonizzo	VK3BFT
General 2	Wayne Cooke	VK3XF	Secretary	Ian Jackson	VK3BUF

## **Call in Frequencies, Beacons and Repeaters**

- The Club Station **VK3BJA** operates from the Cranbourne Clubrooms.
  - 6m Repeater Cockatoo **VK3RDD** In 52.575, Out 53.575 CTCSS 91.5
- 70cm Repeater Cranbourne **VK3RLP** In 434.475 Out 439.475 CTCSS 123Hz  
**VK3RLP** Repeater supports Remote Internet access (IRLP) Node 6794.
- 70cm Repeater Drouin **VK3RWD** In 433.575 Out 438.575 CTCSS 91.5Hz
  - Simplex VHF - 145.450 MHz FM • Simplex UHF - 438.850 MHz FM
  - **VK3RLP** Beacons 1296.532 MHz & 2043.532 MHz

## **Membership Fee Schedule**

Standard Member rate \$40.00 Junior Member rate \$25.00

Pension Member rate \$25.00 Extra Family Member \$20.00

- Fees can be paid by EFT to **BSB 633000** - Account **146016746**.
  - Always identify your EFT payments.
- Membership Fee's Are Due at each April Annual General Meeting.

Magazine Articles to [editor@ggrec.org.au](mailto:editor@ggrec.org.au) or [pockets@twistedsouls.com](mailto:pockets@twistedsouls.com)

All other Club correspondence to: [secretary@ggrec.org.au](mailto:secretary@ggrec.org.au)

or via Snail Mail : PO Box 1098, Cranbourne 3977

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

Facebook Page [www.facebook.com/GippslandGate](http://www.facebook.com/GippslandGate)

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