

GATEWAY



THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF
THE GIPPSLAND GATE RADIO
AND ELECTRONICS CLUB INC

MAY 1999

Gippsland Gate Radio and Electronics Club Inc.

Club Meetings are held on the third Friday of each month
at the Cranbourne Girl Guide Hall in Grant Street.

The meetings commence at 8:00 PM.

Visitors are most welcome.

Committee Members 1999/2000

President	Bruno Tonizzo	VK3BFT
Secretary	Dave Campbell	VK3XMF
Treasurer	Mike Ide	VK3KTO
Committee member	Albret Hubbard	VK3BQO
Committee member	Graeme Wheatley	VK3XTA
Magazine Editor & Printing and Dispatch	Dianne Jackson	VK3HDI Ph. (03) 9776 5000

Club Station VK3BJA Located at the Guide Hall

Club Repeater VK3RDD Freq. in 52.575, out 53.575 Mhz

Call in Freqs. are HF on 28.325 Mhz, USB

VHF on 146.225 Mhz, FM and UHF on 438.850 Mhz, FM

Visit our internet site at:

<http://avoca.vicnet.net.au/~ggrec/>

Current GGREC Inc Membership Fee Schedule

Full Member \$30.00, Pensioner Member \$15.00

Junior Member \$15.00, Extra Family Member \$10.00

Fees due after each April Annual General Meeting.

**The deadline for submitting Gateway articles is EIGHT DAYS
before each General Meeting.**

Please direct magazine correspondence to 105 Franciscan ave Frankston 3199
or E mail ijackson@netspace.net.au or Fax: 9776 5451

All other Club correspondence to PO BOX 1098 Cranbourne 3977

Presidents Message

Hello, and welcome to the MAY edition of GATEWAY, and my maiden Presidents Report.

I thought writing this report was going to be the most difficult part about being President but after getting involved in the wide range of activities offered by the club I may have to cut it short before I go on for too many pages.

On Wednesday I visited the Morse and Theory classes held at the Cranbourne swimming centre. There, in deep concentration were two groups of students focused on interpreting the dots and dashes being tapped out by Peter and Pat Pavey. After half an hour of practice, the seats are re-arranged and Ian Jackson lead the class through an hour and a half of Theory. What I observed was the essence of what being an amateur is all about. Being an asset to the community, helping others achieve their goal of becoming an amateur.

The Prac Night revealed the hidden interest that some club members have in old video equipment and cameras. There was a variety of video equipment being demonstrated that could be used to set up production house !

Guest Speaker for May's General Meeting will be Bruce Kidgell, VK3BMK. Bruce will talk to us about his "Suitcase Radio" that was used during the second world war to communicate vital intelligence back to Britain.

With 1999 zooming along at a great rate of knots, JOTA and the White Elephant sale will soon be upon us. Graeme Wheatley and I will be coordinating the club effort this year to provide an excellent JOTA for the Girl Guides. The White Elephant day is scheduled for the 17th of July, so start polishing your disposal items , ready for sale !

Dave Campbell has nominated for the Secretaries position, which will be put to the vote at the General Meeting. Thanks Dave.

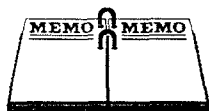
Don't forget to fill in your application forms for the Inwards QSL Bureau, I will have a quantity of forms at the GM.

Lastly, I wish to thank the outgoing committee members, Peter & Pat Pavey, Ivan Blezzard, Mike Ide, and Reg Goddard for providing an exciting year of activities for the club over the last 12 months. Mike Ide will be continuing as Treasurer and will be joined by new committee members, Albert Hubbard, Graeme Wheatley and myself to provide a variety of events for all club members to enjoy.

Special thanks must go to Dianne Jackson, magazine editor, printer and dispatcher, for producing an excellent publication throughout the last 12 months and for accepting the challenge for another term.

