



GATEWAY

The official journal of the Gippsland
Gate Radio & Electronics Club Inc.

Incorporation Number A0016893M

March 2012 - From the President ...

VK3JDI



Dianne Jackson

Good news everyone. The RFID tag system on the club shack has been fixed. So now you can all come and go as often as you please, or at least as often as your partner allows.

The Hamfest table bookings are filling up quickly. Check the club web site for further details about table availability.

On the night of the April meeting, we plan to commence a sale by tender of a number of assets surplus to Club requirements. This will include some of the equipment that Judy Robertson has kindly donated to the club. A detailed list of the equipment for sale is printed on pages 8 & 9 of this issue of Gateway, along with reserve pricing, so that there can be a vote to authorise the sale of these items.

At the March meeting we will have a presentation by Helmut VK3DHI about APRS, which is a GPS tracking system integrated with Amateur Radio.

I want to remind all Members that month will also see the AGM where a new committee is formed for the year. If you have an interest in organising your Club, please forward your nominations (form on page 7) to Graeme VK3BXG the club Secretary. He may be reached via secretary@ggrec.org.au

Looking forward to seeing you all at the March meeting.

Item	Page
Event Queue	2
FM 92 Repairs	3
Advanced amateurs to trial higher power	3
HAMFEST Details	4
Antenna Replacement	4-5
VK3FWSP's Shack	5
General Meeting Minutes (February)	6-7
Committee Member Nomination Form for 2012 AGM	7
GGREC 2012 Equipment Sale	8-9
Information for Club Members	8

GGREC Event Queue from March 2012

March 16th – Friday Night. Gen Meeting at the Cranbourne Guide Hall

Helmut VK3 DHI will be giving a lecture and demonstration about the APRS system and how amateurs can put themselves on an electronic map as they travel around our country.

March 25th – Sunday. The EMDRC White elephant sale

Great Ryrie Primary School on Great Ryrie St., Heathmont (Melway's map 49 K11)

April 6th – Friday Night. Prac Night at the Peter Pavey Clubrooms

From 7:30pm come along to socialise and have a chin wag or use the clubs transceivers for a QSO.

April 14th and 15th – Sat & Sun. WIA National Field Day

Amateur clubs and radio enthusiasts will activate public relations demonstration stations in prominent locations all over Australia. This will raise public awareness and showcase the hobby see the site at <http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/nfd/> for details.

April 20th – Friday Night. AGM Meeting at the Cranbourne Guide Hall

This will be the annual AGM for 2012, please remember to get your nominations in

May 4th – Friday Night. Prac Night at the Peter Pavey Clubrooms

From 7:30pm come along to socialise and have a chin wag or use the clubs transceivers for a QSO.

May 18th – Friday Night. Gen Meeting at the Cranbourne Guide Hall

Talk to be announced.

June 1st – Friday Night. Prac Night at the Peter Pavey Clubrooms

From 7:30pm come along to socialise and have a chin wag or use the clubs transceivers for a QSO.

June 15th – Friday Night. Gen Meeting at the Cranbourne Guide Hall

Talk to be announced.

June 23rd – Saturday Night. Club Midyear Dinner

Theme will be the Olympics more details to come.

June 23rd & 24th – Saturday & Sunday. UHF/VHF Winter Field Day

See the WIA contest site <http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/vhfuhf/> for more information

July 6th – Friday Night. Prac Night at the Peter Pavey Clubrooms

From 7:30pm come along to socialise and have a chin wag or use the clubs transceivers for a QSO.

July 20th – Friday Night. Gen Meeting at the Cranbourne Guide Hall

Talk to be announced.

July 21st – Saturday. The GGREC Hamfest at Cranbourne Community Hall

Corner of Clarendon and High streets, Cranbourne Entry from 10am for buyers \$6.00 entry see the website at <http://ggrec.org.au/hamfest> for more details.

August 3rd – Friday Night. Prac Night at the Peter Pavey Clubrooms

From 7:30pm come along to socialise and have a chin wag or use the clubs transceivers for a QSO.

