

# GATEWAY

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE GIPPSLAND GATE RADIO  
AND ELECTRONICS CLUB inc.

**February 2006**

Incorporation Number A0016893M

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 Clubrooms. Both nights commence at 8:00 PM. **Visitors will be made most welcome.**

President	Andrew Clinkaberry	VK3HFA (5942 5396)
Secretary	Bruno Tonizzo	VK3BFT (9700 4526)
Treasurer	Mike Ide	VK3KTO
Committee Members :	Reg VK3UK, Helmut VK3DHI, Dave VK3XMF Ivan VK3ARV	
Magazine Editor(s):	Andrew VK3HFA, Albert Hubbard VK3BQO	

**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 88.5Hz IRLP Node Number- **6794** (Using **VK3RLP**)

**Call in Frequencies are:** HF on 28.325 MHz, USB VHF on 146.225 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 articles is TWELVE DAYS before each General meeting.**

Please direct magazine correspondence to:

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All other Club correspondence to **P.O. Box 1098, Cranbourne 3977**

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

It costs lots of cents to produce and send each copy of Gateway.

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

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### **Sci Fi Quote(s) of the Month**

If you hide your ignorance no one will hit you and you will never learn." - Ray Bradbury

"Avon's idea of diplomacy is to break someone's leg and offer them a crutch afterwards." -- Blake's 7

"Any sufficiently advanced technology is indistinguishable from magic" -- Arthur C Clark

"Any sufficiently reliable magic is indistinguishable from technology" -- Merlin

## President's Ramblings

Technology fascinates me, I don't pretend to understand it all but I am amazed at the continual advances in it.

At the moment I am at work (Harness Racing) and yet I am able to sit and type because of technology, in this case my laptop. If I want to I can ring anywhere in the world from the comfort (or lack of it!) of the front seat of the ambulance. At my fingertips I have radio access, a computer terminal that will tell me my precise location in the world and, most importantly, air conditioning! All technology that it is hard to imagine living without.

Technology is something that our children grow up with. It is something

that Amateur Radio must move with if we hope for the hobby to survive. The Foundation License allowing children access to the hobby can only be seen as a step in the right direction.. We should be encouraging it every chance we get.

In this magazine there is a lot of calls for help. That is WE NEED VOLUNTEERS. It is very easy to leave everything up to the same reliable people but, quite frankly, it's time for a few new people to put their hands up to help. The more volunteers we have the easier it is on each individual club member. Have a think about it. Your contribution, in any form, will be very much appreciated.



**Ten Pin Bowling Day - Cranbourne Bowl**  
**Saturday February 18th**  
**Time advised at General Meeting**  
**Reg VK3UK organising**



## Australia Day

A successful day was held at the Clubrooms on Australia Day. Even though it was quite a hot day it rather pleasant under the tree outside the shack.

Good fellowship, good food and a couple of contacts using the AX call sign all meant that a good time was had by all.

Ivan ARV set up his portable dipole and Helmut DHI was seen tapping away at some foreign implement (OK I must learn that morse thing it might as well have been greek!)

Thanks to everybody that came along and made the day another pleasant experience in the life of the club.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	WHO/WHAT
Friday 17th Feb	General Meeting	Guide Hall 8pm
Saturday 18th Feb	10 Pin Bowling	Cranbourne Bowl - TBA
Monday 27th Feb	Committee Meeting	Club HQ 8pm
Friday March 3rd	Prac Night	Club HQ
Saturday March 4th	Night out	TRIOS Tabaret Cranbourne
Friday March 17th	General Meeting	Guide Hall/ Tentec Demo
Saturday 18th March	Working Bee	Club Shack
Monday 27th March	Committee Meeting	Club HQ
Friday 7th April	Prac Night	Club HQ
Saturday April 8th	Fox Hunt	Philip Island
Easter Friday 14th	El'Dorado Caravan	See Helmut
Friday 21st April	Annual General	Guide Hall 8pm
July 22nd	HAMFEST	Cranbourne Hall
October ?	JOTA	Guide Hall/Club Shack

## Working Bee

On the 18th March we are having a working bee at the club shack. The main aim is to secure/reinforce the poles holding various pieces of antenna in place. At the moment they are a little precarious.

