



# GATEWAY

AUGUST 2011

**NEXT MEETING:** Friday August 19 at 8 pm

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

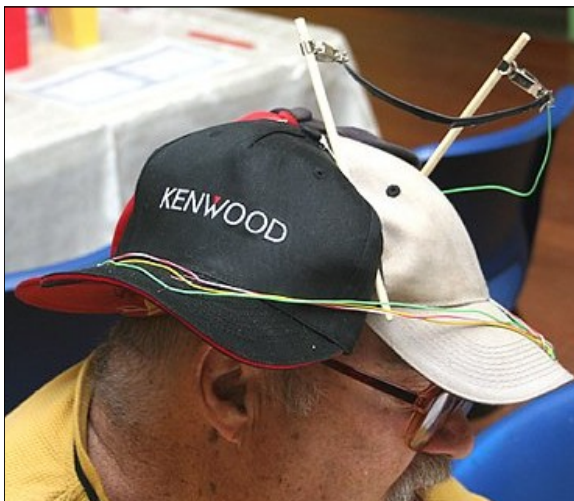
**TOPIC :** We thought that we would have some fun with the old Radioteletype medium. Serial data transmission has come a long way: the new USB 3 serial standard supports rates up to 5,000,000,000 bits per second. Amateur Radio Teletype still runs at the 45.45 rate, so the contrast is not small!



More information on page 5.

The winning entry at the midyear dinner, theme 'be there and be square' was sported by Russ VK3MWR

*photo Paul Stubbs VK3 TGX*



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

### A-NONY-NONY-MUS

A sandwich walks into a bar. The bartender says, "Sorry, we don't serve food here."

An E-flat, A G-flat and a B-flat walk into a bar. The bartender says, "I'm sorry, we don't serve minors."

A toothless termite walked into a tavern and said, "Is the bartender here?"

A Jumper cable walks into a bar. The bartender says, "I'll serve you, but don't start anything."

Two antennas meet on a rooftop, fall in love and get married. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception is excellent.

Snow White took photos of the Dwarfs and their surroundings. She took the film to be developed. After a week or so she went to get the finished photos. The clerk said the photos were not back from the processor. Needless to say, she was disappointed and started to cry. The clerk, trying to console her, said, "Don't worry. Someday your *prints* will come."

Teaching junior high school English, Mr. Speller emphasized the importance of nice clean margins on student papers. One seventh-grade boy said in his essay that he was sorry to write in the *margarine*. When he graded his paper, Mr. Speller added a little note next to his that said, "Maybe next time you will do *butter*."

## 2011 MELBOURNE CUP WEEKEND

*By Ian Jackson*

This year we shall return to the camping grounds in Yarra Junction for the **2011 Melbourne Cup Weekend**. This is a pleasant venue on the banks of the Yarra River.

When we get closer to the weekend we will list a number of activities that will be available to us. There is quite a lot to do in this area. It should be a most relaxing time.

In the mean time those wishing to join the happy campers at the **Doon Reserve Caravan Park** will need to organise a \$40 deposit to be paid to the Treasurer at the **August 19 General Meeting**. (This will be for a powered site at the park on October 29, 30, 31 (leaving on Melb Cup day on Nov 1) Those wishing to make their own arrangements at the park or by booking a motel room in the area, are advised to get in early.

If you are making your own arrangements, you can do this by contacting the **Doon Reserve Caravan Park** on **5967 1674** but note that spaces will become scarce by the end of August. *Ian VK3BUF*

**The Doon Reserve Park is surrounded by the Yarra on three sides**



**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     Dianne Jackson     VK3JDI  
Secretary     Graeme Brown     VK3BXG  
Treasurer / Public Officer     Ian Jackson     VK3BUF  
Committee :   Paul Stubbs VK3TGX Russ White VK3MWR  
                 Michael Van Den Acker VK3GHM  
Magazine Editor :   Susan Coleman VK3UMM  
Magazine Photographer :   Paul VK3TGX [www.paulstubbs.pozzie.net](http://www.paulstubbs.pozzie.net)  
Magazine Printer :   David Wright VK3FW  
Distribution Snail Mail :   Rosalind Wright  
Distribution Email :   Graeme VK3BXG  
Property Officer: Bruno VK3BFT  
Repeater Officer: Albert VK3BQO  
WebMaster: Stephen 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](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 magazine items is the third day of each month.**

Please direct magazine articles to:  
[editor@ggrec.org.au](mailto:editor@ggrec.org.au)

*All other Club correspondence to P.O. Box 1098, Cranbourne 3977  
or Email : [secretary@ggrec.org.au](mailto:secretary@ggrec.org.au)*

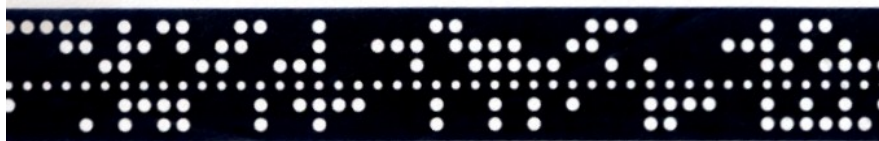
Disclaimer. The opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the official view of GGREC Inc and GGREC Inc cannot be held responsible for incorrect information published.