FM 92 Fault and Repair

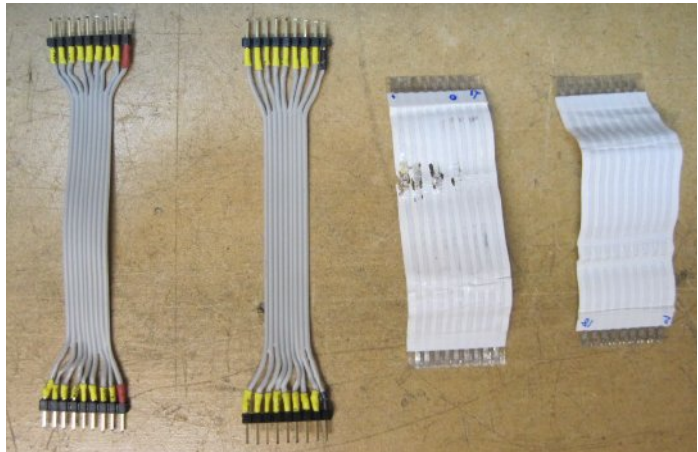
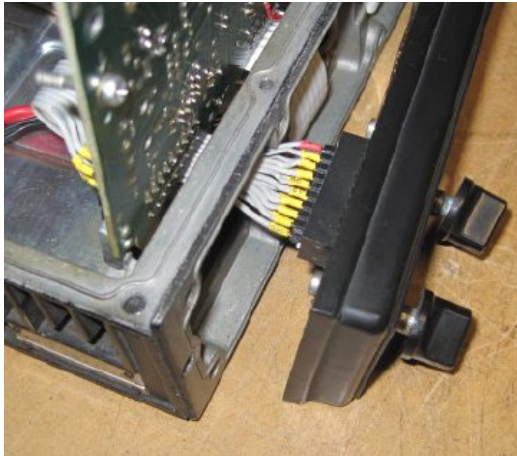
Recently I was given a Philips FM92 that had been working ok but recently developed a fault during its conversion to CTCSS. The fault was apparent when the large synthesiser PCB was being placed into its stowed position whereby the display and front LED's showed weird combinations and the radio was unusable.

Some investigation revealed that the culprit was the 9-way so called 'flexible cables' that connected the front panel to the synthesiser board. Over time, the movement of these cables has taken its toll and an attempt to repair them was a failure. There were several of the strips in these cables broken or split. Trolling through the Internet I found that it was possible to have custom made cables but at a prohibitive cost and that the originals ones were not around any more. So there had to be another solution.

I chose to use standard headers and ribbon cable to replace the originals. These items are readily available at Jaycar and Altronics. (Jaycar HM3212 – Altronics P5430)

Using standard ribbon cable it's best to use heat shrink sleeving over the soldered connections.

I used a separate coloured sleeve to 'code' each assembly. My cables assemblies were just a little too long but ended up fitting ok.



Carefully snap the 40 way header into 9 way and solder to the shorter end of the pins. Before you solder to the pins you will need to push the plastic part of the header down a little so when mated with the radio's sockets they sit flat.

When completed, add a little dab of glue on the plastic when the cables assemblies are fitted to the radio to ensure they don't come loose when the PCB is stowed.

This is a cheap fix to a problem that if not corrected, can introduce some interesting effects on your 92's operation.

Geoff Williams VK3ZGW

Advanced Amateurs to Trial Higher Power

A trial of higher transmitter output power for the 'advanced' category of amateur licensees will begin on 1 March 2012. The trial follows a request by the Wireless Institute of Australia. The ACMA believes that a trial is appropriate to assess the impact of the higher power authorisation, including potential interference issues. After evaluating the success of the trial, the ACMA will consider whether more permanent regulatory arrangements are warranted. Applicants should be aware of the following requirements:

- They must hold an advanced licence.
- The authorisation for higher power is for an amateur station operating from nominated fixed locations only that are specified on the licence.
- The authorisation is for the HF bands where the amateur service is the primary service.
- Exclusion zones to protect trials of long term evolution (LTE) will apply.
- Applications for the higher power authorisation will not be approved for stations located within an exclusion zone.
- Should a new LTE trial commence during the trial period, stations that fall within the exclusion zone for that trial must be operated using the transmitter output power levels specified in the Radio communications Licence Conditions (Amateur Licence) Determination No. 1 of 1997 (the Amateur LCD).
- Interference protection provisions imposed under section 7 of the Amateur LCD continue to apply.

GGREC HAMFEST

AN INVITATION TO STALLHOLDERS

On Saturday the 21st of July 2012, the Club will be conducting its annual HAMFEST for the sale of new and used electronics and radio equipment. As it was last year, the venue will be at the Cranbourne Community Hall on the corner of Clarendon and High streets, Cranbourne. High Street is part of the South Gippsland Highway. Melway's Reference 133 K4.

