



GATEWAY

November 2010

NEXT MEETING: Friday November 19 2010 at 8 pm

WHERE : Cranbourne Girl Guide Hall, Grant St off Sladen St.

TOPIC : Modern one-chip microprocessors - an overview

SPEAKER : Ian Jackson VK3BUF

DON'T MISS!

**12.30 Sat 11th Dec
GGREC's Christmas
barbecue.**

**Details inside see
p12-13**



**Bring yr non perishable
contribution to the Novem-
ber meeting. Tickets already
on sale — \$2 each or 3 for \$5
CHRISTMAS HAMPER**

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

JOTA/JOTI 2010

21st Anniversary

GGREC provides radio for the Cranbourne Guides.

By Bruno Tonizzo VK3BFT

Well members, another JOTA/JOTI has come and gone.

This year was looking like a bit of a disaster as only 3 members had indicated that they were coming to help. But, following the meeting on the night before the event, more volunteers came forward and indicated that they would help. It was a bit different this year.

In the past, GGREC members would gather at the Hall at 10:00 AM and quickly go down to the Highway to see 10,000 motorbikes take off for Philip island for the Moto GP.

But this year we didn't need to be at the hall until 2:00 PM. That was still early enough to spend an hour setting up before the official start time of 3:00 PM.

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FUN WET CUP WEEKEND AT BONNIE DOON

Words and pics

by Paul Stubbs VK3TGX

Despite the threatening weather GGREC's Camping Seven had a splendid time! Attending were the Vandeligts, VK3 FHTV and FSAT, the Stubbs', VK3TGX and Marianna, the intrepid Pat Pavey, VK3OZ, and the Colemans, VK3 UMM and XK.

I was looking forward to this one, however I received a phone call that I had a job interview to attend on the Friday we were to depart, so in the end we didn't get out of the front door until 4:30, not a good start! I had planned two routes, one via the Eastlink tollway to the Maroondah Highway, the other via Pakenham and Woori Yallock, then onto the Maroondah Highway just before Healesville. As we were now running very late I took the Eastlink approach, 100kph has got to be quicker than winding our way through Berwick and Pakenham. Well that was till we hit the Maroondah Highway turnoff, it only would let you go towards the city, not to Healesville – who is the idiot who designed this one. (It's the same at the Frankston end, fine getting on Eastlink from the Frankston end of the Frankston Fwy, not so if you come from the other end!) then we hit the carpark that is Maroondah Highway to Healesville – eek. Cont'd page



GIPPSLAND GATE RADIO & ELECTRONICS CLUB

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 Peter Pavey clubrooms. Both nights commence at 8:00 PM. **Visitors will be made welcome.** Committee meetings are also held in the clubrooms.

President Chris Chapman VK3QB (9708 8320)
Secretary Stephen Harding VK3EGD (9791 3182)
Treasurer Brenton Vowles VK3CBV (5944 4258)
Committee Members: Nev VK3ADG and Bruno VK3BFT

Magazine Editor : Susan Coleman VK3UMM
Magazine Photographer : Paul VK3TGX www.paulstubbs.pozzie.net
Magazine Printer : David Wright VK3FW
Distribution Snail Mail : Rosalind Wright
Distribution Email : Stephen Harding VK3EGD
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 123Hz IRLP Node Number- **6794** (Using **VK3RLP**)
Call in Frequencies : HF on 28.325 MHz, USB, VHF 145.450 MHz, FM
and UHF on 438.850 MHz,

Visit our internet site at: **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 magazine items is the third day of each month.

Please direct magazine articles to:
Susan Coleman email editor@ggrec.org.au

All other Club correspondence to P.O. Box 1098, Cranbourne 3977
or Email : secretary@ggrec.org.au

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

Incorporation Number A0016893M

LEARNING ABOUT MICROPROCESSORS IN 2011

by Ian Jackson VK3BUF

In Feb 2011 GGREC is intending to stage an entry level course into the AVR family of microprocessors. This course, conducted by me, will take people from a very basic knowledge in electronic components to the point where they will be able to construct microprocessor based projects of their own and write programs for them.

