

GATEWAY



GGREC



The Official Journal of
The Gippsland Gate Radio
and Electronics Club inc.

MARCH 1995

GIPPSLAND GATE RADIO AND ELECTRONICS CLUB INC.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS 1994/1995

| | | | | |
|------------------|----------------|--------|-----|-------------|
| President | Albert Hubbard | VK3BQO | ph. | 056 59 6562 |
| Secretary | Dave Campbell | VK3XMF | ph. | 789 6401 |
| Treasurer | Peter Vat | VK3KCW | ph | 888 2305 |
| Committee Member | Peter Pavey | VK3VB | ph | 059 98 3533 |
| Committee Member | Dianne Jackson | | ph | 776 5000 |

Magazine Editor: Dianne Jackson ph 7765000

Printing and Dispatch: Dave Campbell and Cathie West

Deadline for articles in next months issue **Tuesday 11th April**

Club Meetings held at the Cranbourne Girl Guide Hall in Grant Street, Cranbourne. Meetings commence on the Third Friday of each month at **8.15pm** (+/- 10%). Melways Ref 133-J6

Club Station: VK3BJA Located at the guide Hall

Repeater.....:VK3RDD in 52.575 out 53.575
HF.....: 28.325 MHz, USB
VHF.....: 146.225 MHz, FM
UHF.....: 438.850 MHz, FM

ALL VISITORS WELCOME.

EL PRESIDENTE' REPORT

Hi folks, its 3 months into the year and I don't know where its gone. I can see that things are going to move along very smartly this year so don't blink your eyes or you will miss something. One such thing which is to important to miss is the Annual General Meeting. This is to be held at the usual place on April 21. If you attend any meeting in the year, please make it this one. We need your vote.

Elsewhere in this issue you will find a nomination form for Committee positions. If you wish to nominate or be nominated, fill in the form and bring it to this months meeting or mail it to the Secretary before the AGM. There are some rules to follow for eligibility, so read them first. Each nomination will require:

- a. The acceptance of the nominee,
- b. A seconder to the nominator.

Nominations are called for all positions, so here is your chance to make a difference.

According to our new Rules, a discussion must take place at the General Meeting on the night of the AGM to decide on the membership fees for the next year. The Committee has looked into the fee structure and can see no reason for a change for next year. We will be suggesting this at the meeting.

Our Prac nights are going well. This months saw the Club computer assembled by Eddie and Graham. All we need now is a VGA screen (or better) and its fully operational. CAN YOU HELP!

What about the elusive mobile hands free kit? Well we finally have the info we were after, thanks to Peter VK3KPD. We will keep you posted about prices.

Don't forget about the Fox Hunt later this month. I am the Fox this time but don't hold that against me. I think it will be fun.

Snigger - Snigger

The coming (Labour Day) weekend sees a few of the members attending a camp at Venus Bay, I have already begun packing and the weather forecast is good. I am looking forward to a restful weekend. I will catch you there or at the meeting. Cheers for now.

SOME POINTS TO REMEMBER WHEN NOMINATING.

Nominations shall require a proposer and seconder and shall be called for at least twenty eight days before an Annual General Meeting and shall close with the Secretary seven days before the Annual General Meeting.

To be eligible for nomination in the elections for Club office bearers, the nominee shall have attained the minimum age of 16, have been financial for and attended at least three General Meetings in the Current fiscal year. and not be deemed ineligible under any other Article within these Rules. (Unless under exceptional circumstances, which shall be voted on in a General Meeting. See Article 10a)

To vote in the elections for Club office bearers, a person must have been member for six months and be financial as at the Annual General Meeting. All votes shall be in person at the Annual General Meeting.

EVENT QUEUE

FRIDAY MAR 17 8.15pm **CLUB MEETING**

SUNDAY MAR 19 10am-4pm MIDLAND A.R.C. CONVENTION

SATURDAY MAR 25 **D F HUNT**

SATURDAY APR 1 FAMPARC WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

FRIDAY APR 7 8.15pm **PRAC NIGHT**

SATURDAY APR 8 EMDRC WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

Tuesday Apr 11 8.00pm Committee Meeting at VK3VBs

FRIDAY APR 21 8.15pm **GGREC A.G.M**

FRIDAY MAY 5 8.15pm **PRAC NIGHT**

Tuesday May 9 8.00pm Committee Meeting

FRIDAY MAY 19 8.15pm **CLUB MEETING**

FRIDAY MAY 26 7.00pm **SOCIAL NIGHT at BAXTER TAVERN**

HANDS FREE MICROPHONE KIT

We have been investigating a mobile hands free kit. Now that the information is available, we can start to order the boards. **Boards will cost \$15.00** and we expect the components to cost **Aproximately \$50.00**. All interested members should **bring \$15.00 to the March meeting**, this will get you the circuit board, the circuit diagram, a components list and the construction notes. The Club will also consider making complete kits available if enough people are interested.