The club takes pleasure in offering you the opportunity to become a Seller at our 2012 event. Forty tables will be available for stall holders, but demand will be high as usual. Please book early to avoid disappointment.

All the details can be found on our web page at <http://ggrec.org.au/hamfest>.

Table hire will be unchanged at \$20 per table. A limit of four (4) tables per Stall Holder applies. Table Hire provides access for TWO people to operate the stall. It will also include two tickets to the door prize and free tea/coffee throughout the day.

The \$20 fee must be paid in full to the Club within 7 days of booking your table. Cancellations made more than 14 days prior to the event will be given a full refund by cheque.

To make a booking contact **Steve Harding VK3EGD** on **0408 878934**. Or email details to hamfest@ggrec.org.au Payment may be made by sending a cheque or money order (payable to 'GGREC') to Post Office Box 1098 Cranbourne 3977 or by direct payment to: BSB 633000 ACC 134761279 with remittance advice to Steve upon transfer. If you do a direct transfer please include your "callsign/name" and "table fee" on the transfer.

When making a table booking, Stall Holders will be asked to provide a Name, Postal address and Contact phone number. Upon receipt of the \$20 fee and contact details, a Booking Number will be posted with a receipt of payment. IMPORTANT! No booking is confirmed until this number has been received by the Stall Holder.

Access to the Hall shall be from 8:30am for Stall Holders (not later than 9:30 am unless by arrangement). Transfer of your booking to another person is not permitted. Please contact Steve if you cannot attend or wish to discuss your booking. The doors will open for buyers at 10am with a \$6.00 entry fee.

Each year, this event is a great success with many hundreds of people through the door in our large Cranbourne venue making it a premier event for radio markets in this state. We look forward to working with you again.

Antenna Replacement at Graeme's VK3BXG



Over the New year break Graeme took the time to drop his tower for some much needed work on his antennas.

Starting with a new 6m Yagi that had to be tuned to get its SWR down before mounting it to the new rotator at the top of the tower.



The next step was to drop the tower over the roof of the shack with the top of the water tank making a "suitable" working platform.

As long as you stood on the stringers under the tank roof and not on the sheet metal then you were okay and wouldn't fall in..



Graeme finally worked out why his signal had been poor on his dual-band vertical for UHF/VHF. Some of the local bird life had decided to add some coaxial fibre to their diet.



The 6Mt Yagi was mounted to the top of the tower with the new rotator and new coax runs for all the antennas. Then it was time to put the tower back up in to the air.

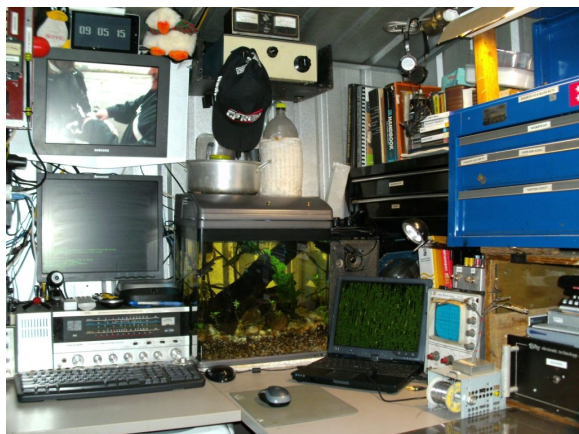
VK3FWSP's Shack

I only have a small shack as I am limited on backyard space, it consists of a small 8x8 foot tin shed but it suits me well.

As a new HAM I only have the one rig, a Yaesu Hand-held VX-6. This is running in to a dual-band vertical, although I have a 12 element VHF yagi and a 20 element UHF yagi and rotator that I will be putting up in a few months. I just need to get my tower sorted out.

I also have an old realistic DX-150B short-wave radio connected to a 10 meter long-wire.

I am getting an FT857D later this year for the shack.



In the shack I have three laptops with two additional screens and an LCD TV. Five Toolboxes and an assortment of parts along with a fish tank. A compressor and welder hide underneath the desk, my wife calls it the TARDIS as I seem to have more space on the inside and more things just keep coming in even when it seems like there is no more space.



My main hobby is collecting tools and to date I have over 800 hand tools hiding in the shack toolboxes.

I am looking forward to upgrading my licence this year and to getting on to HF and making some DX contacts. Looking forward to seeing some of the other members shacks. **Mark 'Pockets' VK3FWSP**

General Meeting Minutes - February 17th, 2012

Date: 17th February 2012.
Start time : 2005pm.
Location : Guide Hall . Newly polished floor with a note from the Guides to please not drag furniture.
Chairperson : Dianne Jackson **VK3JDI**
Minute Taker : G.Brown, **VK3BXG**
Present : as per attendance sheet
Apologies: as per attendance sheet
Visitors: as per attendance sheet.