Incorporation Number A0016893M

## RTTY NIGHT AT THE AUGUST MEETING

*By Ian Jackson*

On Friday 19<sup>th</sup> of August we thought that we would have some fun with the old Radioteletype medium. Serial data transmission has come a long way. The new USB 3 serial standard supports rates up to 5,000,000,000 bits per second. Amateur Radio Teletype still runs at the 45.45 rate, so the contrast is not small!



We hope to have a few systems present of both old and new and invite their owners to tell us a little of their equipment and experiences with this medium.

If you have any old RTTY hardware in your shack, bring it along and we will make the room ring with the sound of some traditional 2125-2295 Hz FSK.

If you have not seen or used RTTY in action before, find out how it still has an active role to play in HF communications. **You will not be baud!** *Ian VK3BUF*

## FORMAT CHANGE TO GATEWAY

by Ian Jackson

*Since the new committee came into effect this year we have been examining the way in which we deliver our message to the members. Much discussion and consultation has taken place and the Committee has decided upon some changes in format and delivery to be implemented immediately. These changes are: Gateway magazine will be delivered to members by email format only, shortly before each general meeting. It will also continue to be available for download from the Club website. The magazine will no longer be dispatched in its printed form. The magazine will also be emailed to other Victorian radio clubs. (Some clubs already send their magazine to the GGREC in this form.)*

The format will revert to the original A4 style publication as this will make it easier to print for those who wish to do so in larger, easier to read text. This avoids the need for stitching together the smaller A5 format into a booklet from personal printers, making articles that spread over several pages easier to follow.

The Club will continue to accept some contributions of jokes and humorous anecdotes, but these will be used only to round-off the end of an A4 page. By moving away from the smaller A5 printed format, it removes the necessity of adding multiple-pages of filler material in order to round-off to the nearest printed sheet.

While this move will save the Club from spending the membership fees of around eight financial members each year in postage costs, this was not the only consideration for these changes. The change means that the magazine is no longer limited to the previous constraints of the printed medium. The Club records show that 100% of members now have access to an email address. This has also provided the extra flexibility of allowing for small, more spontaneous information briefs to be dispatched from time-to-time directly to members between the usual magazine editions.

NOTE: GGREC Website has a **Links** page that takes you directly to the MDRC, FAM-PARC, NERG, EMDRC and WANSARC sites where their newsletters are immediately available for download or viewing.

On behalf of the Club we wish to extend our thanks to David VK3FW and Roz, and the Clifton Family, for their fine efforts and hard work over the years for photocopying and posting the magazine to the members who received the printed version in addition to the email version. *Ian VK3BUF*

### Other who's whos in GGREC

- Bruno VK3BFT, property officer
- Albert VK3BQO, repeater officer
- Stephen VK3EGD, webmaster
- Ian VK3BUF, public officer.
- These are almost permanent positions unlike the committee and need some recognition.

*Graeme Brown Secretary VK3BXG*

## From the president ... *Dianne Jackson VK3JDI*



Another busy month has gone past, including a very successful Hamfest Sale.

I think we can all be proud of our efforts at the Hamfest. It was a very good day, the weather was perfect. We had just over three hundred people through the door and we made \$2,145.00 profit on the day. Well done everyone.

The pub night at Trios was another excellent event this month. Everyone who attended, had a good time. The meals were delicious, though each serving was very large. The entrees looked like

mains, and Ross's dessert looked like it was big enough to feed us all.

We are about to make our group reservation for the Melbourne Cup camping weekend, in Yarra Junction. If you wish to be a part of the group booking at the Doon Reserve Caravan Park, you will need to make a \$40 deposit with the Club Treasurer at the August General meeting. After that time, any others wishing to attend will have to make their own arrangements. (Doon Reserve caravan parks phone number is 59671674.)

The committee has made a decision to only send the club magazine via email from now on. You will still be able to print out your own copy at home, but the Club will not be printing any paper copies. This change will also see a shift back to the original A4 format, for easier printing at home for those who wish to do so. (More about this change of format is in a separate article in this edition of Gateway.)

