

GATEWAY



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

AUGUST 2000

Gippsland Gate Radio and Electronics Club Inc.

Incorporation Number A0016893M

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	Andrew Clinkaberry	VK3HFA
Treasurer	Mike Ide	VK3KTO
Committee member	Russell White	VK3MWR
Committee member	Helmut Inhoven	VK3DHI
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

Phone: 9776 5000 or Email ijackson@netspace.net.au or Fax: 9776 5451

All other Club correspondence to PO BOX 1098 Cranbourne 3977

President's Message

Welcome to the August edition of GATEWAY.

Having been interstate for the best part of the July, I would like to thank all the committee members for carrying on in my absence.

My work required me to travel to Julia Creek near Mt Isa, Queensland. This was my first trip to this part of Australia and you soon realise the importance of radio to isolated areas. Because of the shifting black soil geology of this part of Queensland, burying communications cables is not a financially viable option. Here, everyone relies on radio communications. Mobile phones (town coverage only), CB radio, Satellite telephones and Digital Radio systems provide communications facilities for residential and business customers. Radio communications is not a hobby in these remote areas, it is an integral part of life and survival. See me at the GM if you would like to see some photos.

JOTA is the next major activity for GGREC Club Members. As with our very successful Trash and Treasure day, this will be another opportunity to display our hobby to the public. More news at the GM.

Further discussion about expanding our Amateur Radio facilities at the Guide Hall took place at the Committee meeting. We will need to examine new options and develop a new proposal to present to the Recreation Reserve Committee.

Have a look at this month's Event Queue for the latest information on social events planned for the Club. With Daylight Saving starting a month earlier this year, there will be more hours in a day for you to enjoy yourself!

In closing, I would like to thank everyone for their efforts in making this years Amateur Radio Trash and Treasure Sale a great success.

73's from Bruno Tonizzo
VK3BFT



Event Queue

DAY	DATE	TIME	DETAILS
Fri	18/Aug	8pm	General Meeting and Film
Sat	26/Aug	2pm	Aquarium Visit and Dinner
Sun	27/Aug	8pm	2 metre Net on 146.225
Fri	01/Sept	8pm	Prac Night & ATV test for JOTA
Fri	15/Sept	8pm	General meeting and Noise Bridge Demo.
Fri	22/Sept	7pm	Pub Night at the Pakenham Inn
Fri	06/Oct	8pm	Prac night
Fri	20/Oct	8pm	General Meeting and prep for JOTA
Sat	21/Oct	All Day	JOTA.
Fri	03/Nov	8pm	Prac Night and equipment calibration
Fri	17/Nov	8pm	General Meeting and CPR Demo
Sat	02/Dec	12noon	Xmas Party , venue to be announced.

READ ALL ABOUT IT

If you have been up to anything interesting or entertaining since our last meeting, then jot it down and let us read all about it.

CLUB NET

We are now running regularly scheduled Club Nets, on the Club 2 Metre frequency, 146.225. The Nets are held on every 2nd and 4th Sunday's of each month, starting at 8pm. Bruno VK3BFT is our net controller this month. The next net nights will be, Sunday the 27th of August the 10th of September and the 24th of September.

GGREC INFO

The GGREC has now got an entry in the City of Casey Community Directory. You can find it at www.casey.vic.gov.au/community-directory.



Gory Details ...

OLYMPICS FILM

This Friday night, at our August General Meeting, Mike VK3KTO we will be showing us some colour footage of the 1956 Melbourne Olympic Games, in the Guide Hall after the Meeting. The film goes for about an hour, and includes footage of **Dawn Fraser**, **Lorraine Crapp** in the pool, **John Landy** running, **Betty Cuthbert**, medal presentations and some scenic shots of Melbourne. Don't forget to invite all your friends and family for this fabulous film night.

AQUARIUM VISIT

On **Saturday the 26th of August** we will be visiting the Melbourne Aquarium. We should meet at the Aquarium at 2pm, on the corner of Queenswharf Road and King Street Melbourne. (Opposite the Casino)

After the Aquarium we will be going to the German Club for dinner on Dandenong rd in Windsor.