This course is to be similar to the one conducted in 2007, but it will contain new material and run on Tuesday nights at the Guide Hall for 10 weeks spread from February 15 to May 17.

At the General Meeting in November there will be a general introduction into modern one-chip microprocessors and the sort of things that can be achieved with them by hobby electronics enthusiasts.

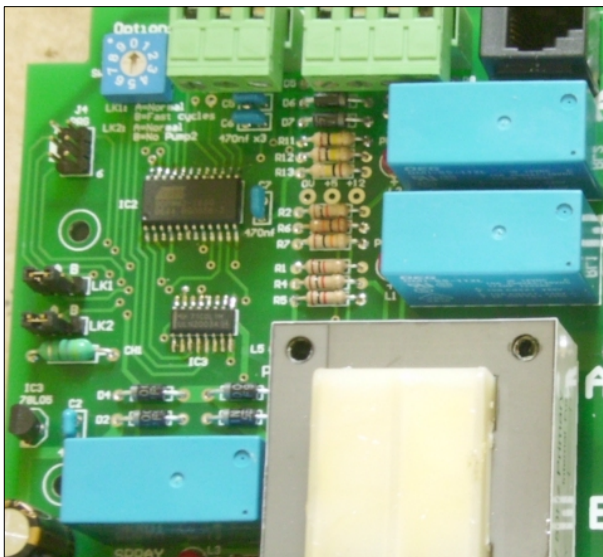
The course will include a USB style programmer for your home or portable PC and an AVR development module for testing out designs programs. (This is in kit form and class members get to assemble it for themselves.) The course also includes a lot of notes and study materials.

Fee will be \$180 for all items. (People who already have access to an AVR serial programmer of their own can have the course fee reduced by \$65.)

Candidates will learn things like Assembly language programming, electronic motor speed control, serial communications, working with model servo motors, using LCD displays, electronically measuring analog voltages and sensors, scanning numeric keypads, driving relays and much more.

Each session will include elements of prac. and experimentation. Access to a portable pc is desirable, but you may be able to share with others during class sessions. Candidates completing the course will receive a class Certificate of Achievement. There is a lot of work involved, but for the people who complete it, it will forever change the way they think about electronics, and give them the ability to take on more sophisticated projects than ever before!

Ian VK3BUF



From the president ... *Chris Chapman VK3QB cont'd from opposite*
and Lightship weekend in 2011.

A small but dedicated group continues to maintain an interest in contesting. As many know, I am a keen DXer and also like to incorporate radio into my holidays. The Oceania Amateur Radio DX Group will be organising a "family friendly and beginners" Dxpedition to (potentially) Norfolk Island in 2011 – any interested GGREC members will be very welcome to join this trip.

What would you like to be doing with the club in 2011? Please give it some thought and let a committee member know. We are also madly looking for topics and presenters for the monthly meetings. 2010 became a bit of a struggle – cast your net wide and see what ideas you can come up with.

Don't forget about the annual Christmas hamper. Nev, VK3ADG will have the basket at the November meeting, so please bring along a contribution if you are able. Tickets are \$2 each or three for \$5.

Lastly, the Christmas BBQ will be at Warneet this year – check the website for all the details – thanks Susan and Grahame.

As always, please refer to the Club's website for the most up-to-date calendar of events and news.

Til next month, vry 73 /Chris VK3QB -...- -.- . . .

