

# GATEWAY

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

**April 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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Phone: **5942 5396** or email **[clinks@dcsi.net.au](mailto:clinks@dcsi.net.au)**

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.

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

"Your weapons are no match for ours! People of Mars, surrender!"

"Um, this isn't Mars. This is Earth."

"Earth? Earth-with-nuclear-weapons Earth?"

"Yes." [long pause] "Friend!" - Unknown

"The earth? Oh the earth will be gone in a few seconds...I'm going to blow it up. It's obstructing my view of Venus." - Marvin the Martian

## President's Ramblings

Hi everyone,

This is my last ramble as President. In a way it's kind of a relief because I have not been around as much as I would have liked to this year due to one thing or another. Luckily there are some excellent people on the committee that have jumped in and filled the hole as required. We are indeed lucky to have such dedicated people around the place.

I would like to particularly thank Bruno for his outstanding work, once again, as secretary. Bruno is also not standing for the committee this year and is scaling back all the things he has been taking care of (such as JOTA). His input will be missed but it is time for somebody else to stand up

and have a go! So we need a new president and a new secretary at the Annual General Meeting coming up. WHY NOT YOU????

On a sad note the passing of Colin Bishop VK3HR recently will mean we are missing one of our favourite people at future meetings. Colin was indeed a friend to all as shown by the turnout of club members at his funeral last week. Our thoughts are with Bobbie and family at this time.

Thanks everyone for your input into another successful year for the club. DO consider standing for the committee, we need new ideas.

Cheers, Andrew VK3HFA

## Silent Key - Colin Bishop VK3HR

Colin Bishop VK3HR passed away recently after a battle with illness.

Colin was one of those sort of people that was loved by everybody and always had a smile on his face. It was always a pleasure to see Colin and his wife, Bobbie, at club meetings and Colin always had that cheeky grin about something or another.

Colin had many great friends at GGREC as witnessed by the respect paid to him at his recent funeral, which was indeed a celebration of his life.

We will miss him and his warmth. Rest in peace, Colin.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

DATE	EVENT	WHO/WHAT
Easter Friday 14th	El'Dorado Caravan	See Helmut
Friday 21st April	Annual General	Guide Hall 8pm
Monday 24th April	Committee Meeting	Handover at Club HQ
Friday May 5th	Prac Night	Cub HQ
Friday May 19th	Auction Night	Guide Hall 8pm
July 22nd	HAMFEST	Cranbourne Hall
October ?	JOTA	Guide Hall/Club Shack

**HELP  
WANTED**

A new club president (OK we might have a volunteer for that one!), a new club secretary and, new committee members. Don't leave it to others, have a go!!!

Thanks to everyone for their kind thoughts on the passing of Angela's mum.

### The Philips PRM8040 project



PRM8040 Series

The radios will be ready for pickup at the Annual General Meeting so bring your cash with you. As it stands at the moment you will be able to purchase your nominated amount of radios although this has the potential to change.

It would appear that all the radios will be sold to club members. Cheap radios and the club makes a bit of money, not a bad deal. Thanks to Adam MOC for putting us on to them, and to Paul TGX for doing all the re-programming.

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

# Many rivers to cross ...so little time!

## Haunted Stream 4wd Trip

On the first few days in April a number of Club members set forth on a four wheel drive trip to the Haunted Stream area, East of Dargo. The trip was over a 5 day period the group of 13 people in 7 vehicles that covered some of the most scenic country Victoria has to offer. Included with the group was Graeme VK3BXG, Andrew VK3HJK David VK3XMF, Ian VK3BUF & Eric & Hal Jackson, , Jim VK3UFO & son Chris, Ivan VK3ARV, Helmut VK3DHI and Geoff VK3HGG.

Haunted stream was the centre of attention in the region for gold mining during the 1880's

A sked on 80M was held each night with Dianne VK3JDI and Mike VK3KTO popping up. The track that travels the Haunted Stream crosses the river some 55 times in a 16km stretch, which made for some entertaining travel. The trip was a great success and a good time was had by all.



Would you pick up this masked man??? VK3HGG



Rubber duckie, rubber duckie....we have ourselves a convoy!!!!



Not that way Ivan.....there's a big .....oops!



What goes up....must come down again!



## A night to remember ... by Dianne Jackson

Last month, Ian and I hosted a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dinner for Ian's parents, Pauline and Eric. Ten people descended upon us from Brisbane,

Corowa, Mohyu, Phillip Island and Frankston. We accommodated nine people over night.

Planning for the dinner started way back in December, with the suggestion that we had plenty of room for a party.

We purchased new trestle tables, borrowed some red table covers, improvised a large Lazy Susan for the centre of the table and re arranged all our kitchen and office chairs.

In order to minimize my own efforts, we decided to have the party catered. Our

local Chinese restaurant came to the rescue with a delicious, three course banquet.