Correspondence received :

- "Amateur Radio" mag.
- FAMPARC news.
- EMDRC news
- WANSARC e-mail link news
- WIA regarding public liability insurance coverage for all affiliated clubs
- A letter of thanks from Judy Robertson for the flowers.
- An e-mail from AR Victoria of their proposed Amateur Radio course dates.

Correspondence sent :

- Cranbourne Guide Hall committee stating the dates we require the hall during 2012
- and offering advance payment.
- Bunnings thanking for the opportunity of the "sausage sizzle" fund-raiser.
- AR Victoria requesting the dates of any proposed foundation courses in the next few months.

Treasurer's report :

Income \$954.10 Expenses \$747.43. Net Income \$206.67
Moved: Ian, **VK3BUF**. **Seconded:** David, **VK3XMF**. All in favour. Carried

Previous Minutes:

As distributed in February Gateways. A correction to be amended;
the date of Ron Robertson's passing was incorrect. Reference paragraph
"Eulogy" the date should read Saturday 14th January not the 16th of January.
With amendment **Moved** : Graeme, **VK3BXG**. **Seconded** : Mark, **VK3FWSP**. All in favour --- Carried.

Business arising from the previous minutes :

Sausage sizzle at Bunnings on 4th February Ian **VK3BUF** reports that it was an excellent day with a constant flow of people. But we need more volunteers from club members if it is to continue.

Australia Day Barbeque held at the club shack on 26th January 2012 was well attended with more members attending than other years. The weather was excellent and Naree's extra treats of food went down very well, Albert **VK3BQO** reported.

Hamfest date to be set at 21st July. Hall has been hired and the hall committee notified for the 21st July 2012. Bruno **VK3BFT** has volunteered again to be coordinator and Steve **VK3EGD** has reports that the online website for registration and table booking will be up and running this weekend. The WIA and AR Vic., have been notified of the date. Brian **VK3BSN** asked if it was possible to have outside stalls – not generally agreed upon because of security issues – but held over for discussion by the committee.

Carpet in the shack has not yet been replaced Ian **VK3BUF** reports but is still looking for a suitable type.

Continued page 7

Shack clean-up and again it was put to the members to take items of personal equipment .A list will be made of equipment in the shack that is surplus to our needs and which has not been used in the last seven years. These items will be listed in the club magazine and sold off after the AGM in April. They will have a reserve price and members will tender above the reserve.

Repeater reports – Albert **VK3BQO** reports that we are still getting interference at Cockatoo and suggested it may mean going to the ACAMA for help but wonders just how much help we may receive. The micro-wave beacon relocation from and decommissioning at Frankston water-tower is still to take place.

New business :

A letter of thank-you from Judy Robertson to the members was read out was read out to the members thanking for the flowers and condolences over the passing of Ron, **VK3EXJ**. Ian **VK3BUF** then reported that all radio and electronic equipment had been donated from the Estate of the Late Ron Robertson to the club by his wife Judy. This was an extremely generous donation; all items will be listed and items surplus to our needs will be listed and will be sold by tender to the members. But this will have to be ratified by the committee. A Nally tower will need to be removed and may be of separate tender as will have to be removed. A letter of thank-you for the donation will be sent to Judy.

The EMDRC Hamfest is at Heathmont on 25th July 2012, Dianne **VK3JDI** reports and will need to be included in March issue of "Gateways".

GGREC coffee mugs are now in short supply Dianne **VK3JDI** reports and by unanimous decision more will be ordered particularly for the Club's 35 year anniversary.

Ian **VK3BUF** reported that for the public liability the WIA wanted to know the club members who were WIA members.

The RFID receivers for open the club shack door Ian **VK3BUF** reports that he hopes to have working by next week.

Meeting closed : 20:40 : -- pm.

Next Meeting : Friday 16h March 2012

This evening's talk was on Amateur Radio Astronomy given by Clint Jeffrey **VK3CSJ**.

Gippsland Gate Radio and Electronics Club Inc. Committee Position Nomination form

<i>Position</i>	<i>Nominee</i>	<i>Proposed by..</i>	<i>Seconded by..</i>
President			
Secretary			
Treasurer			
Member #1			
Member #2			

Nominations must be approved by the Nominee before they can be accepted

GGREC EQUIPMENT SALE 2012

From the night of the AGM in April the Club will be selling a number of assets that are in excess to its requirements.