At the August meeting, we will be looking at RTTY ( Radio Teletype) gear. It seems that RTTY has all gone digital these days. You set up your computer, type a message and away you go. However, it wasn't always thus. A few of our club members still remember when RTTY used to be done with huge clunking typewriters and spools of paper tape. If you have still got any RTTY gear, and are willing to bring it along, we can do a bit of show and tell. I seem to remember that it was all very noisy, so we might try to keep the demonstrations brief.

Looking forward to seeing you all at the August meeting. *Dianne VK3JDI*



## 2011 HAMFEST SALE *continued from opposite*

And if they think they could imagine themselves in the role of Event Coordinator, please put up your hand and help to make it all happen again.

The GGREC Hamfest Sale is not an academic exercise. Some statistics are in order: The club needs around \$2,000 to pay its way through the year. This money rents the hall, posts a lot of correspondence and pays for the power & water essential to the Club shack. It also pays the license and maintenance fees for our popular 70cm and 6M repeater sites. Any income in excess of the necessary \$2000 core is used for all of the good stuff that the Club does. Purchasing of equipment and subsidising some of our training sessions and other events. The stuff that add the sparkle to our activities.

In 2011 revenue from the membership renewal base generated around \$1,300, which is of course less than our needs require. The Hamfest Sale is important to address that shortfall. Without it we would need to badger the membership with higher fees and incessant raffles to make up the difference. Smaller fundraising such as a Bunnings BBQ sales day are possible, but they do not widely represent the Club interests as the annual sale does.

This year we had 305 people come through the door. The Kitchen cleared around \$220 above costs. This may not seem like much, but the refreshments also form an intangible addition to complete the event. After all costs were settled, the club cleared \$2,145 for the day. This was a good outcome and I look forward to doing it all again next year. Please think about what needs to be done to make that happen. *Ian VK3BUF*

### Event Queue

#### Upcoming Events

Sat Aug 13th 6:00pm	<a href="#">RD Contest</a>	<a href="#">Club Rooms</a>
Fri Aug 19th 8:00pm	General Meeting	<a href="#">Guide Hall</a>
Sat Aug 20th	<a href="#">ILLW</a>	TBA (NOT Wilson's Prom.)
Fri Sep 16th 8:00pm	General Meeting	<a href="#">Guide Hall</a>
Fri Oct 21st 8:00pm	General Meeting	<a href="#">Guide Hall</a>
Sat Oct 29th	<a href="#">2011 Cup Weekend Away (proposed)</a>	<a href="#">Yarra Junction</a>



## 2011 HAMFEST SALE – TREASURERS REPORT

*By Ian Jackson, VK3BUF*

The Annual Sale that the Club stages is an odd event. People attend from a wide radius to paw through boxes of junk, catch up with old friends and haggle for the best price on modern transceivers. For those who are not within the GGREC, it is the public face of our Club; the way for them to gauge our mettle and of our contribution to the hobby.

The feedback this year was positive once again. Stallholders are pleased by the venue and the services we provide. Visitors carry off several cubic metres of electrical apparatus and generally have a jolly time. It appears that the GGREC Hamfest Sale is revered as one of the premium Amateur Radio events that this state has to offer. Its date is circled and preserved in many calendars with great care.

This year, it was very, very close to not happening. On the day the members all pitch in with gusto. The table setup, the kitchen, ticket sales...it all goes smoothly and is not too onerous a task for any one individual. However, before that gets to happen, it requires a coordinator. A catalyst to oversee the master plan as laid out in the GGREC Hamfest Manual. This year we had no immediate volunteer come forth to perform this essential task. The committee had its collective finger hovering over the 'cancel' button. At the last minute Bruno VK3BFT came forth to take on the job. Bruno has kindly contributed his time for many Club events in the recent past and would have enjoyed a break on this occasion, but committed himself to advance the Club's interests once more.

This article is not intended to be a bone-pointing, demoralizing dig at the membership, it is pretty much a description of events as they occurred. We do get to warmly thank Bruno for orchestrating the event, Steve EGD for accepting bookings and integrating this with the Club website and of course Pat VK3OZ for managing the kitchen and food sales in accordance with modern food handling standards. Certainly the rest of the attending Club members all put in a big day and deserve great praise. More than one person commented on the seamless coordination of our team and we can be genuinely proud of a job well done. I do implore the members to have a good think about 2012 over the next months

*continued opposite*



Pat VK3OZ - all boxed in!



**THE MIDYEAR  
DINNER CELE-  
BRATED 'BE  
THERE AND BE  
SQUARE'**

Photos and captions Paul  
Stubbs VK3TGX





We could not get him to connect his antenna hat to a transmitter!