NOISE BRIDGE DEMO

In an effort to understand how some of our Club equipment works, we are going to have a series of talks about how each piece of equipment is used. The first of these talks will be done by Ian VK3BUF all about the Noise Bridge, on Friday the 15th of September at the General Meeting.

PUB NIGHT

On Friday the 22nd of September we will be having a Pub Night at the Pakenham Inn on the Princess Hwy in Pakenham. Bookings will be essential. More details at the next meeting.

BENDIGO WEEKEND

Next January, the Australia day holiday will be on a Friday, this will enable us to take advantage of a long weekend, and go to Bendigo. It will be "book your own" accommodation, so don't leave it too late. If enough interest is shown at the next Club meeting we could do a group booking at the caravan park for powered and unpowered sites. Maria Harding has been investigating all sorts of interesting things to see and do, the weather in January is usually pretty good so we should be able to get out and enjoy ourselves.

WHO AM I?????????

Thought we might start the ball rolling with a bit of background on club members. We meet and we don't often know too much about the people we are talking too. So this is a bit of a challenge working out who the person is, don't be surprised if you get asked to contribute next month!!!!!!

Who am I? A lot of people have asked that question of me, not always in polite terms I hasten to add. I was born in Footscray on the 22nd of January 1957, this was when Footscray was just that and well before it was immortalised by Franco Cozzo and became Footisgray. I spent the first few years of my life in ignorant bliss (i.e. I can't remember a thing about it!) living in Seddon. We shifted to Airport West when I was 5 (spending a couple of months at an Aunties place whilst our house was built....Aunty Win could/can really talk so I guess we were glad to move in to our own home). I can't remember Kindergarten at all but years later I did run into a young man who I had apparently been to kindergarten with so I guess that it really is a small world.

Airport West was a growing suburb at the time, pretty much on the main runway path of Essendon Airpori, Tullamarine hadn't even been thought of yet. Lots of paddocks for a young fella to explore, lots of grass fires to be scared of in summer too. Our house eventually backed on to the footy oval so I spent a lot of time there. I was more your umpire type rather than a player so that's what I tended to end up doing. My early years of schooling were at Parklands Primary and pretty much a straight A student in grades 4-6. All except writing which still is one of my greatest failures, thank goodness they invented computers, people can now understand most of what I write!!!! Secondary schooling was at Niddrie High and whilst I was pretty good at school I tended to be lazy and my later results weren't as good as earlier on. I did manage to get my matriculation, how I don't know really! My parents were separated and later divorced in my final year of High School. I was accepted to the Australian National University on an early scholarship to study economics, I decided that wasn't for me and went to work in a bank for a while. Which bank you may well ask!!!

Couldn't see myself as a banker for very long, handling other people's money was not my idea of fun. So when an offer came to do some house painting for a while I left!!! That didn't work out either so I tried to sell insurance, not much of a conman I am afraid so that lasted 6 months. In the meantime I had various abodes at Moonee Ponds, East Keilor and back with mum in Camberwell for a while. From here I went to work in the Casualty Department of the Alfred Hospital which was certainly a change from anything I had experienced in my life till then!!!! Gangs pulling guns in the waiting room, bottles of medicine flying past my head, psych patients being sat on so they could be restrained, nutters chasing nursing staff around the ward, transvestites showing their recently acquired "boob" jobs, my it was a lot of fun!!!! Having experienced that I decided I would join the Ambulance Service and was lucky to get in on the first try. So started 12 years of interesting and varied work. My early time was

spent at the busiest branches in Melbourne (City and Caulfield) so a lot of experience was gained in patient care in a short space of time. After a while though I had a hankering to work in the Control Room and that's where I ended up spending nearly 8 years. After 12 years with the Metropolitan Ambulance Service and many happy memories they privatised (or were about too) the comms department and being a man of principle (I didn't agree with them then or now!!!) I decided to try my hand at my own business for a while.

Four years in the General Store at Nar Nar Goon were good; the next 2.5 years were terrible. I have come to the conclusion that I am not tough enough to be a good businessman but life is full of challenges. I have now gone back to work for the private ambulance company (Patient Transit Care) doing non emergency transport. Did my first shift the other day and it felt like I had never left ambulance work.