Better end it here for this month,

73's from Bruno VK3BFT



Event Queue

DAY	DATE	TIME	DETAILS
Fri	21/05/99	8.15pm	General meeting followed by a Talk from Bruce Kidgell VK3BMK
Sat	22/05/99	12noon	Oasis Swimming Center in Dandenong
Thur	27/05/99	10.am	Daytime meeting at the Guide Hall
Fri	04/06/99	8pm	Prac night at guide hall
Sat	19/06/99	6.30pm	Annual Winter Dinner BYO everything
Fri	18/06/99	8pm	General meeting
Fri	02/07/99	8pm	Prac night at guide hall
Sat	03/07/99		Exams held at Tooradin
Sat	10/07/99	9. am	Working bee at guide hall
Fri	16/07/99	8pm	General meeting
Sat	17/07/99		White elephant sale



Gory Details ...

NOTE EARLY MEETING START TIMES.

The Hall will be open this Friday Night at 8:00pm, with the meeting commencing at 8:15pm. **Don't Be Late!**

OASIS SWIMMING CENTER

Saturday 22nd of May. At the Oasis swimming center in Dandenong, there is a lap pool, a fun pool, a toddlers pool, a spa and sauna, and all of the pools are heated. Meet at the Oasis Swim Center at 12 noon, Cleeland Street Dandenong. Adults: \$3.50, Child and Concession: \$3.00, Family: \$10.00 and Spectators \$1.00. After a good swim we can enjoy a late lunch, either at the swim center or wherever else we decide to go.

EXAMS

The next Amateur Radio exam will be held on the **3rd of July**. It will be conducted by Peter and Pat Pavey at their house, 6 Bayview rd Tooradin. If you are interested in sitting this exam for AOC, NAOCP or Morse, then your application form must be in by the 20th of June. Exam application forms are available from Peter Pavey at the Club meetings.

DAY TIME MEETINGS

The GGREC are now holding **monthly** Day time meetings, these will be held on **every 4th Thursday** of the month, from **10am to 12noon**. Our Next Day time meeting will be held at the Guide Hall on **Thursday the 27th of May**. **Everyone is welcome**, (including partners), to come along and have a cup of tea or coffee, and enjoy some pleasant conversation with friends and fellow radio enthusiasts. See you there.

WHITE ELEPHANT SALE

This years White Elephant sale will be held on **Saturday the 17th of July**. If you are interested in booking a table to sell your goods or if you would like to sell your things on the Club table, please contact Reg VK3UK on 9547 9659. The price per table is \$15.00, or \$8.00 for a half table. Further details in next issue of Gateway.

WORKING BEE

There will be a working bee **starting at 9am** at the guide hall on **Saturday the 10th of July**. We will be cleaning up the back garden, so that we can use this space for our White elephant sale. You will need to bring your gardening tools, gloves, and a lawn mower would be handy. Remember that, many hands make light work, so if we all help out we should be finished before lunch.

TALK at MAY MEETING

At the May Meeting, Bruce Kidgell VK3BMK will be giving a talk about his radio in a suitcase.

ANNUAL WINTER DINNER

Saturday the 19th of June. Dinner will be served at 6.30pm. See Add in this issue for details. Any queries please phone Dianne on 9776 5000.

FROM THE EDITOR

I would like to **thank everyone** who has contributed items to the Club magazine. Your help has made my job a lot easier. Please keep sending things in or give them to me at the meetings, and that will ensure that we shall continue to have an interesting magazine every month.



ANNUAL WINTER DINNER

**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN IN
OUR ANNUAL WINTER DINNER.**

SATURDAY the 19th of JUNE

**BRING YOUR DINNER ALONG TO THE GUIDE
HALL (In a casserole dish or suitable container) AND IT
WILL BE PUT ON A TABLE (Smorgasbord style) TO
SHARE WITH THE REST OF THE CLUB MEMBERS.**

**YOU WILL ALSO BE REQUIRED TO BRING YOUR
OWN CUTTLERY AND CROCKERY, as none are available
at the guide hall. Other things to bring along are: Salt and
Pepper, a Serving spoon, some Oven gloves (optional) for
holding hot dishes, and a tea towel for the washing up.**

**THE DINNER WILL BE STARTING AT 6.30pm so YOU
SHOULD BE AT THE HALL BY 6.15pm at the latest.
There is an oven and a microwave in the hall's kitchen so that
we can keep things warm until serving time.**

**If you are willing to bring a desert along as well, please let
me know what you will be bringing, a few days **before the
dinner**, so that we don't end up with six chocolate cakes.**

**FOR FURTHER DETAILS PLEASE
CONTACT DIANNE on 9776 5000**



READ ALL ABOUT IT

If you have been up to any interesting or entertaining since the last meeting, Jot it down and let us read all about it.