ARE YOU READY FOR THE HUNT?

Our next DF hunt shall be on SAT, MARCH 25, you will need to be ready!

It will be held around the Mornington Peninsula area (Not too far away). Remember that this is a STATIC event, that is, you don't Actually have to drive with an antenna out of the window. It will finish with a BYO EVERYTHING BBQ at the end.

WIN FABULOUS PRIZES WORTH AT LEAST \$5

Rendesvous with your dipole, compass and ruler in the Sommerville Hotel Car Park at 9:00 am on the Saturday morning. (Near the rail crossing in Sommerville, Melway 107 E12) Albert VK3BQO will be the target operator (The Fox). Find him if you can!

CONGRATULATIONS

*To all club members who entered
the Remembrance Day Contest '94*

TEAM VICTORIA WON THE CONTEST

FOR THE 5th YEAR IN A ROW

YOU HELPED MAKE IT HAPPEN !

Best 73

Jim Linton VK3PC

WIA VICTORIA PRESIDENT

THE SLIM JIM ANTENNA

DESIGNED BY G2BCX

HAS VERY LOW ANGLE RADIATION PATTERN (BETTER THAN 5/8 WAVE),
HAS 3DB GAIN OVER 1/4 WAVE GROUND PLANE.

IS FED WITH 50 OHM COAX CABLE.

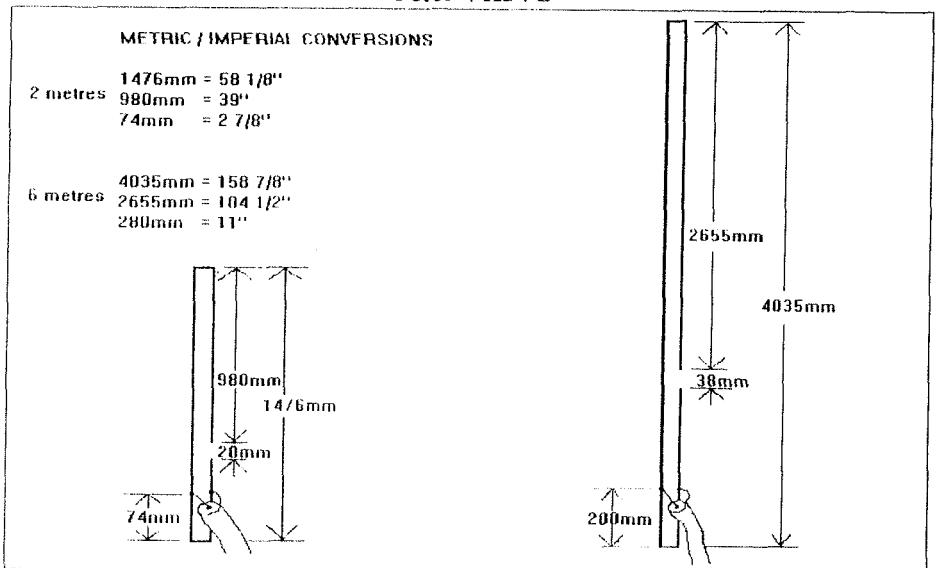
IS CHEAP AND EASY TO CONSTRUCT.

Need a cheap & easy to make gain Antenna for 2 or 6 Metres ? All you need is some 300 ohm ribbon feeder, some 50 ohm coax. and if you want to enclose the antenna some orange electrical PVC conduit.

Just measure off the required ribbon for the band of your choice allow 10mm extra top and bottom, strip off the insulation at this point twist together and solder. Now measure down from what will be the top of the antenna and cut out 20mm on one side to form a gap in the conductor.