I have always been interested in electronics, always been a bit of a fiddler, now I am starting to learn a lot having joined GGREC, I have interests in computers, photography and being with my wife (married for nearly 15 years) and little girl (she is 6 going on 16).

Well that's a short history of my life, a lot else has happened, some good some bad but now you know a bit more about me than when you started!

Who am I???? Andrew VK3HFA and my wife is Angela and little girl Rebekah.

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

In a cemetery

PERSONS ARE PROHIBITED FROM PICKING FLOWERS FROM ANY BUT THEIR OWN GRAVES.

A Nairobi restaurant

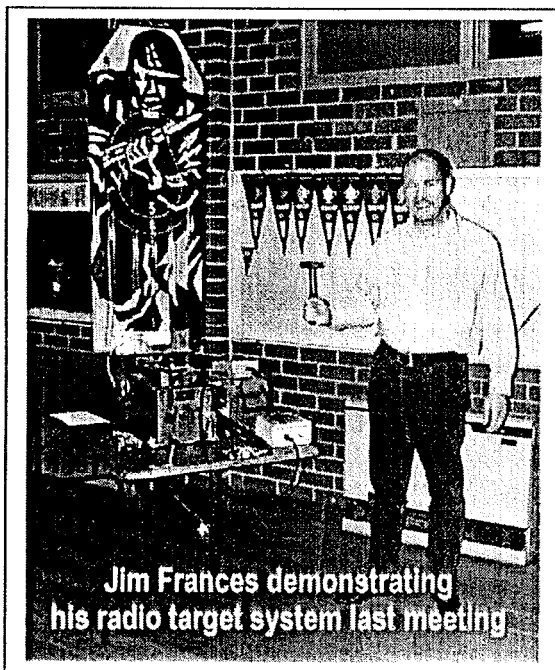
CUSTOMERS WHO FIND OUR WAITRESSES RUDE OUGHT TO SEE THE MANAGER.

On the grounds of a private school

NO TRESPASSING WITHOUT PERMISSION.

Tokyo hotel's rules and regulations

GUESTS ARE REQUESTED NOT TO SMOKE OR DO OTHER DISGUSTING BEHAVIOURS IN BED.





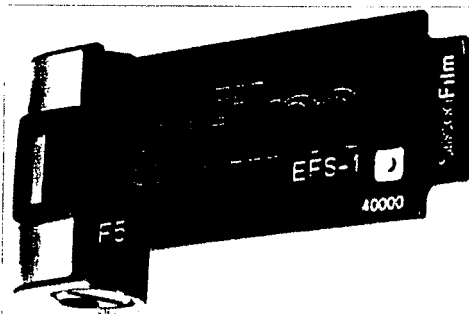
Turn your SLR camera into high technology

SILICON Film Technologies has developed a 'first-of-its-kind' technology that enables a conventional 35mm single lens reflex (SLR) camera to capture, store, and transfer digital images without any modification to the camera.

The EFS product suite is a digital photo system comprised of an electronic film cartridge and a carrier/adaptor.

The user simply inserts the cartridge, called (e)film, into the film cavity in the back of a conventional 35mm SLR camera.

After recording up to 24 images, the cartridge is placed into a carrier/adaptor, called (e)port, which may then be connected directly to a personal computer, enabling images to be downloaded quickly into the computer and then printed, sent via email, or modified into a photo end



(e)film: the electronic film cartridge.

product using photo management software such as Adobe PhotoShop L.E., which comes bundled with the EFS system.

The company also markets a digital photo storage module, called

(e)box, which can store and transport hundreds of digital images in the field when the photographer does not have access to a computer.

The EFS system transforms conventional camera equipment into a

digital image capture system.

It is the only system currently available that provides the convenience and flexibility of choosing between conventional and electronic film formats with the same camera body.

The product is aimed toward the large, installed base of 35mm camera owners who would like to enjoy the benefits of digital imaging while not giving up the cameras, lenses, and photo accessories with which they are familiar.