Many hands make light work. Starting time to be advised next month but write it in the diary now.

**Why not listen to the WIA news each week on the VK3RML repeater. It is on Sunday nights at 8pm and Wednesday 11am**

## RFID Access to Clubrooms

Ian VK3BUF will be demonstrating the RFID System at the next general meeting night.

As usual we can expect to be entertained by his sharp wit and exceptional knowledge.

This is an exciting phase in club development and we hope as many members as possible will avail themselves of the opportunity to see how this project was put together and to learn how it works.



## Foundation License

It would be very easy to miss the boat on the Foundation License.

Your committee has decided that we should be looking at providing classes and examinations for prospective Foundation License people. We are looking for expressions of interest for both Train-

ers and Examiners for this important new initiative in Amateur Radio.

One important role of the club is to provide ongoing education. We have done this really well in the past and it is something we need to look at seriously again.

## Young Hams Net...

Via Email

All,  
Given the success of the first Young Hams Net, and the interest being generated I have published a page inside the SRESU website, and a mailing list. Young Hams Net <http://www.sresu.asn.au/?p=yhn-index>

Young Hams Net mailing list [young-hamsnet@sresu.asn.au](mailto:young-hamsnet@sresu.asn.au)

To subscribe to the list, please visit the website and follow the link. If someone would like to give me more information for the page, I'd be happy to put it there.

## 6 Metre dinosaur for sale.....???

Hi my name is Glenn Corrie (VK3UGC), I was a member of the GGREC about 10 years ago and was a part of the original group that built the AWA RT-85's for 6 metres during club prac nights.

I no longer have a need for this radio and I was looking at listing it on eBay, however I thought to offer it for sale back into the GGREC first. Maybe you have a member that is interested?

I successfully finished the mods to my radio and used it for about 2 years until I purchased a 6 metre module for my Kenwood TM-742 triband radio, which I still have today. At the time the radio worked well and was only ever used as a base radio (never installed into vehicle

for mobile use).

Today I connected it to my power supply and can confirm that it operates and all of the operational functions and audio circuits etc work fine. However I don't have a 6 Metre antenna on my tower to be able to test the tx/rx on the radio. I have some of the modification doc's however you guys probably have better access to them than me!

VK3UGC  
Narre Warren, Victoria

*Editors Note : At the time of writing, This radio has been offered on Ebay, I am not sure whether it was sold or not. The starting price was \$99.*

### WANTED: BATTERY INFO

I am looking for a button cell battery: A640PX 1.5V 350 mAh alkaline battery. I cannot find it either on the Dick Smith or Jaycar websites, not even on eBay. This replaced the no-longer-available E640 mercury battery. Surely, some store must retail this battery, it might go under a new kind of type number. The dimensions of this battery are, Dia. 16mm x Height 11.2mm. Used in the ultra-miniature Standard brand brand name transistor radios in the mid-1960s. Thank you. Please contact John L WICKHAM [jlwickham@optusnet.com.au](mailto:jlwickham@optusnet.com.au)

**Please leave the circuit breakers on in the club shack and turn the power off at the Master Switch near the toilet door. This way the fridge stays on!!!!!!**

Hamfest 2206 planning has started with the committee making sure the basics are covered. Please we need YOUR help to make it successful, if you can do anything let one of the committee know.....

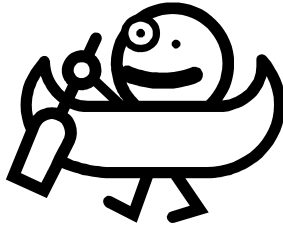
## UP the Creek with a paddle.....

### Red Cross Murray River Canoe Marathon 2005 (Graeme VK3BXG)

The week Christmas-New Year was the thirty-seventh Murray River Canoe Marathon and the fourth that I have done over seven years in assisting Wicen with the radio communications.

As past marathon participants will attest, there are many official groups and individuals other than competitors whose voluntary services contribute to a smooth running and safe event although to the untrained eye it may look like organized chaos.