It was deemed by the committee that the fairest way to do this would be via a 7-day Sale by Tender (details below).

- The Tender Sale Coordinator selected by the Club Committee is **Mark VK3FWSP**
- This Sale will be reserved for GGREC members only.
- Most items will be available for inspection at the AGM meeting night.
- Most items have a reserve price, so all bids must be at or above this price.
- Bids must be submitted to the Tender Sale Coordinator with your Callsign, tender amount and reference number using one of the following methods:
 - Written on paper and supplied in a sealed envelope to **Mark VK3FWSP** at the April AGM.
 - Emailed to the Tender Sale Coordinator at pockets@twistedsouls.com with subject GGREC Tender Sale
(To prevent any confusion or misunderstanding with bids, verbal bids are not acceptable.)
- The Coordinator will accept bids from the AGM night on April 20, until midnight on April 27. Tenders before or after this period will not be accepted.
- During this time Club members will be able to place one bid for each item. At midnight on the end of the seven day period the highest bid for each item received by the Coordinator will win the item.
- Should more then one person bid the same (maximum) price for an item, those persons will be contacted and invited to make a second bid. The highest bidder of this new round would win the item.
- All bids will be confidential until the Sale by Tender is completed.
- The coordinator of the Tender process may also bid for items, but these bids must be printed, sealed in an envelope and passed on to the Committee for safekeeping before the sale commences. These bids may then be compared with other bids at the end of the Tender period.
- Any items passed in (no bids above the reserve price) would be made available for sale on the Club table at the Hamfest sale in July at prices not less than the reserve prices listed here. (The price of some items would actually be increased when being sold at the Hamfest Sale)
- At the completion of the Tender Process items will be transferred to the winning bidder when payment in full has been received.
- Items are sold on an as-is basis only. All risks associated with the correct working of the item is assumed by the purchaser.

Special notes on the Nally Radio tower:

The tower is a standard 13.7M Nally tower with a 5-6 metre, 50mm pole in the top. It is in good order with newer brake winches fitted. (the rotator is being sold separately) It is presently in its original location, but would be sold from that location with the mounting pole cut off at ground level. The purchaser would be responsible for the transport and erection of the tower to their own location. (tilt-truck services will usually convey these for around \$140) Sleeving and extending the support pole to full length could be organised separately, but this would cost a fixed \$280 for this modification. A suitable lifting jib for placing the tower on the pole is available for use at no cost. It is the purchases responsibility to deal with all compliance issues relating to the installation of the tower at their location

Anything you have at the club on the list and want back must be removed before the sale or will be sold.

Reference No.	Item	Reserve
1	GTS Plastic indoor TV antenna	none
2	Heathkit resistor substitution box	none
3	Heathkit capacitor substitution box	none
4	Spinning desk toy	none
5	Sansei logic pulse injector	\$ 5.00
6	PCB production assembly frame, (large orange)	\$ 30.00
7	HP8690A Sweep Osc & plugins, 2-6ghz, 4-8ghz, 8-12ghz, 12-18ghz,	\$ 80.00
8	Old AR and ARA magazines	none
9	BWD141 Sig Gen to 1 mhz.	\$ 30.00