DAY TIME MEETING

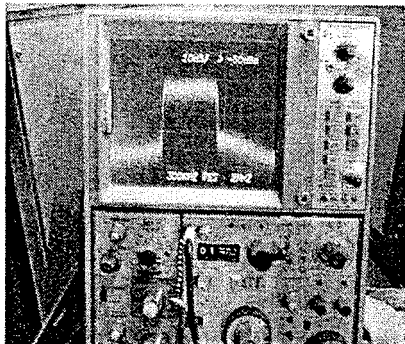
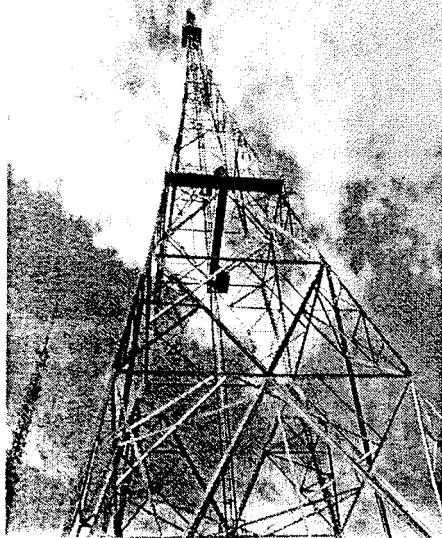
Our first day time meeting on the 22nd of April went very well with about 8 to 10 participants. However, in order to guarantee their success, please bring along as many visitors and friends as you can. This is purely a social meeting, a chance to get together with friends for a cup of coffee and a natter. A small entrance fee will apply to cover hall rental.

FEES

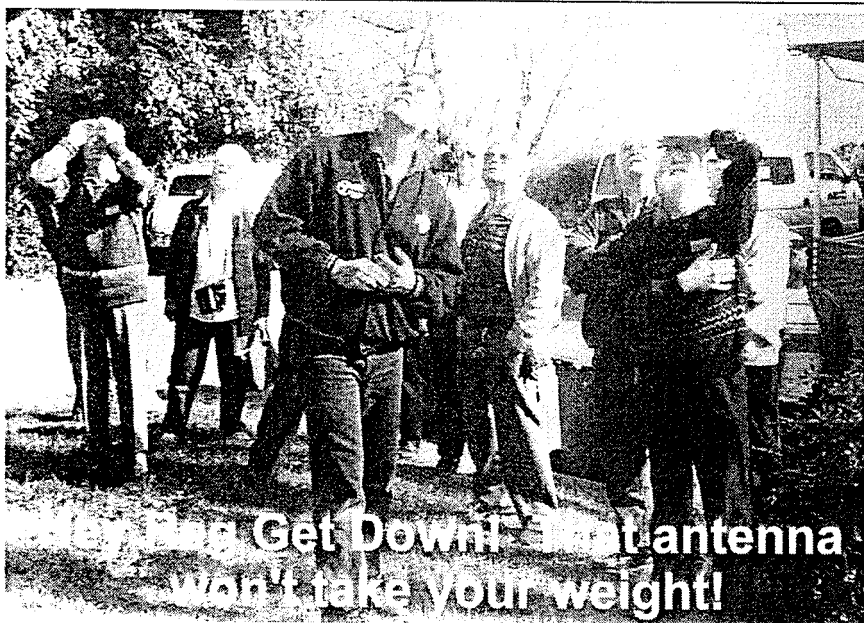
Annual Membership

Fees are NOW DUE, and payable at the next Club Meeting, to the Treasurer, Mike VK3KTO. A Full Membership is \$30.00, Pensioner Member \$15.00, Junior Member \$15.00, and an extra Family member is \$10.00

