Setting up a Google V3 API Service Account

In Nov 2014 google required the use of new V3, google API's. These require more rigorous security than was previously the case.

This note describes how to set up a service account for google calendar (as an example). A service account allows credentials to be passed by an application (e.g. a plugin) without user interaction and is therefore suited to use by plugins.

I will describe a procedure that will later allow you to use the credentials with the Google Calendar 3 (GCal3) plugin.

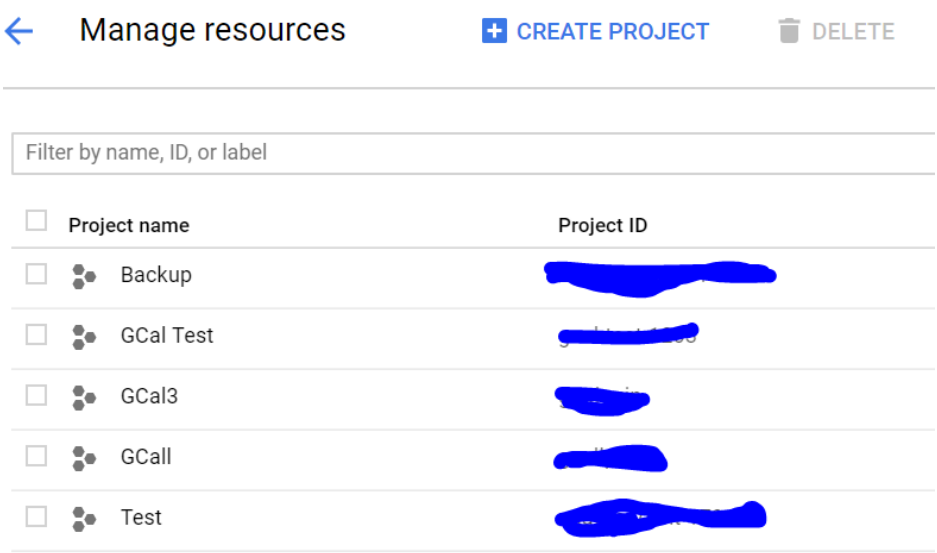
1) Go to the google developer console projects page here https://console.developers.google.com/project

2) **You need to have the Google Calendar APIs enabled**. Select the top left menu and go to APIs & Services. Select **Dashboard** and then **Enable API's and Services.** Scroll down or search and select **Google Calendar API** and then select **Enable**.

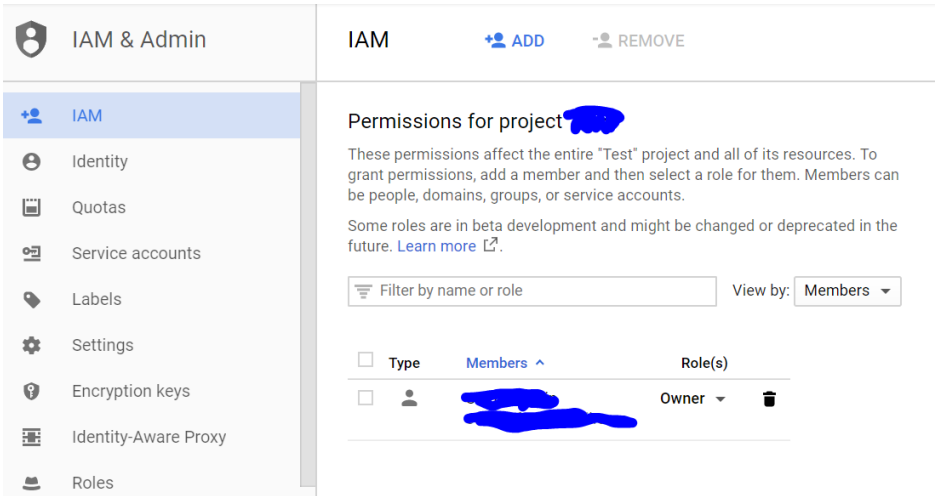
3) Next, from the top left menu select **IAM & admin** then **Manage Resources**

4) Press the **Create Project** Button
Enter a project name – lets use 'GCal3'
Press **Create**
Google will then take a few seconds to create the project (you may need to refresh your browser page).

You should now be at a page that looks like this:

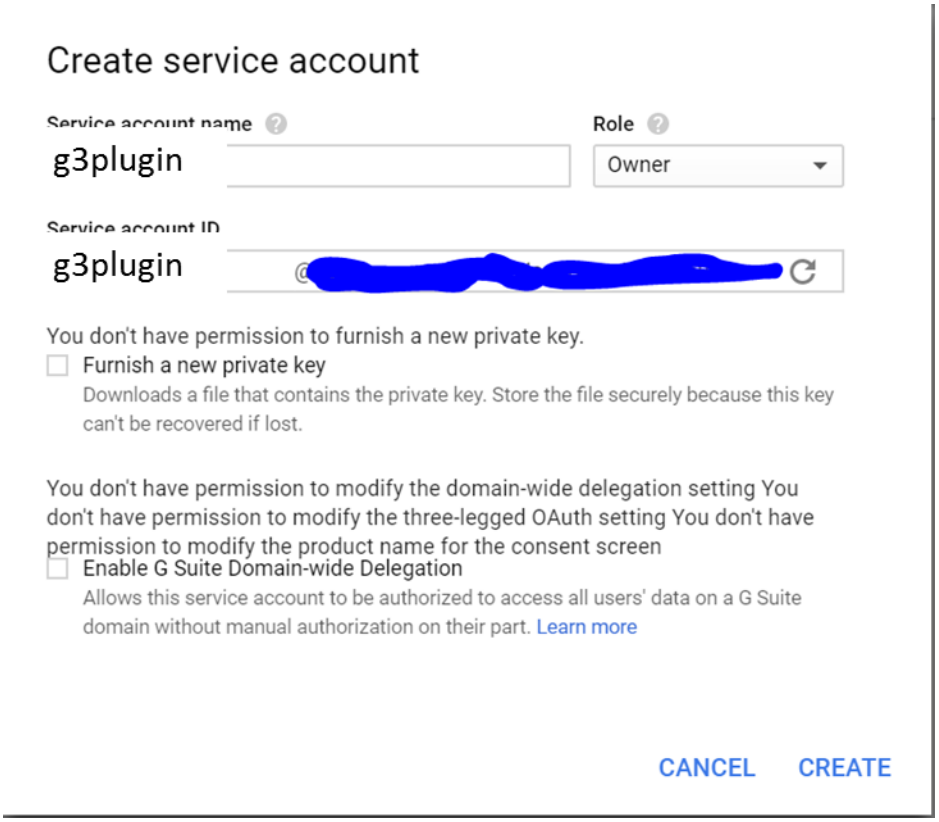


Select your project and you should be at a page that looks like this:

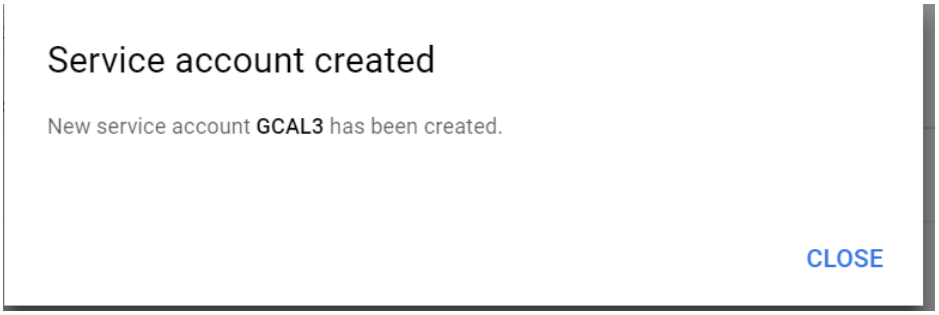


You are going to create a *SERVICE ACCOUNT* – so select **Service Accounts** and then **Create Service Account**

Enter a Service Account Name name – lets use 'g3plugin'
For Role – select Project → Owner
Click on **Create**

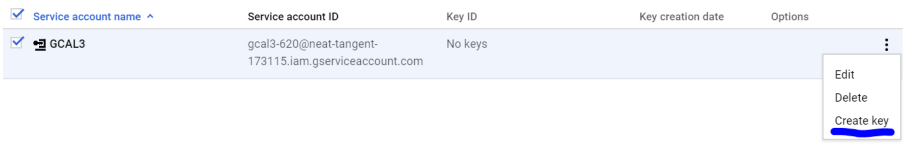


You should then get a confirmation message like this:

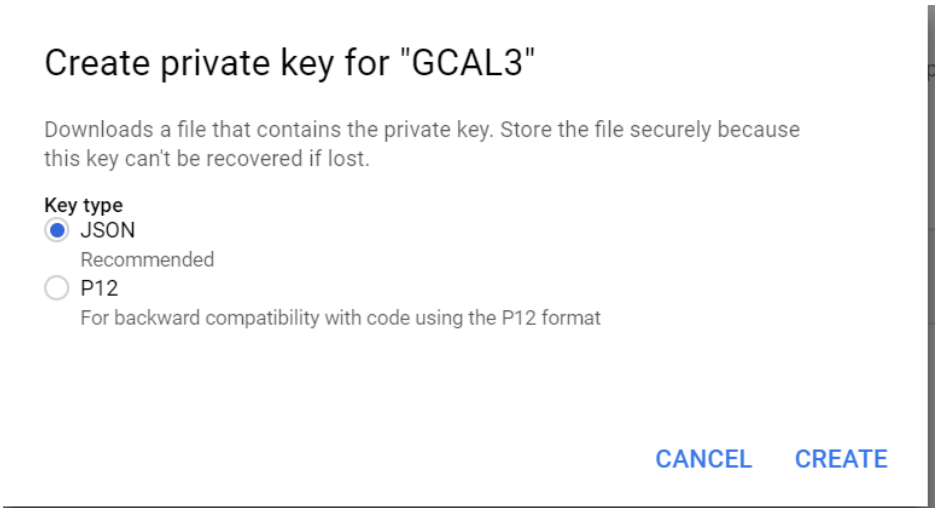


Click on **Close**

Select your service account and Click on **Create key**

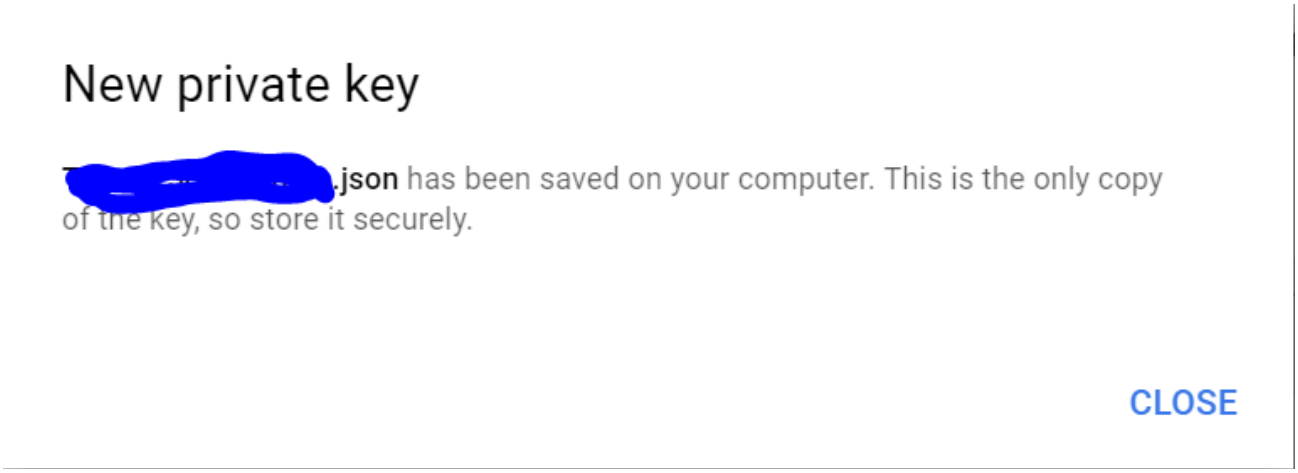


Select JSON
Click on **CREATE**



At this point you will be able to download your private key to your local machine. It will have a name like GCal3-12ab34bblabla58.json (if you used the names suggested above). **The file should be in the default download directory for your browser.**

You should have a success message that looks like this**:**



Copy this file to a suitable folder on your machine and rename it to GCal3.json

You have now created a google service account that will allow access to your calendar and you have downloaded the credentials that will be used by the GCal3 plugin.

BUT – you also need to:

(1) configure the calendar you want to access so that it knows which service accounts are allowed access, and

(2) Get the calendar ID

Open the json credentials file. It will look something like this


```
"type": "service_account",
"project_id": "clear-veld-118315",
"private_key_id": "fbcb13e14f4715f128116873ee4ea7c75c75b7c0",
"private_key": "-----BEGIN PRIVATE KEY-----\nMIIEvgIBADANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQEFAASCBKgwggSkAgEAAoIBAQCLqrTrKj
"client_email": "g3plugin@clear-veld-118315.iam.gserviceaccount.com",
"client_id": "107028186379188756240",
"auth_uri": "https://accounts.google.com/o/oauth2/auth",
"token_uri": "https://accounts.google.com/o/oauth2/token",
"auth_provider_x509_cert_url": "https://www.googleapis.com/oauth2/v1/certs",
"client_x509_cert_url": "https://www.googleapis.com/robot/v1/metadata/x509/g3plugintest%40clear-veld-11
```


Copy the client_email value (the portion between the quotes) that looks like this

g3plugin@clear-veld-118315.iam.gserviceaccount.com

Be careful not to alter the json file !

Go to the google calendar that you want to access and do the following

Settings -* Calendars -* [your calendar] -*

Copy the Calendar ID. Everything in the box including <iframe to </iframe>. **Save this as you will use it in the plugin to set the CalendarID**

Embed This Calendar

Embed this calendar in your website or blog by pasting this code into your web page. To embed multiple calendars, click on the Customize Link

Paste this code into your website.
Customize the color, size, and other options

```
<iframe
src="https://calendar.google.com/cal
endar/embed?
src=blablaxyzf7v9vpikudr1rjo%40gro
up.calendar.google.com&ctz=Americ
```

Calendar Address:

Next click on **Share this Calendar**
On the section that says "Share with specific people" Add the client-email from the step above. Change the permission to "Make Changes to Events"
Click on **Add Person**
You should now see the client_email listed like this

g3plugintest@clear-veld-118315.iam.gserviceaccount.com	Make changes to events

Click **Save**.

That's it – go setup your plugin !