FUN AT BONNIE DOON *From page 3*

We arrived at the caravan park a bit past 7, the lady in the office told us to forget about payment for now, just use the remaining daylight to set up camp – what a lovely attitude. So there we were between Pat on one side, and Henry & Maree the other – no Susan & Grahame, or Bruno... We later learned that Susan & Grahame had fronted the caravan park only to be told their booking was for the next weekend, and that all the cabins had been taken. They were also advised that they probably would not get anything this late into the long weekend. So they headed off to Mansfield, where they spotted a vacancy and pounced on it, only to later find theirs was the most expensive, and there were other pick-

ings in town – oh well, at least they made the effort and stayed. That was the end of the sunshine, it rained quite a lot for the next two days, some campers were seen to be digging trenches around their tents. I seem to remember Pat speaking



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From the president ... Chris Chapman VK3QB

Photo by Paul VK3TGX



Here we are in November – almost the end of another year. Where does the time go? As we prepare for Christmas and the festive season, it's good to reflect on what a great year GGREC has had.

The following activities spring to mind:

JOTA – thanks Bruno and team – this year was another success;

VK100WIA celebrations and re-enactment at Koo-Wee-Rup;

RD Contest;

Participation in 2 Field Days;

Regular "prac" nights on the 1st Friday of each month;

Hamfest – our best ever;

Mid year dinner;

Mike VK3KTO wins the club's award for the WIA QRP contest award in May;

International Lighthouse Weekend;

Graeme VK3BXG at the Museum providing Morse code demonstrations;

Chris & Brenton on Vanuatu as YJ0VK;

Geoff & Albert have made great progress on the new RDD controller;

Continued maintenance and improvements at the shack;

Morsecodians;

Bonnie Doon weekend;

And I am certain there are other events that have escaped my memory for now. The point is that we've had a ripper year in terms of radio and social events. And the Re-enactment including VK100WIA activation at Koo-Wee-Rup was probably the club's flagship event for the year.

That brings me to 2011. Over the past few months I have asked members to provide the committee with ideas and thoughts on what we should be doing and where the club should be going. I have been a little surprised with the lack of response in general, and I sincerely hope that we can all get some new ideas onto the list for next year. The pub nights appear to have gone off the boil in 2010 and we'll look to members (rather than the committee) to drive such events in the new year. Ian VK3BUF is very keen to ensure the planned education course for 2011 on microprocessors and AVR, will be a great success. He will give us a walkthrough of what the course will be about at the November meeting. I know that Brenton is very keen to have another go at the International Lighthouse

cont'd opposite

Brenton VK3CBV's ILLW talk at the October meeting *photos Paul T6X*



The last 700m is very steep!!!



It was 3 steps stop and rest, photos do not show just how steep the grade is



First view of the Lighthouse, the wind gusts almost knock you over. Later we found out the gusts were 120km.





Station up and running, note the squid pole... we did have it set up vertical but the wind had other ideas



Off and operating Saturday, everyone had a go and the station operated well into Saturday night

Continued from Page 2 **JOTA/JOTI**

The Guide Leaders greeted us with big smiles again as they really appreciate us giving up our time to help the young ones experience JOTA. Their appreciation was shown by the delicious four course meal they prepared for us that evening. Once again Jan (Yarn) set up his laptop and Morse code practice program and was soon surrounded by eager Guides. Graeme Brown was



busy outside the hall setting up the fox hunting for Guides and Scouts. This activity proves to be a success every year. At 3:00 PM the local Federal member was supposed to show up but he must have had more pressing issues to deal with. So the broadcast of the official opening went ahead without him.

In the radio shack, the HF radio was getting good signals from the North of Australia and VHF/UHF was also accessing the Scout repeaters that had been activated for the weekend.

Wayne Cooke, Grahame Coleman, Mike Ide and Max Hill were operating solidly throughout the afternoon. In fact, the whole day went very quickly and as the guides and scouts were so well behaved, it was very relaxing.

Chris Chapman was able to drop in and provide some relief for Jan at the Morse code training computer so that Jan could have some dinner. Arthur Grieves from the Scouts came along to make sure we had enough operators. I also



know Arthur from the Citroen Car Club and I thanked him for assisting our Club.