**The Channel 7
transmitter mast**



**Digital TV composite video
waveform on trial at Channel 7**



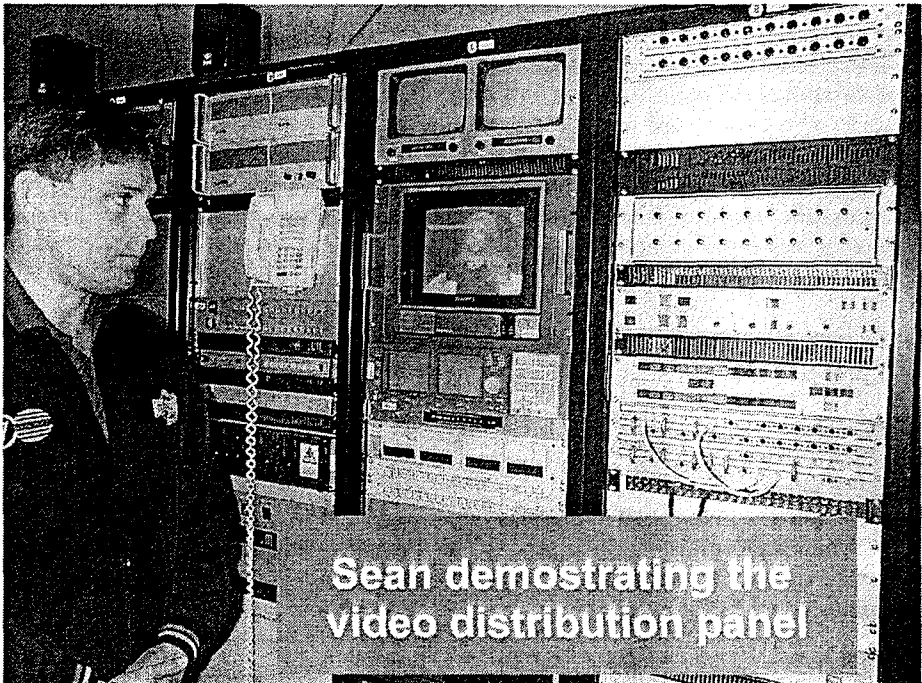
HSV7 TRANSMITTER SITE VISIT

On Thursday morning the 29th of April, a group of around ten Club members visited the HSV7 television transmitter site at the top of Mt. Dandenong . We were met by Sean Senior, one of the technical staff, who had worked with the company for 19 years. Sean spent some time taking us around the installation, We inspected the transmitters, combiners, uplink console, digital TV trial and backup generator plants.

Sean has a novice call for some time but has not yet upgraded to the full license. This would be a mere formality as he also holds a Broadcast Operators certificate (BOCP) which gives him an exemption for the AOCP exam.

The installation has multiple levels of redundancy at every stage, so if there are major or minor interruptions caused by lightning strikes or hardware faults, there would only ever be a few seconds of down time before a backup system returned the signal to air. There is even multiple site redundancy, so that if the tower fell over, or some other really nasty event occurred, the HSV7 signal can be sent from one of the other TV transmitter sites up the mountain.

Many thanks to both Sean and the HSV7 management for allowing us to take a peek at the 'other side' of the screen. It is fair to say that we take for granted that a picture will always divinely appear when we hit the 'go' button on our TV remote, without really thinking about how it actually gets there.



THE DATA SIDE OF RADIO

Please note that information contained within this article may not have been verified and is for interest and assistance only. No responsibility will be accepted for use of this information in any form.

OK so you've got a computer with Windows running on it but do you know how to use its features. It's not easy to find out about the powerful items in Windows; however there are a few. Lets see if I can think of some of them.

EXPLORER. If you don't know what Explorer is then you either haven't had a PC for long or need to play with it more. Anyway did you know that when you drag an item or items to another directory, if you hold down the SHIFT key at the same time, it will force the item to be moved instead of copied. And if you hold down the CTRL key at the same time, it will force the item to be copied instead of moved. If you see the item being dragged with a + sign attached, this means it will be copied. If you see the item being dragged without the + sign attached, it will be moved. Also to select a range of items to be dragged, highlight the first item in the list then move to the last item to be selected and hold down the SHIFT key while clicking on that item. You will now see the whole range of items highlighted. If you don't want one or more of the items selected to be dragged, hold down the CTRL key while clicking on each of the unwanted items and you will see that the others remain highlighted. This works also if you want to select individual items.