10	Home brew resistor substitution box	none
11	Panasonic SD240 VHS Video Recorder & remote	none
12	Motorola Syntrex 2M radio	\$ 30.00
13	Belco sig gen ARF-300 to 5mhz.	\$ 20.00
14	A box of misc homemade RF filters.	none
15	10mhz TEK storage oscilloscope	\$ 25.00
16	Marconi TF2300B AM/FM modulation meter	\$ 50.00
17	A large box of morse code training cassette tapes	none
18	Bell & Howel Overhead projector	none
19	Overhead Projector screen & stand (damaged)	none
20	Systra&Donner 809-1 microwave tuning unit	\$ 80.00
21	Philips vidicon B&W tv camera with integral B&W screen	none
22	GGREC 70cm ATV transmitter #1	\$ 80.00
23	GGREC 70cm ATV transmitter #2	\$ 80.00
24	Hatfield audio level meter	\$ 30.00
25	Micronta transistor tester	none
26	Blue & black pc speakers	none
27	EPROM eraser (ultraviolet)	\$ 20.00
28	'Funway into electronics kit' (complete & unused)	none
29	A box of old VHF/UHF mobile antenna brackets	none
30	A box of resistors, caps and ex Tandy & Dick Smith component packs.	\$ 5.00
31	Yaesu rotator & control box G650-A	\$ 250.00
32	Daiwa SWR meter, CN-460 140-450Mhz	\$ 70.00
33	Low Pass Filter, 500W, Shinwa	none
34	Low Pass Filter, 1500W, Bencher inc	\$ 15.00
35	Duplexer for Kenwood dual bander, VHF, UHF	\$ 50.00
36	Alnico 2M, 70cm handheld, DJ-580	\$ 80.00
37	HF Transceiver, Yaesu FT1000MP + hand microphone	\$ 700.00
38	Power supply & cable for FT1000	\$ 80.00
39	HF Transceiver, Yaesu FT890 + hand microphone	\$ 500.00
40	12V 30A power supply, VK Powermaster K-3400	\$ 70.00
41	Hako 936 soldering station	\$ 70.00
42	Weller TC201 Soldering station	\$ 50.00
43	RT85 6M tranceiver (GGREC project)	\$ 25.00
44	Transceiver, dual band mobile, Alinco	\$ 200.00
45	Hi-Mound straight morse key	\$ 20.00
46	DC Power cable, 20A, red-black, 2M long	\$ 5.00
47	Active 2M pager filter in home-brew box	\$ 5.00
48	Speaker, Philips, 5" square	none
49	Nally tower with 1 regualr & 1 brake winch, 1/2 Pole (see notes)	\$ 400.00
50	Dual-band 2M-70cm vert	\$ 75.00
51	HF beam, TH3	\$ 150.00
52	1/2 wave vert dipole, 6M, home brew	\$ 5.00
53	RG58 coax cable (qty to be determined)	none
54	RG8 coax cable (qty to be determined)	none
55	Patch cable, RG58, 3M long, with PL259's	none
56	HF mobile antenna #1 (full detail to be announced)	\$ 20.00
57	HF mobile antenna #2 (full detail to be announced)	\$ 20.00
58	HF mobile antenna #3 (full detail to be announced)	\$ 20.00
59	HF mobile antenna #4 (full detail to be announced)	\$ 20.00



Information for Club Members



General Club meetings are held at 8:00pm on the third Friday of each month at the **Cranbourne Girl Guide Hall in Grant Street, Cranbourne.**

Prac nights are held on the first Friday night in the **Peter Pavey clubrooms**,
(at the rear of the Guide Hall) they commence from around 7:30 PM.

Visitors are always welcome to attend.

Office bearers

President:	Dianne Jackson	VK3JDI
Secretary:	Graeme Brown	VK3BXG
Treasurer:	Ian Jackson	VK3BUF
Gen. Comm Members:	Paul Stubbs	VK3TGX
	Russ White	VK3MWR
	Michael Van Den Acker	VK3GHM
Public Officer:	Ian Jackson	VK3BUF
Distribution Email :	Graeme Brown	VK3BXG
Property Officer:	Bruno Tonizzo	VK3BFT
Repeater Officer:	Albert Hubbard	VK3BQO
Web Master:	Stephen Harding	VK3EGD
Magazine Editor:	Mark 'Pockets' Clohesy	VK3FWSP

Call in Frequencies and Repeaters

- The Club Station is **VK3BJA** which operates from the Cranbourne Clubrooms.
- 6m Repeater at Cockatoo is **VK3RDD** : Freq. In **52.575**, Out **53.575** MHz
The 6m Repeater requires **CTCSS** tone access of **91.5** Hz
- 70cm Repeater Cranbourne is **VK3RLP** Freq. In **434.475**, Out **439.475** MHz
The 70cm Repeater requires **CTCSS** tone access of **123** Hz
The 70cm Repeater supports Remote Internet access (IRLP) **Node 6794**.
- Simplex VHF - **145.450** MHz FM
- Simplex UHF - **438.850** MHz FM

Membership Fee Schedule

Standard Member rate	\$37.00	Junior Member rate	\$22.00
Pension Member rate	\$22.00	Extra Family Member	\$17.00

- Fees can be paid by EFT to **BSB 633000 - Account 134761279**.
- Always identify your EFT payments.
- Due after each April Annual General Meeting.

Please direct all magazine articles to:
All other Club correspondence to:
or via Snail Mail :

editor@ggrec.org.au
secretary@ggrec.org.au
Box 1098, Cranbourne 3977

GGREC Web Site & Archive may be viewed at: www.ggrec.org.au

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

The deadline for magazine items is the Tenth day of each month.