He was very impressed with our facilities. In summing up, the day was very enjoyable and I'm very grateful to the members that came along to make the day a success: Mike Ide, Wayne Cooke, Graham Brown, Grahame Coleman, Jan Onken, Max Hill and Chris Chapman.

Bruno

Continued from page 3

GREAT FUN AT BONNIE DOON



of one camper who quickly realized his tent's entrance was facing the wrong way and was taking water!

On Saturday we headed over to Mansfield to meet up with Susan & Grahame, and found ourselves walking around the Mansfield 'High Country Festival & Spring Arts' show, see my GGREC photo website for some more photo's. :-

<http://www.paulstubbs.pozzie.net/index.html>

Apparently they also had a march and other activities, but not being prepared we missed out. Lunch was full on, no sandwiches here, followed later on by a good pub meal. Sunday saw me and Marianna at church, we were surprised to see it had the same name as ours at home – St Francis Xavier. After lunch the ladies headed off to an open garden and left us to cool our heels. After some success on HF, I headed off to find the old railway line, eventually discovering it had been converted into a 'RailTrail' (see my photos for some web links) that extends almost from the caravan park over the old bridge and onwards, good for the odd hours walk. Monday saw me leading the rest of our merry troop off to the track. With the rain mostly behind us things were a lot warmer, so out came Pat's /Chris's inflatable kayakers, I passed on this one as the wind was still a touch fresh, and I wasn't looking forward to the wind chill factor on my wet arse. A good weekend was had by all, so where were you? *Paul VK3TGX*



GGREC Christmas BBQ Breakup

Qth IS OPPOSITE WARNEET NORTH JETTY

It's soon that time again. This year Susan VK3UMM and Grahame VK3XK will host the Christmas BBQ. The date is Saturday 11th December from 12:30pm onwards.

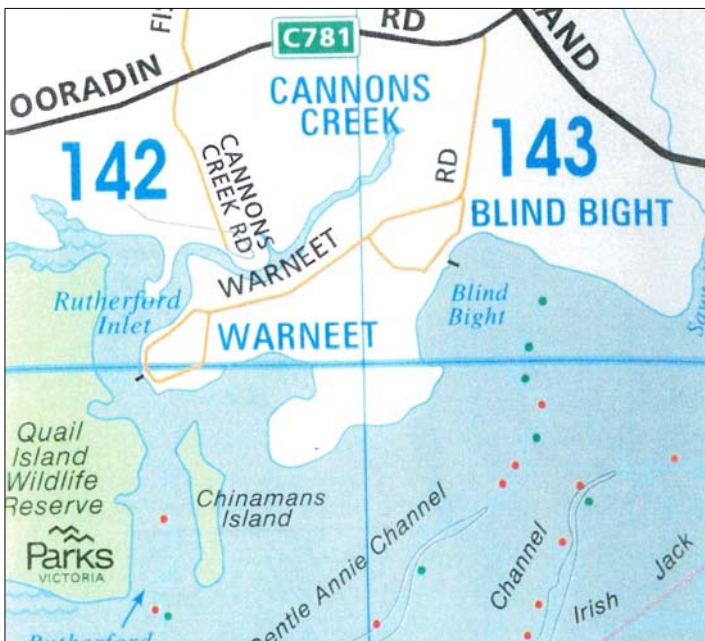
The QTH is 70 Rutherford Pde., Warneet, Melways Ref 142 E12, Ph 0408 32 33 22.

The Club'll have 145.450 running for anyone needing directions.

The club website will have a map and reference details.

Rutherford is at the end of Warneet Road—the dirt section, Qth is opposite the jetty and its boatshed - there is parking across the street. As

usual, please bring a small table and a chair or two, as well as your selection of BBQ fare, and if you can make your favourite dessert or nibbles to share that's great. The club will provide a selection of sal-



ads and bread. Please tell Chris if you are intending to come.

PLEASE NOTE

The usual games, quizzes and activities are planned. If the tide and the weather are right you can catch fish off the jetty.