Using the WINDOWS key

You can use the following keyboard shortcuts with a Microsoft Natural Keyboard or any other compatible keyboard that includes the Windows logo key .

To	Press
Cycle through buttons on the taskbar	WINDOWS+TAB
Display Find: All Files	WINDOWS+F
Display Find: Computer	CTRL+WINDOWS+F
Display Help	WINDOWS+F1
Display the Run command	WINDOWS+R
Display the Start menu	WINDOWS
Display the System Properties dialog box	WINDOWS+BREAK
Display Windows Explorer	WINDOWS+E
Minimize or restore all windows	WINDOWS+D
Undo minimize all windows	SHIFT+WINDOWS+M

If you want to delete an item immediately without placing it in the Recycle Bin, hold down the SHIFT key then click DELETE.

Switch to another window by holding down ALT while repeatedly pressing TAB.

VIRUS I am sure that anyone who has anything to do with PCs will know at least one person who suffered the 26th April virus. This is probably the most destructive I have heard of. Apparently it destroyed all data hard drives and even destroyed the operating bios contained in reprogrammable "flash" chips on motherboards. I am one of the lucky ones who did not cop this virus but I know of at least 3. I think this highlights the need for a good Antivirus program on all PCs. Even if you don't access the Internet, you still need one as a dormant virus such the one above may be lurking on your system. There are many of these programs and each computer user has his/her preference so it is no use advising one or the other but get a well known name and keep the virus list updated so you don't get got by a late comer. I wish you good luck in this area because sooner or later we all will be had by a virus. Therefore you need (no HAVE TO) back up all important and even unimportant files to a safe place. I am a bit eccentric in this area as I back up to 3 PCs on a network then copy to 2 sets of Zip disks; one set stays in the house and one set is stored in an outside shed in case the house burns down. I don't think I could recover if all my copies were lost or destroyed. Don't get caught out. Back up any file that you spent more than 5 minutes in creating. You will be rewarded one day.

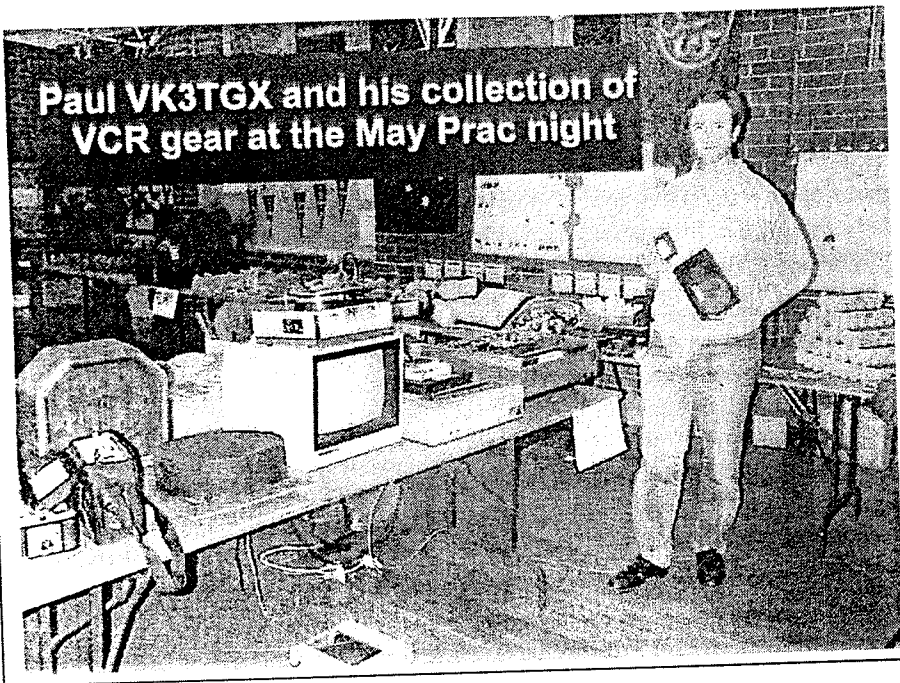
INTERNET If you spend any time on the Net, install ICQ and you will be able to tell if your friends are connected at the same time. Then you can chat to each other, send files etc. This program has become so popular that it is almost part of the operating system now.