Due for release later this year, the EFS-1 is designed for Canon EOS 1N and EOS A2/5 or Nikon F5, F3 and N90/F90 high end SLR cameras.

While the initial product release, EFS-1, is aimed at a certain segment of the photography market, Silicon Film plans other EFS products over the next 18 months aimed at a broader market.

A NEW THREAT TO THE 70 CM BAND

Despite earlier assurances by the Australian Communications Authority (ACA) that the allocation of parts of the 70cm band for the Olympic Radio Network was a temporary measure, the band is under serious threat.

The ACA has now told the WIA that it intends to allocate the 420-430MHz band to the Western Australian Police Service in the greater Perth area, which is expected to begin using that spectrum late this year.

WIA Federal President, Peter Naish VK2BPN said, "Clearly the WIA sees any restriction to the access which the Amateur Service currently enjoys in the 70 cm band as a very serious matter.

"There is concern that the WA Police Network may be only the first of a number of similar systems in other parts of Australia."

Mr Naish said the 420-430MHz part of the band already contains a number of Amateur Radio services in the Perth area including a television repeater and a number of fixed links.

At present the 70 cm band is allocated on a Primary basis to the Department of Defence with the Amateur Radio Service as a Secondary user.

The WIA Federal President said, "It is likely that the Police network will be afforded Primary status and that there would a consequential impact on our use of this portion of the band."

Mr Naish said that the ACA has invited the WIA to meet with them at an early date to consider the impact of this new network on the Amateur Service, so the WIA can put forward any adjustments that may be required to the Amateur Radio use of these frequencies.

He said, "The WIA will press the ACA for an outcome which provides an acceptable arrangement and which ensures our continued and long term usage of the 70 cm band nationally.

"The WIA/ACA Liaison Committee is preparing the WIA's position in readiness for the meetings with ACA in Canberra."

Supplied from WIA Victoria Division.

NEW CLUB MEMBERSHIP LIST

NEXT MONTH WE WILL BE PRINTING A NEW CLUB MEMBERSHIP LIST. IF YOU HAVE GOT A NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS, OR ANY OTHER DETAILS THAT NEED CHANGING, THEN PLEASE SEND THE CORRECT INFORMATION TO IAN VK3BUF at ijackson@netspace.net.au OR WRITE THE DETAILS DOWN ON A PIECE OF PAPER AND BRING IT ALONG TO THE AUGUST CLUB MEETING.

A "Pocket-sized" electronic brain

WHEN one hears about an electronic brain, the imagination conjures up visions of thousands of vacuum tubes and water-cooled power supplies which occupy whole buildings. Clearly such instruments cannot be used in aircraft, or other mobile equipment, only in stationary applications.

On the other hand, present day supersonic flying presents problems which can only be solved in sufficient time by electronic computers.

A new all-transistor computer developed for the US Air Force by the Be laboratories occupies less than 3 cubic feet of space and needs only about 100 watts of power for its operation. It is thus ideally suited for installation in high-speed aircraft. Besides, the innate ruggedness of the transistors makes these units almost impervious to shock and vibration, two of the main enemies of electronic equipment.

Called "Tradic", the instrument

uses about 800 transistors and 11,000 germanium diodes.

Tradic is capable of performing 60,000 additions or subtractions, or 3000 multiplications or divisions per second. It can handle as many as 13 16-digit numbers at the same time.

Instructions are given to Tradic in the form of plug-in units, and the answers, mainly to trigonometric problems, are displayed on a CRO screen in the form of dots and geometrical patterns.

The instruction units are adjusted to the problems anticipated during the flight by means of cross-connecting leads. Each of the instruction units is then plugged into "Tradic" as required.

THE fastest land vehicle today is a rocket-propelled sled at the Edwards Air Force base in California, USA. It can travel 1100 miles per hour.

Radio, Television & Hobbies, April, 1956



Dialling a telephone number may soon be old fashioned in the U.S. . . . instead you'll simply press buttons! Apart from being faster than dialling the new system will result in fewer wrong numbers, the telephone companies say. The new-style telephone—pictured here—is being tried out in a number of towns and cities across the country.