Right: Removing the deccies from the ceiling



The spread went over a treat with the troops.

Yarn was runner up in the square competition.







Waiting....



Here they come!!!

*Photos by Paul Stubbs VK3TGX*

## HAMFEST 2011



GGREC's Table

Thanks heaps.  
Bruno,  
VK3BFT, for  
running the  
show! Also to  
his many  
workers.



**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES JUNE 2011** *cont'd from opposite*

*RDD* is still at Albert's and is still operating whilst software is being tested.

*Midyear dinner* Dianne VK3JDI reports that 30 people attended but for next year GGREC will be celebrating 35 years and we need to think of something special.

*ILLW to Wilsons Promontory* has now been cancelled (by Parks Victoria) due to continuing inaccessibility so now joining other groups is the only alternative.

Ian VK3BUF reports that monies paid will be returned to GGREC by Parks Victoria and the six individuals who have already paid will be reimbursed.

*Cup Weekend* – camping or caravanning at Yarra Junction suggested by Dianne VK3JDI. We can do a group booking as sites are available at the moment, but there cannot be any last minute decisions although individuals may like to make their own arrangements. Decisions must be tonight for the group booking..

*Pub-night* proposed by Dianne VK3JDI, president, at "Trios" for the weekend after the Ham-fest, 23<sup>rd</sup> July. A deposit will be required and decision must be made tonight..

*Prac-nights* need a list of topics – a theme to encourage attendance. Nevertheless the next prac-night will be to bring along and work on the antenna analyser kits.

**New business :**

*Most magazines from other clubs* are now no-longer sent as hard-copies. Suggestion was that they could be linked through our website. To be further discussed with webmaster Steve VK3EGD.

*RD contest* reminder on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> August – members advised to make contact by e-mail if they wish to participate.

*De-soldering tools* are now available from the US at a much cheaper price than they can be purchased locally, Albert VK3BQO reports. If anyone is interested Albert can supply details with a special price for club members.

Ian VK3BUF suggested that perhaps we need one for the club for the club members to use.

Steve VK3EGD proposed "that GGREC purchase a desoldering tool for the club". Seconded Bruno VK3BFT. All in favour. Carried.

**Meeting closed :** 20.42 pm

**Next General Meeting :** 19<sup>th</sup> August 2011



**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES JUNE 2011****Date :** 15<sup>th</sup> July 2011**Start time :** 20:00 pm.**Location :** Guide Hall Club rooms.**Chairperson :** Dianne Jackson VK3JDI, president.**Minute Taker :** self, VK3BXG**Preamble:** No guest speaker this evening due to the hamfest tomorrow and an early finish anticipated.**Present :** As per attendance sheet.**Apologies :** As per attendance sheet.**Visitors:** Ian De Dominicis and his son Alex.**Correspondence received :**

E-mail from WASARC of its July newsletter.

EMDRC newsletter.

E-mail from the Eastern Zone Amateur Radio Club regarding the Gippstech weekend of 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> July 2011 at Churchill.

NERG news.

FAMPARC news.

**Correspondence sent :**

E-mail to the Cranbourne Guides confirming our support for JOTA/JOTI next October.

Letter of thanks to the Koo Wee Rup Swamp Historical Society.

E-mail to clubs regarding the weekend of 18<sup>th</sup> 19<sup>th</sup> June.**Treasurer's report :****Income :** \$673 **Expenditure :** \$1,775 **Balance :** Bank \$2246.35**Read :** Ian VK3BUF. **Moved :** Ian VK3BUF **Seconded :** Michael VK3GHM . **Carried.****Previous Minutes :****Read :** as distributed. **Moved :** Mike VK3KTO. **Seconded :** Russell VK3MWR. **Approved.****Business arising from the previous minutes :**

*Hamfest* – Bruno, VK3BFT reports that Yaesu has donated a hand-held for the door prize raffle and Altronics has donated a digital LCR meter for second prize and 100 led pens. PK Loops have donated a loop for third prize.

Bruno thanked Steve VK3EGD especially for organising all the table bookings, Pat VK3OZ for the kitchen organisation and Ian VK3BUF and Dianne VK3JDI for the food purchases. He reiterated the full support from customers.

Bruno requested that we start setting up at 07.00 onwards and anticipated the event should finish by 2pm.

*Repeater site at Langwarrin* Albert VK3BQO reports that the 2.4 Ghz beacon is not working, however he has made contact with Michael VK3KH, and his microwave group are going to help rebuild it. Albert stated that we need more information on who built our beacons at Langwarrin. Anyone who knows anything can send information to repeaters@ggrec.org.au.