FAX Programs There are many around other than the Microsoft offering. I use one called Winfax. Easy to use, has an answering machine built in, you can get your faxes remotely easily and you can send or receive data files as attachments. This makes it a good allrounder

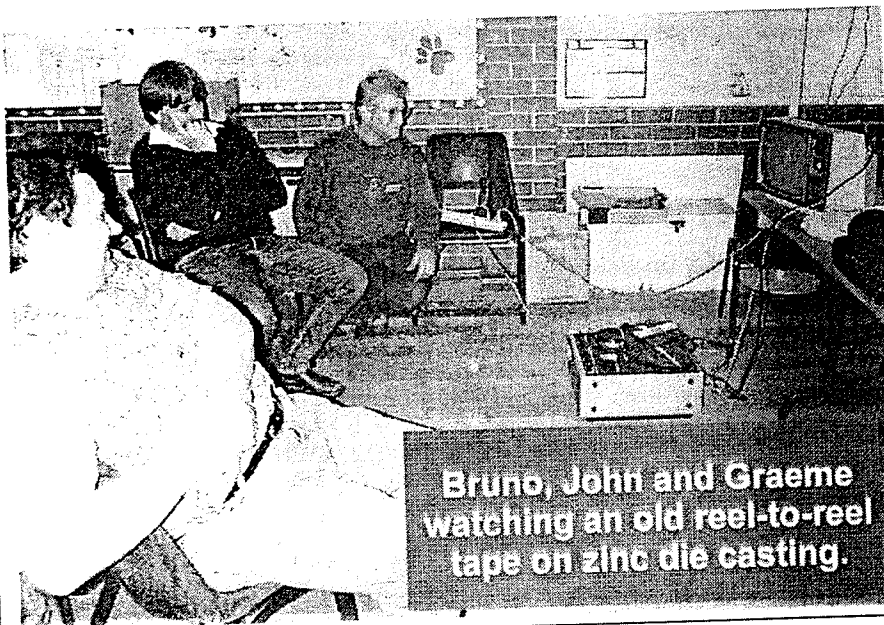
If there is something in this article that needs more information please contact me in person or via email at telplus@sympac.com.au

73.....DE VK3BQO ALBERT

**Paul VK3TGX and his collection of
VCR gear at the May Prac night**



**Bruno, John and Graeme
watching an old reel-to-reel
tape on zinc die casting.**



THE JOKES ON UK

Three octogenarians were discussing the plight of the aged. One said, "I think the worst thing is to lose your hearing. I'm passionately fond of music, but I'm so deaf I can hardly hear a note any more."

The second said, "I think it's dreadful to lose your sight. I'm passionately fond of art, but I'm so blind that I can no longer see the paintings in the gallery."

The third said, "That's nothing compared to my affliction. On my 80th birthday I married a beautiful young wife of 24. Every morning I wake up and there she is lying beside me. I say to her, "Kylie, let's make love" and she says, "But my darling, we just made love ten minutes ago, before you dropped off again." The worst thing that can happen is to lose your memory."

A man heard sounds of great activity in the neighbourhood and walked into his back garden to find out what was causing the noise. It was coming from the garden next door. Curious, he peered over the fence and saw a very large hole was being dug.

He watched for a while and then asked: "What are you doing?" The neighbour paused in his digging and said: "I am burying my cat." "What a shame. Tittles was a lovely little cat. Why the big hole?"

"Because," the neighbour solemnly explained, "he is inside your dog."

These jokes were supplied by Reg VK3UK

Scientists at NASA have developed a gun built specifically to launch dead chickens at the windshields of airliners, military jets, and the space shuttle. All travelling at maximum velocity.

The idea is to simulate the frequent incidents of collisions with airborne fowl to test the strength of the windshields. British engineers heard about the gun and were eager to test it on the windshields of their new high-speed trains.