Pauline and Eric still have enough energy to cut a cake.....

The table was decorated in red and gold, with serviettes shaped into lotus flowers and chocolate hearts wrapped in gold foil, in the centre. Small gold heart shaped confetti was strewn across the table for a final finishing touch.

To make the whole occasion a little bit more special, we all got dressed up in our most spectacular frocks.

Eric gave a heartfelt speech and then we all sat down to a fantastic meal, a very tasty anniversary cake and both Pauline and Eric finished the night with some ballroom dancing.

## Bugger.....

There were some errors/omissions/stuff ups on the recent club listing, please amend your copy now :

1. Helmut Inhoven DHI's email address is [hinhoven@optusnet.com.au](mailto:hinhoven@optusnet.com.au)
2. Russ White MWR's postal address is PO Box 399 Pakenham, email is [russishere\\_4@hotmail.com](mailto:russishere_4@hotmail.com), phone is 5941 5916
3. John Wickham VK3ZK : surname is Wickham, phone is 5996 6441, email is [jlwickham@optusnet.com.au](mailto:jlwickham@optusnet.com.au)
4. Andy Beales email in Queensland is [adbeales@powerup.com.au](mailto:adbeales@powerup.com.au)
5. Kerry Clayton email is [klclayto@vic.chariot.net.au](mailto:klclayto@vic.chariot.net.au)

## Need to learn more about radio?

Fred Swainston's New updated "Radio Theory Handbook" will be available very shortly.

The book has been printed and arrangements for distribution are being made.

So when your Foundation licensees are asking what's next .... ? Or if you are a standard licensee and want to upgrade to Advanced status and take advantage of bands like 30m then Fred's book is for you.

Radio Theory Handbook has always been the choice of texts for

FAMPARC Classes and I thoroughly recommend this book for all people wishing to obtain their Standard or Advanced Amateur Operators Certificate of Proficiency



When more information on the book comes to hand i.e. "Where to get it" I will send it

**Peter Willmott VK3TQ**  
Class Co-Ordinator FAMPARC

## Hamfest - Moorabbin Saturday - May 19th

The Moorabbin & District Radio Club have much pleasure in inviting you to participate in  
VK3's BIGGEST ANNUAL HAMFEST  
Snacks and hot food will be available.

**ENTRY ONLY \$6.00**

**Location - BRENTWOOD SECONDARY COLLEGE**

Watsons Road, Glen Waverley.

Melways Reference 71 D7 (Enter via Heath Street.)

(Doors Open 10am - entry tickets on sale prior)

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

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

*Day 2 finished in the Millewa State forest about 8Km south of Moroco West on the NSW side of the border and that afternoon we all moved camp to Echuca to the football oval.*

Day 3, and after "Morning has Broken" I went back and rested for a couple more hours because I was on HQ (VK3AWI) for the day – plenty of help, it was already set up and all I had to do was walk about twenty meters from my tent.



Snoresville...Murray River

Today the course for the canoeists was from Picnic Point, (about 10 Km east of Mathoura) to Echuca and all went well. With three of us and sometime four at 'AWI we were able to swap around HF VHF and even take time out. But unlike other check points 'AWI stays on all day and unlike the other check points which are closed when the Water Safety Officer boat is approaching the next checkpoint down stream, 'AWI must stay on until the last person has returned to camp.

Day4-"Morning has Broken" failed to play – vandals got in during the night and cut the cables! Some in Wicen nevertheless had set alarm clocks and alerted others so relatively soon every-

one was ready. Day 4 for me was at "Start" Echuca not far from our camp site and HQ so 2mx was more than adequate and also gave good coverage to Alpha and again with Cherrie as my runner (despite her blistered feet) there was little to do for a while but to sit by the river and have muesli for breakfast and watch the start.

For the canoeists Day 4 is a short day finishing at Torrumbarry with only three land check points A,B, and C for the day. Meanwhile the camp moves from

Echuca to Cohuna and during the course of the day so does 'AWI and sets up on the football oval there. The day is getting hotter and by early afternoon we measure 43C and 8% humidity in the shade of our gazebo. Later that afternoon we lost another YL to the heat and she ended up in hospital.

Communications from 'AWI Cohuna back to the finish at Torrumbarry has always been notoriously difficult but this year we had the luxury of a 2mx repeater at Torrumbarry and this proved to be a beneficial alternative to all check points on Day 4. Day 4 ended when Wicen came to the rescue and soldered up the cut cables for the public address van.

*There is more for next month,.....Ed.*



## 2 Metre Radios

### The Philips PRM8040 project

Well I think I have all but finished programming the Philips PRM8040's

Here are a few "notes" about them.

When they are turned on, they look at their configuration, and if the head has been swapped, re-programmed etc, the head will come up saying it is "updating radio". This will take about 30 seconds, this should not re-occur unless changes are made.