The feed point you will need to adjust for minimum S.W.R., easily below 1.5 to 1. Tape the antenna to a piece of wood, solder two sharp pins to a short piece of coax and move up and down at the feed point until the lowest S.W.R. is found. Solder coax at this point and check S.W.R. You need to water proof by either protecting with butyl and electrical tape and suspend from convenient sky hook or place antenna inside length of electrical conduit, water proof and fix in clear spot on pole or mast. Energise antenna with R.F. and have fun.

Peter VK3VB



MIDLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB INC.

AFFILIATED WITH WVA VIC DIVISION
 P.O. BOX 2058 MAIL CENTRE, BENDIGO 3554
 President: Noel Jackson
 Secretary: Judy Adams
 Club Gals: VRS/CMAZ
 (054) 37 7210 (054) 25 2469



***** CONVENTION Sunday March 19th. 1995. *****

A WEHCUMF is extended to all OMs, YEs, Harmonics and Friends

THE VENUE is the YMCA Leisure Centre in Browning Street Kangaroo Flat, 5km south of the fountain in Central Bendigo. If travelling north, take the second turn left from the traffic lights at Kangaroo Flat. The turn-off will be signposted.

PARKING Having difficulties finding the venue? Then join the talk in on the Esal 7 metre repeater VK3RYV (freq 147.150 Hz) class to find it.

COMPONENTS Pines Lunch, \$5.000 Adults, \$3.000 Children under 17
 Entry only \$3.000

FREE Pass, though to join FRSI

SWITCHES Truck displays, Secondhand equipment and components: Radio, Radios, Trucks, Door Prizes and other activities

TABLES Various stalls on show and for sale

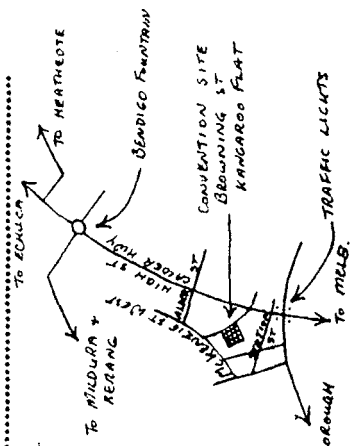
STUFFS ON THE SHELF Bring your old and no longer used gear for sale or swap
 Tables will be provided

SAVE YOURSELF TEA & COFFEE

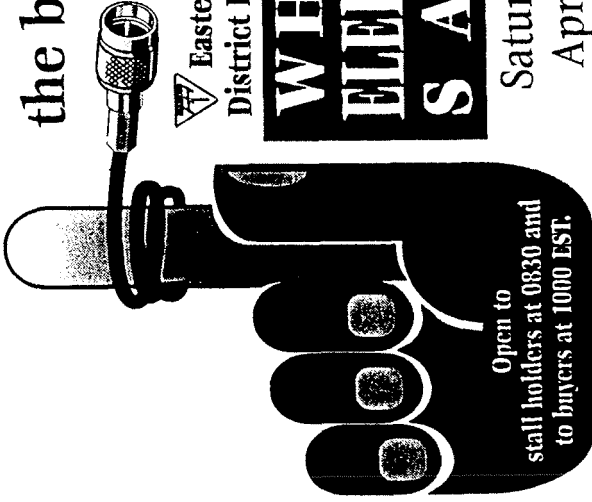
SOFT DRINKS ALSO AVAILABLE



Insert to Amateur Radio
 March 1995 Vol 63 No 3



I don't forget the bigger & better



Open to
 stall holders at 0830 and
 to buyers at 1000 EST.

**Eastern & Mountain
 District Radio Club Inc.**

WHITTE ELEPHANT SALE

Saturday 8th
 April 1995

at Box Hill Secondary
 College

Corner Middleborough Road /
 Maroonah Highway
 (Midway map 48 G10)
 1 minute from Laburnum
 Railway Station

**COMMERCIAL DISPLAYS
 COMPONENTS BY THE HUNDRED
 PRE-LOVED BLACK BOXES AND
 TEST GEAR
 WORKING DEMONSTRATIONS
 COMPUTERS AND SOFTWARE
 DOOR PRIZES**

Selling space: \$15.00 per table (includes entry fee for one person)
 (Phone 873 2459 for reservations)
 Tea, coffee, cool drinks and hot dogs on sale
 Entry fee: \$3.00/head

CAR RALLY

Ready, Set, well, almost Go. After a slight mix up with the starting time the six intrepid car rally crews set off at 5 minute intervals to follow the clue sheets supplied by Peter and Pat Pavey's son, Peter, and his wife Margaret. The whole idea of the exercise was to work your way through these cryptic clue sheets following the "not so straight forward" directions while finding the answers to some very puzzling questions. Points for correct responses together with bonus points along the way gave each car rally crew their final score. If all else failed there was an emergency envelope with a map to the final destination but opening this envelope resulted in heavy penalties on your final score as 3 of the 6 crews found out.