Firstly, the whole event is coordinated by the Red Cross and all competitors and all volunteers are registered by them through them, even Wicen. However, in the field, they primarily look after health, hygiene and first aid and camp layout and can be quickly identified as they are the ones who wear the red shirts. Those wearing the blue shirts manage traffic movement and parking in the field whilst those in yellow shirts which includes the Land Rovers Club of Victoria (LROC), the Royal Volunteer Coastal Patrol and Wicen look after recording, safety and communications. (Apologies if I have missed anyone).



The first two nights we camped at the football ground in Tocumwal just over the border in NSW. The day starts at 5am with a mobile public address driving around the oval playing Cat Stevens' "Morning has Broken" followed by a few instructions for the day. Day 1 the event as always starts from Yarrawonga. Ahead of the first canoes and on each day is a Coastal Patrol (screen) Boat which closes the river to all other river traffic and it always remains just ahead of the first canoe.

The first canoes are away at 7am. The starters gun is an antique muzzle loaded percussion-cap fired black powder shotgun (without the shot) and when it goes off it not only gets the canoeists going but leaves all the spectator's dogs barking, toddlers screaming and clears the gahls for miles. By 9am the first day there were over 220 canoes (all Kayaks this year) on the water and by the end of the day, with relay and half starters over 600 competitors had participated and all heading for the day 1 finish at Tocumwal. By the end of each day there maybe six to eight hours between the first and last canoe.. *(there is a lot more to this story, we will continue the journey next month Ed.)*

### Quote of the day :

Never fight an inanimate object. .... P.J Rourke

## Who wants to get old???

### WHAT IS A GRANDPARENT?

(taken from papers written by a class of 8-year-olds)

Grandparents are a lady and a man who have no little children of their own. They like other people's.

A grandfather is a man grandmother.

Grandparents don't have to do anything except be there when we come to see them. They are so old they shouldn't play hard or run. It is good if they drive us to the store and have lots of quarters for us.

When they take us for walks, they slow down past things like pretty leaves and caterpillars.

They show us and talk to us about the color of the flowers and also why we shouldn't step on "cracks."

They don't say, "Hurry up."

Usually grandmothers are fat, but not too fat to tie your shoes.

They wear glasses and funny underwear.

They can take their teeth and gums out.

Grandparents don't have to be smart. They have to answer questions like "why isn't God married?" and "How come dogs chase cats?"

When they read to us, they don't skip. They don't mind if we ask for the same story over again.

Everybody should try to have a grandmother, especially if you don't have television, because they are the only grown ups who like to spend time with us.

They know we should have snack-time before bedtime and they say prayers with us every time, and kiss us even when we've acted bad.

A 6 YEAR OLD WAS ASKED WHERE HIS GRANDMA LIVED. "OH," HE SAID, "SHE LIVES AT THE AIRPORT, AND WHEN WE WANT HER WE JUST GO GET HER. THEN WHEN WE'RE DONE HAVING HER VISIT, WE TAKE HER BACK TO THE AIRPORT"

It's funny when they bend over, you hear gas leaks and they blame their dog."





## Morse Code Thingys.....

Bruno VK3BFT has come up with a great idea for the Guides at JOTA. He proposes, with some help, to construct morse code oscillators and give them to the girls on the day.

One of the things that they catch on to very quickly is morse and they have a ball using it so Bruno thought we should encourage it.

The committee thought it was an excellent idea and something we could put together on a prac night.

What we are looking for is a good design (something that can be easily put together) and something that is easy to use.

If you have such a design we would love to hear from you.

Another thing that was mentioned was a crystal radio. Maybe we could provide a kit for the kids to put together?

Whilst on the subject of JOTA we need somebody to take responsibility for the organisation of the day. Any volunteers?



## Position(s) Vacant....

Just a bit of advance warning about the upcoming general elections in April.

One of the requirements of any club, such as ours, is to have a good group doing the organising. We have been very fortunate over the years in having such a group.

Most of the current committee is willing to re-stand again this year. However, I have decided that one year as president is enough given the lack of time I have had over the last 12 months due to one thing or another. The others on the committee have done a great job in keeping

the place ticking over. In fact I will not be standing for any committee position this year, it's time to have a bit of a break. I will continue to do the magazine for 12 months and then it will be somebody else's turn.