Arrangements were made. But when the gun was fired, the engineers stood shocked as the chicken hurled out of the barrel, crashed into the shatterproof windshield and smashed it to smithereens, crashed through the control console, snapped the engineer's backrest in two, and embedded itself in the back wall of the cabin.

Horried, the British sent NASA the disastrous results of the experiment, along with the designs of the windshield, and begged the US scientists for suggestions. NASA's response was just one sentence: "Thaw the chicken."

This joke was supplied by Cathy West

Gippsland Gate Radio & Electronics Club

Profit and Loss

April 17, 1998 through to March 31, 1999

Ordinary Income/Expense

Income	
Membership Fees	\$ 1155.00
Small Sales	\$ 742.40
Exam Fees	\$ 280.00
Hamfest Sale Income	\$ 1235.00
AOCP Class Fees	\$ 1450.00
Fund Raising	\$ 142.00

Total Income	\$ 5004.40
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Expense	
Printing & Stationery	\$ 172.07
Postage & Freight	\$ 98.10
Bank & Govmt. Charges	\$ 17.53
Refreshments	\$ 188.04
Rent & Rates	\$ 584.00
Magazine	\$ 126.00
License Fees	\$ 100.00
Examination Expenses	\$ 194.20
Equipment Purchases	\$ 1011.15
WIA Membership	\$ 75.00
Donation	\$ 150.00
Other Expenses	\$ 162.00

Total Expense	\$ 2878.09
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Net Ordinary Income	\$ 2126.31
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Other Income / Expense

Other Income/ Interest Received	\$ 95.39
Other Income	\$ 90.00

Total Other Income	\$ 185.39
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Net Income	\$ 2311.70
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Note cheque no. 117 = \$ 32.00 not presented as at 31/03/99

Audited. J P Wilson 24/04/99.

GGREC ASSETS 30/03/99

1998/1999

IBM PC	\$ 500.00
Soldering Iron	\$ 120.00
Nally Radio Tower	\$ 500.00
TH3 tri band beam	\$ 150.00
UHF TV yagi	\$ 20.00
Jpole antenna	\$ 60.00
Antenna rotator	\$ 100.00
Power supply, 12V , 20A	\$ 100.00
Kenwood 520S HF transceiver	\$ 325.00
Kenwood 2m tx, xtal locked	\$ 100.00
Digital freq. meter 500 Mhz.	\$ 100.00
Revex VHF/UHF SWR bridge	\$ 125.00
RF noise bridge Palomar	\$ 70.00
Capacitance meter	\$ 40.00
6 metre Jpole for 6 metre rpt.	\$ 50.00
Power supply for 6 metre rpt.	\$ 80.00
Rack for 6 metre rpt.	\$ 50.00
Diplexer unit for 6 metre rpt.	\$ 950.00
Tx/Rx for 6 metre rpt.	\$ 180.00
Stock held for small sales, drink coolers etc.	\$ 80.00
White board & stand	\$ 275.00
12' x 24' tent	\$ 100.00
Club coax kit	\$ 140.00
Club equipment rack	\$ 375.00
Desk mic for HF radio	\$ 40.00
TV decoder (VGA to Comp vidio)	\$ 340.00
2x ATV transmitters @ \$400.00	\$ 800.00
70 cm ATV antennas 2/@ \$30.00	\$ 60.00
B&W camera for ATV tx.	\$ 30.00
Hot water Urn	\$ 50.00
Assets purchased this year	
<hr/>	
SSTV KITS held in stock for sale 2@ \$55.00	\$ 110.00
SSTV KIT for club use	\$ 55.00
Portable gas BBQ	\$ 100.00
Crockery	\$ 10.00

TOTAL VALUE OF NON MONETARY ASSETS* \$ 6185.00

INVESTMENT ACCOUNT WITH GIO BLD. SOC. \$ 2500.00

ASSETS IN CBA CHEQUE ACCOUNT & CASH IN HAND
AS AT 31/03/99 AS PER LEDGER \$ 3610.40

TOTAL ASSETS AS AT 31/03/99 \$12295.40

The value of assets are based upon a reasonable estimate by the Treasurer of their redeemable value should they be sold at the present date.

Added 24/4/99 JPH