We began by heading south-east along the Princes Highway out of Dandenong. At Hallam we veered left and the first of the distress signals started coming over the radio. "Where on earth are we?" "I'm lost!" After counting horse sheds, finding out landscape gardener's phone numbers and recalling who invented the aqualung, we were then driving down Jacques Road (Jacques Cousteau in case you didn't know either) and heading towards Harkaway.

This lovely little hamlet in the hills was the undoing of many crews. Whether to turn left or right at a roundabout was the reason for many deletable expletives over the radio and some marital strain! It was a directional clue that was "bound to be missed!" (in joke). If lucky enough to work it out or be told by the organisers that left was the way to go, you could then proceed toward Emerald. By now, however, 50% of the starters had resorted to "the envelope". After a few more clues and bonus point opportunities the rally concluded at Bobs Park, a picturesque picnic and BBQ spot on Aura Vale lake.

While lunches were being prepared and consumed Peter and Margaret were tallying up the scores. A result was quickly reached with Ian, Dianne, Ross and Hal being announced the winners. A fun day was had by all and congratulations to Peter and Margaret Pavey for the time and effort they put in to making it a great rally.

There has, however, been some disturbing comments heard about swapping partners next time. A little bit of patience and a lot of lateral thinking was certainly required. Hopefully we will see more participants in future car rallies as a great time was certainly had by all.

Cathie



Margaret, Dianne and Ian VK3BUF, winners of the Car Rally

WANT TO FINISH YOUR RT85 TRANSCEIVER PROJECT?

Club members who are building up their six metre transceiver projects may wish to avail themselves for the tune up service at Ian VK3BUF's place. Just bring your rig, the control head and your notes. It usually takes about an hour to an hour and a half to get them going after the soldering has been done. Ring 776 5000 to work out a time, most evenings after 7:30 pm are ok. (Unless the 'Simpsons' are on)

Join the ever increasing group that is listening out on our repeater, VK3RDD near Emerald.

OUR AIM IS TO GET YOU ON THE AIR!

HF BANDS or DX and ALL THAT PROPOGATION SYNOPSIS FOR MARCH

U.K. SHORT PATH. 160-17 MTRS DOWN ON FEB. TRY 20 MTRS 0600-1000 UTC.

U.K. LONG PATH. 40-17 MTRS POOR CONDX. BEST BET 20 MTRS 0800-1000 UTC.

SOUTH AMERICA. 160-15 MTRS LITTLE CHANGE. 160-30 MTRS 0800 UTC. 20-15 0000-0800.

WEST INDIES. 160-15 MTRS CONDX UP A TAD. 160-30 MTRS 0800 + - 20 MTRS 1300-1500 0400-0800.

JAPAN. 160-10 MTRS DOWN SLIGHTLY JUST TUNE UP THROUGH THE BANDS THERE IS BOUND TO BE ONE ON SOMEWHERE.

CENTRAL EUROPE. 160-15 MTRS DOWN A TAD 160-30 MTRS TRY 1600-2000 UTC. 20-15 MTRS TRY 0600-0800 UTC.

NORTH AFRICA. 160-15 MTRS DOWN A SQUIZ 160-30 MTR TRY 1700-2000 UTC. 20 MTR 1000-1700 UTC, 17 & 15 MTR 0500-1000 UTC.

SOUTH AFRICA. 160-15 MTRS UP SLIGHTLY 160-30 MTR 1600-2200 UTC. BEST BET 20 MTRS 0300-1200 UTC, 17 & 15 MTR 0500-1100 UTC.

WEST AFRICA. BEST SEND A LETTER OR CARRIER PIDEON (OR PACKET?) IF YOU MUST TRY HF RADIO: **SHORT PATH** 20 & 17 MTRS 0000-0200. 0600-1000 AND 2200-2400 UTC. **LONG PATH** 20 & 17 MTRS (15 IF YOU FEEL VERY LUCKY). BEST OF POOR SHOW 20 MTRS 0000-0500, 0700-1100. 1900-2200 UTC.