Radio, Television & Hobbies, May, 1959

To Stop Scribblers

P.M.G. officials hope mirrors will stop people doodling on the walls of telephone boxes.

They have lined the interior of several telephone boxes with mirrors in the hope it will frustrate the scribblers.

The "new look" phone boxes are being tried in Brisbane and the Queensland Gold Coast.

Post Office officials will consider the results of the trial within the next few weeks.

So far, postal officials have used many tricks to stop the doodlers.

Now they think the doodlers—especially the women—will be so busy looking at themselves they won't have time to scribble.

JOKES

This farmer has about 200 hens but no rooster, and he wants chicks. So he goes down the road to his neighbour and asks if he has a rooster that he'd sell.

The neighbour sells him a great rooster named Kenny that was guaranteed to service every chicken the farmer owned. The farmer takes Kenny home and sets him down in the barnyard, first giving the rooster a pep talk.

"I want you to pace yourself now. You've got a lot of chickens to service here, and you cost me a lot of money." Consequently, I'll need you to do a good job. So, take your time and have some fun." the farmer said, with a chuckle.

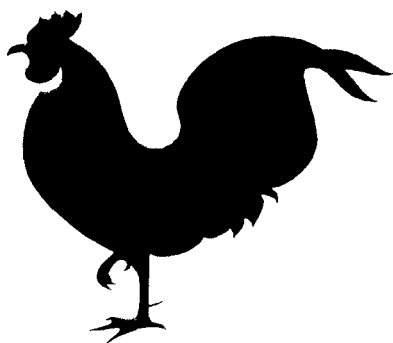
Kenny seemed to understand, so the farmer pointed toward the hen house and Kenny took off like a shot. WHAM! Kenny nails every hen in the hen house-three or four times and the farmer is shocked. After that the farmer hears a commotion in the duck pen. Sure enough, Kenny is in there. Later, the farmer sees Kenny after a flock of geese down by the lake. Once again - WHAM! He gets all the geese.

By sunset he sees Kenny out in the fields chasing quail and pheasant. The farmer is distraught and worried that his expensive prize rooster won't even last 24 hours.

Sure enough, the farmer goes to bed and wakes up the next day to find Kenny on his back, stone cold in the middle of the yard. Buzzards are circling overhead. The farmer, saddened by the loss of such a colourful and expensive bird, shakes his head and cries, "Oh, Kenny, I told you to pace yourself. I tried to get you to slow down. Now look what you've done to yourself."

Kenny opens one eye, nods toward the buzzards circling in the sky and says, "Shhh - they're getting closer ..."

This joke was sent in by Maria Harding



JOKES

A big-city, California, lawyer went duck hunting in rural Texas. He shot and dropped a bird, but it fell into a farmer's field on the other side of a fence.

As the lawyer climbed over the fence, an elderly farmer drove up on his tractor and asked him what he was doing. The litigator responded, "I shot a duck and it fell into this field, and now I'm going to retrieve it."

The old farmer replied, "This is my property, and you are not coming over here."

The indignant lawyer said, "I am one of the best trial attorneys in the US and, if you don't let me get that duck, I'll sue you and take everything you own."

The old farmer smiled and said, "Apparently, you don't know how we do things in Texas. We settle small disagreements like this with the Texas Three-Kick Rule."

The lawyer asked, "What is the Texas Three-Kick Rule?"

The Farmer replied, "Well, first I kick you three times and then you kick me three times, and so on, back and forth, until someone gives up."

The attorney quickly thought about the proposed contest and decided that he could easily take the old codger. He agreed to abide by the local custom.

The old farmer slowly climbed down from the tractor and walked up to the city feller.

His first kick planted the toe of his heavy work boot into the lawyer's groin and dropped him to his knees. His second kick nearly wiped the man's nose off his face.

The barrister was flat on his belly when the farmer's third kick to a kidney nearly caused him to give up.

The lawyer summoned every bit of his will and managed to get to his feet and said, "Okay, you old coot! Now, it's my turn!"

The old farmer smiled and said, "No, I give up. You can have the duck!"

This joke was sent in by Maria Harding

IBM decided to have some parts manufactured in Japan as a trial project. In the specifications, they set out that they will accept three defective parts per 10,000.