BEAUTIFUL WARNEET COASTAL VILLAGE

Warneet is on Westernport opposite Quail Island—55 minutes from



the GPO, 12 k south of Cranbourne—turn right to Frankston and Portsea at the big roundabout on the South Gippy. Then take first left —that's Warneet Road. Proceed down Warneet Road till you hit the dirt—that's Rutherford—numbers are descending from number 80. Qth is 70.

We'll be barbequing in the park across the street from the Qth, where there are free barbecues—normally not too busy on a Saturday—but eating at the Qth.

Upcoming Events

Thu Nov 18th	8:00pm	Morsecodeians	Club Shack
Fri Nov 19th	8:00pm	General Meeting	Guide Hall
Mon Nov 29th	7:30pm	Committee Meeting	Club Shack
Fri Dec 3rd	8:00pm	Prac Night	Club Shack
Sat Dec 11th	12:30pm	Christmas breakup	Susan VK3UMM & Grahame VK3XK QTH
Fri Jan 7th	8:00pm	Prac Night	Club Shack
Fri Jan 21st	8:00pm	General Meeting	Guide Hall
Mon Jan 31st	7:30pm	Committee Meeting	Club Shack
Sun Jul 17th	10:00am	GGREC Hamfest	Cranbourne Public Hall

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 2010 *cont'd from opposite*

commitments with some others to assist. We need more people. Starts at 3pm and goes to 8pm.

Xmas breakup – VK3UMM reported – BBQing over the road in the park. Eating at Qth.

Bring utensils and tables & chairs. No parking issues. 30 indicated they would be coming.

Pub night – VK3ADG reported the last pub night was a dismal failure – discussion about deposits next time

New business : *Foundation course* – VK3BXG reported that there was going to be a course run by

Latrobe Valley Clubon

the Cup weekend.

Meeting closed : 8:36 pm

Next Committee Meeting :

Monday 25th October

Next Prac Night : Friday 1st

November **Next General Meet-**

ing : Friday 19th November

PHOTOS by Paul Stubbs VK3TGX



**Mansfield high
country festival,
Lake Eildon[60%],
and Bonnie Doon
caravan park -
where were you?**

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 2010

Date : 15 October 2010

Start time : 8:13 pm.

Location : Guide Hall.

Chairperson : Chris VK3QB

Minute Taker : Steve VK3EGD

Guest Speaker: Brenton

Present : Attendance sheet

Visitors and guests : nil

Apologies : VK3FHTV, VK3FSAT, VK3YB, Marianna, VK3CEO, VK3ZAP, VK3ARV, VK3KMN, VK3MWR, VK3DHI, VK3ZGW, VK3EXJ, Judy, VK3OZ.

Correspondence received : to be listed at the next meeting

Correspondence sent : to be listed at the next meeting

Treasurer's report : Read : Brenton VK3CBV Moved : VK3CBV Seconded : VK3BFT Carried.

Income : \$0.00 Expenditure : \$336.11 Balance : \$-336.11 Total : \$7783.32

New Call signs : nil.

Previous Minutes : Read : as per magazine Moved : VK3EGD Seconded : VK3BXG Approved.

Business arising from the previous minutes :

VK3RDD – Albert VK3BQO reported – The crystal was off frequency around 8KHz and unstable.

The transmitter had electrolytics issues. Intending to replace the existing RT80 components with RT85s. Controller software changes are still happening. RDD should be back on air with the existing controller soon. Maybe February for the new controller.

AVR course – VK3BUF reported – Planned for 10 weeks from mid February, to be held in the Guide Hall. There will be a presentation and a request for expressions of interest at the next General Meeting. *Cup weekend* – VK3BFT reported - Three pairs have booked so far. Information about the outing is on the website and in the magazine.

JOTA – VK3 BFT reported – There are only 3 full time

Cont'd opposite

It
didn't
rain
all
the
time!!