DONT FORGET THE ACTIVITY AT THE LOW END OF EACH BAND.

DX NEWS

4U50UN ACTIVE ALL YEAR TO CELEBRATE 50th YEAR OF FORMATION OF UNITED NATIONS ORGINIZATION. QSLs VIA W8CZN or WB8LFO.

VATICAN CITY HV3SJ MARCH QSLs TO I0DUD.

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES (CURACAO) LOOK FOR CALL PJ9JT WILL BE ACTIVE UNTILL MID APRIL. WORKING ALL BANDS AND ALL MODES. NOVICE CHECK OUT 10/15 MTRS QSL VIA WIAX.

4E7 WHERE IS THAT ? AS FROM JANUARY 195 THIS PREFIX WILL BE ISSUED BY PHILIPPIANS AUTHORITIES. 4F HAS BEEN IN USE THRER FOR SOME TIME AND OF COURSE DU.

CHOICE ONE.

8Q7XO ON MALDIVE ISLANDS ACTIVATED BY DL7UTM MARCH AND APRIL .

OTHER INTERESTING CALL SIGNS TO LISTEN OUT FOR, 9Q5IY, 9X5EE, 7S30WG, ST2AA.

Good Hunting Peter VK3VB.

GENERAL MEETING 17 FEBRUARY 1995

Meeting Commenced 20.30

Chairman: Albert, 3BQO.

Minuter Taker: David, 3XMF.

Present: As per attendance sheet.

Visitors: Brenda VK3KT, Jackie of 3KRE

Apologies: 3HR

Correspondence: WANSARC, FAMPARC, AR, EMDRC, Cranbourne Girl Guides Jota attendance letter.

Treasurers Report:

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Read: 3KCW | Moved: 3ARV | Sec: 3KCS | Carried: Yes |
| Income: 285.95 | Expenditure: 588.99 | Balance: 3612.57 | |

Previous Minutes: Circulated in Monthly Magazine.

| | | | |
|------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|
| Read: 3XMF | Moved: 3VRG | Sec: 3KMN | Carried: Yes |
|------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|

New Call Signs: Nil

Business Arising from Previous Minutes:

Questionnaire: 3BQO read the results. More technical content in all club activities was requested by the members.

Car Rally: The members were reminded that this will take place on 18th February 1995.

DF Hunt: This is to be run on 25th March 1995. The antenna upgrade will take place on next practical night - 3rd March.

RT85: 3BQO, 3BUF, 3KCS, have sets working. 3BUF has offered to help with final tune ups. Members agreed that a 6 metre antenna kit is suitable for a practical night project. Interested members were - 3VRG, 3ARV, 3TFA, 3THE, 3KCS, 3VB, 3UGC, 3KPD, 3ZRG, 3XDR.

Club Computer: Equipment is still needed to be donated to make a working PC.

UHF SWR: 3KRE offered a deceased estate unit, as new for about \$100.00. A motion was carried to purchase this.

Australia Day: A great day was had by everyone who went to Werribee Park.

General Business:

Practical Night: A RTTY Colour Computer demonstration is planned for this night. 3KPD will find the AR article for the hands free circuit so as to be available for a future night.

SMA Fee Increases: Copies are available after the meeting of a proforma protest letter for members to send to their local politician..

JV Fax: 3BQO has offered to copy software discs for interested members.

AGM: This is only 2 months away. Members are asked to nominate for all positions. The magazine editor's job is also still to be filled in addition to the committee positions.

Auditor: 3BQO nominated Tom Wilson as auditor for this years accounts. Carried.

Club Rack: Members are asked to donate tools to the club rack kit.

Long Over Award: 3BQO presented this to Doug 3KMN finally ! (Grin).

Club Certificate: Those members still to get their membership certificates to see the secretary

Australia Day 1996: The dates are Friday 26th - Sunday 28th January 1996. The destination is to be Corowa. Bookings for cabins or onsite vans need to be made ASAP.

Kits Available: Members were advised that kits could be constructed on practical nights with assistance available from more experienced operators.

HF Report: 3VB reports that DX is picking up. He asked members to inform him of SSB conditions for the next report.

Guest Speaker: Brenda VK3KT, being the federal coordinator of education for the WIA, spoke about the examination process now and in the future.

Next Meeting: 17th March 1995 **Meeting Closed:** 21.30