When the delivery came in there was an accompanying letter. "We, Japanese people, had a hard time understanding North American business practices. But the three defective parts per 10,000 have been separately manufactured and have been included in the consignment. Hope this pleases you."

This joke was sent in by Russ White.

CAMP OUT IN NOVEMBER

Kerry Clayton recently sent us a letter inviting all the members of the GGREC to a weekend camp out on his 5 acre property at Daisy hill near Maryborough, on the 17th, 18th and 19th of November.

It looks like it could be a fantastic weekend away for those of us with tents and caravans.




The RACV sponsored Energy Breakthrough weekend occurs mid November each year and involves a Friday night carnival, various displays from schools on alternative energy ideas, and the highlight, a 24 hour race between dozens of human powered vehicles and hybrid motorised vehicles. All these vehicles must be made, maintained and, with a team of participants, raced through the night for 24 hours. A spectacle of action, excitement and the occasional drama.

Other activities in the region include the Avoca winery district, the historical Maldon township and many gold mining exhibits including the site of the "welcome stranger" nugget. (All within half an hours drive)

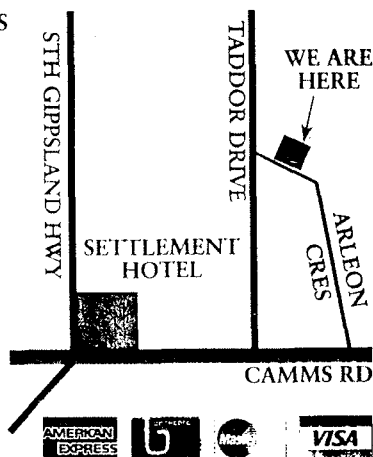
If enough people show interest in attending this weekend camp out , then a portable toilet and shower can be arranged and the cost shared among participating Club Members.

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GRAHAM VK3KCS

Gippsland Gate Radio and Electronics Club Inc.
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Date : 21/7/00 **Start :** 2000hrs

Chairman : Bruno VK3BFT **Minute Taker :** Andrew VK3HFA

Present : As per attendance sheet **Visitors/Guests :** Rex Wilson, Cliff, Stan, Jim Francis

Apologies : Albert VK3BQO, Ron & Jenny

Correspondence received : EMDRC Newsletter, Northern Suburbs Newsletter, FAMPARC News, Amateur Radio, Kerry Clayton re : weekend in November

Correspondence Out : Fax to City of Casey re: Community Directory

Treasurers Report : Read by :Mike VK3KTO Moved by : Mike VK3KTO

Seconded by : Helmut VK3DHI Carried

Income : \$782.00 **Expenditure :** \$1446.25 **Balance :** \$5971.73

New call signs : VK3MNJ

Previous Minutes : Moved : Reg VK3UK **Seconded :** Helmut VK3DHI Carried
Business Arising :

1. Thanks to Peter and Pat pavey for their work on exams, supplying venue etc.
2. Power supplies – spare parts available – current sensing wire may need to be longer.
3. Next exam on 5/8/00.
4. Working Bee at the 6 Metre repeater went well, antenna maintenance and electronics all serviced and reports have been good.
5. Millenium Dinner : it was felt that the concept was good with some fine tuning required .
6. Trash and Treasure : Helpers to put their names on a list to be circulated and other members to pay entry fee. Helpers need to be there by 8am.

General Business :

1. Melbourne Packet Radio club trash and treasure now on August 5th
2. Andrew VK3HFA suggested that an Earth Leakage Detection Device be purchased by the club in some shape or form. Ian VK3BUF suggested that we could modify our current fused board.
3. Andrew VK3HFA to provide a CPR lecture on a future meeting night.
4. 8-10 families indicated that they would be interested in taking up Kerry VK3KFC offer for a weekend trip to his block in November

Guest Speaker : Jim Francis spoke on military remote controlled targetting systems.

Next meeting : 18th August 2000 **Meeting Closed :** 2110 hours.

GGREC

P.O. BOX 1098

CRANBOURNE

GGREC CLUB VK3BJA
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CRANBOURNE 3199