So what we need is **volunteers!!!** It would be good to actually have an election because that indicates a healthy club.

New ideas, new energy, and new direction should all be aims of the next committee.

Think about it.

## Meeting Minutes

### General Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 20<sup>th</sup> January 2006

**Start time:** 08:00 PM.

**Location:** Guide Hall Cranbourne.

**Chairperson:** Andrew Clinkaberry VK3HFA

**Minute Taker:** Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT

**Present:** As per attendance sheet.

**Visitors and Guests:** Noel VK3CJJ & Barry VK3NJB

**Apologies:** Colin & Bobbie Bishop, Dave Campbell, Russ White, Max Hill, Judy Robertson.

### Correspondence Received:

Email correspondence from:

Amateur Radio Victoria, introducing a new special activity operating certificate – “WAFFLE” the Welcome Aussie Foundation Licensees.

MDRC, advising us that the trip to Sorrento for the 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan has been postponed.

Bill Connelly, advising us that there is a Young Hams Net proposed for the 18<sup>th</sup> Jan 2006.

WIA, advertising a vacancy for a full time employee to replace Emma.

Glenn Corrie VK3UGG, advertising a RT85 for sale to Club members.

Alex Philip, requesting assistance to fix a FM92 transceiver in the Moe area.

### Correspondence Sent:

Letter to CCIS outlining the contact details of GGREC for the City of Casey information magazine.

**Treasurer’s Report:** As tabled.

**Read by:** Mike Ide, VK3KTO **Moved by:** Mike Ide, VK3KTO **Seconded by:**

Helmut VK3DHI

**Carried:** Yes

**New Call signs - Nil**

**Previous Minutes:** As printed in the January 2006 GATEWAY magazine.

**Read by:** Andrew Clinkaberry VK3HFA **Moved by:** Reg Goddard VK3UK **Sec-**

**onded by:** Albert Hubbard VK3BQO **Carried:** Yes

### Business Arising from Previous Minutes:

Ian Jackson will be installing the RF ID access system in the shack in the next two weeks.

We will start will limited access for committee members only until the bugs are sorted out.

*(Continued on page 11)*

*(Continued from page 10)*

Reg Goddard is opening up the shack every Thursday between 10:00am and 3:00pm weekly. Members are encouraged to come along and use the Club radio facilities. Limerick Competition to be printed in the February Magazine.

IRLP repeater – Albert is to courier the replacement repeater to Andy Beal's for programming.

Christmas Party at Andrew & Angela's house went very well.

Australia Day BBQ will be held at the Club shack. We will be activating the AX3BJA callsign on this day.

Members to note that both Graeme Wheatley & Reg Goddard are disposing of radio equipment.

### **New Business:**

Peter Pavey spoke to the Club members about conversations that he has heard on 146.225MHz bagging the Foundation License. Peter reviewed the criteria for the Foundation License and noted that conversations on 146.225MHz can be heard well into the country areas.

Paul Stubbs donated an isolation transformer to GGREC. Members need to understand how to use this life saving device.

Committee members have reviewed the remaining antennas at Ian Jackson's place and will be advertising any items that will not be retained by GGREC.

Ian Jackson proposed a Club outing to a park at Cannibal Hill near Tynong in Gippsland. There are BBQs and walking tracks at the park and it would be an ideal spot for portable radio operations. He suggested that April would be a good time to go there.

Tentative date for the Fox Hunt will be the 8<sup>th</sup> of April 2006.

Easter at Eldorado Caravan Park. See Helmut for details.

This month's raffle prizes is a slab of beer donated by the Pavey's. See Reg for tickets. Batteries are also for sale tonight.

Steve & Maria Harding gave their apologies for not being able to come to next month's meeting.

Tonight's entertainment is a video presented by Mike Ide.

**Meeting Closed** at around 8:45 PM.

Next Committee Meeting: Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2006, at the Club Rooms starting at 8:00pm.

Next Prac Night: Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2006.

Next General Meeting: Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Feb 2006.

GGREC  
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