Some of the first radio's I programmed were not "tested" with the head they ended up with, so you should see this once only.

The odd radio when first powered up will also think it has had some "calls", just press the "que" button, and then you should see an option to erase these "calls". The radios have the ability to sel-call each other, so that when you return to the car etc, you will see a message saying you have been called. I have not programmed in this option.

The heads have a "memory key" slot in them, this is a propriety Philips thing, they have been priced at \$30 – Probably not worth worrying about.

Many of the radio's had been modified with an extra connector hang-

ing out on a length of speaker wire from a notch that had been "melted" (butchered) into the case, this connector is a white 2 pin unit, identical to the one's used for the speaker, after hearing a "not very smart" comment from a club member, I started removing this mod before someone blew up their radio. There is probably the odd one in the first batch I have not removed. If yours has one, open up the radio and snip it off before the smoke gets out.

These radio's were built in the Philips factory for 12.5KHz channel spacing, and don't really like seeing deviation over 3.5 KHz. Normally a 12.5KHz channel radio will not see anything over 2 KHz, however some amateur sets when pushed can hit 5KHz. The only real cure for this is to change the crystal filter from a 12.5KHz unit to a 25KHz one. – Oh well, what do you expect for \$40. If there is enough interest, we could get a pile of them from HyQ, etc.

Unfortunately I will probably not be at the next club meeting, you can try and give us a call on 7.070MHz, but this will have to be before the meeting as the band tends to die after 9:00, but give it a go anyway – use the bands or lose them.

Paul VK3TGX

## Meeting Minutes

### General Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 17<sup>th</sup> March 2006

**Start time:** 09:15 PM.

**Location:** Guide Hall Cranbourne.

**Chairperson:** Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT

**Minute Taker:** Albert Hubbard VK3BQO

**Present:** As per attendance sheet.

**Visitors and Guests:** Dave TTS Systems & his wife.

**Apologies:** Steve & Maria, Ian & Di Jackson, Bill VK3DOU, Bill, VK3DQS, Colin VK3HR & Bobbie Bishop, Grahame VK3YCG & Susan Brown, Judy Robertson, Graeme Brown VK3BXG.

### Correspondence Received:

Various email enquiries, EMDRC Magazine, MDRC magazine NERG magazine, Receipt from Cranbourne Guides for hall hire.

### Correspondence Sent:

Letter of thanks was sent to Peter Pavey for putting together the two 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary QSL card albums.

### Treasurer's Report:

**Income :** \$120.00 **Expenditure :** \$431.45 **Balance :** \$1463.41 plus \$2368.76

**Read by:** Mike Ide, VK3KTO **Moved by:** Helmut Inhoven, VK3DHI **Seconded by:** Russ White VK3MWR **Carried:** Yes

**New Call signs - Nil**

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

**Read by:** Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT **Moved by:** Russ White VK3MWR

**Seconded by:** Reg Goddard VK3UK **Carried:** Yes

### Business Arising from Previous Minutes:

Mid Year Dinner – Think of a venue please.

2M Radios – Thank must go to Adam VK3MOC for his efforts in letting the Club know about the radios and to Paul Stubbs for programming them.

Thanks went to Peter Pavey for his work in placing all the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary QSL cards into photo albums.

*(Continued on page 11)*

*(Continued from page 10)*

Working Bee tomorrow. Members were asked to come along to help relocate the wire antenna support pole.

Fox Hunt on the 8<sup>th</sup> April is to go ahead.

Albert, VK3BQO is to arrange nominations for the AGM.

### **New Business:**

Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT moved a motion to sell off the surplus building materials from the Club shack. It was seconded by Russ White VK3MWR and was passed unanimously.

Members will be sent their annual membership renewals.

Auction Night in May at the GM for Club members to auction off their unwanted items.

Albert Hubbard spoke about the 70cm Repeater. Testing to start from Albert's home QTH in the next few days.

"Club Licence IDs". The "Club ID" will contain the vital elements of a members Amateur Radio Licence along with the member's photo, in a credit sized laminated card. A nominal fee will be charged as a fund raising initiative. The members were willing to support this scheme.

Dave Campbell mentioned that we need to set up some HF schedules for the 4WD trip later in March.

Tonight's guest speaker is Dave from TTS systems (held before the GM).

**Meeting Closed** at around 10:00 PM.

Next Committee Meeting: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> March 2006, at the Club Rooms starting at 8:00pm.

Next Prac Night: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2006.

Next General Meeting & Annual General Meeting: 21<sup>st</sup> April 2006

Next Committee Meeting: Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2006, at the Club Rooms starting at 8:00pm

**SIGN UP**



**OR  
SHUT UP**

**WANTED URGENTLY  
I X JOTA REPRESENTATIVE  
SEVERAL X HAMFEST VOLUNTEERS  
1000'S OF ARTICLES FOR THIS MAGAZINE**

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