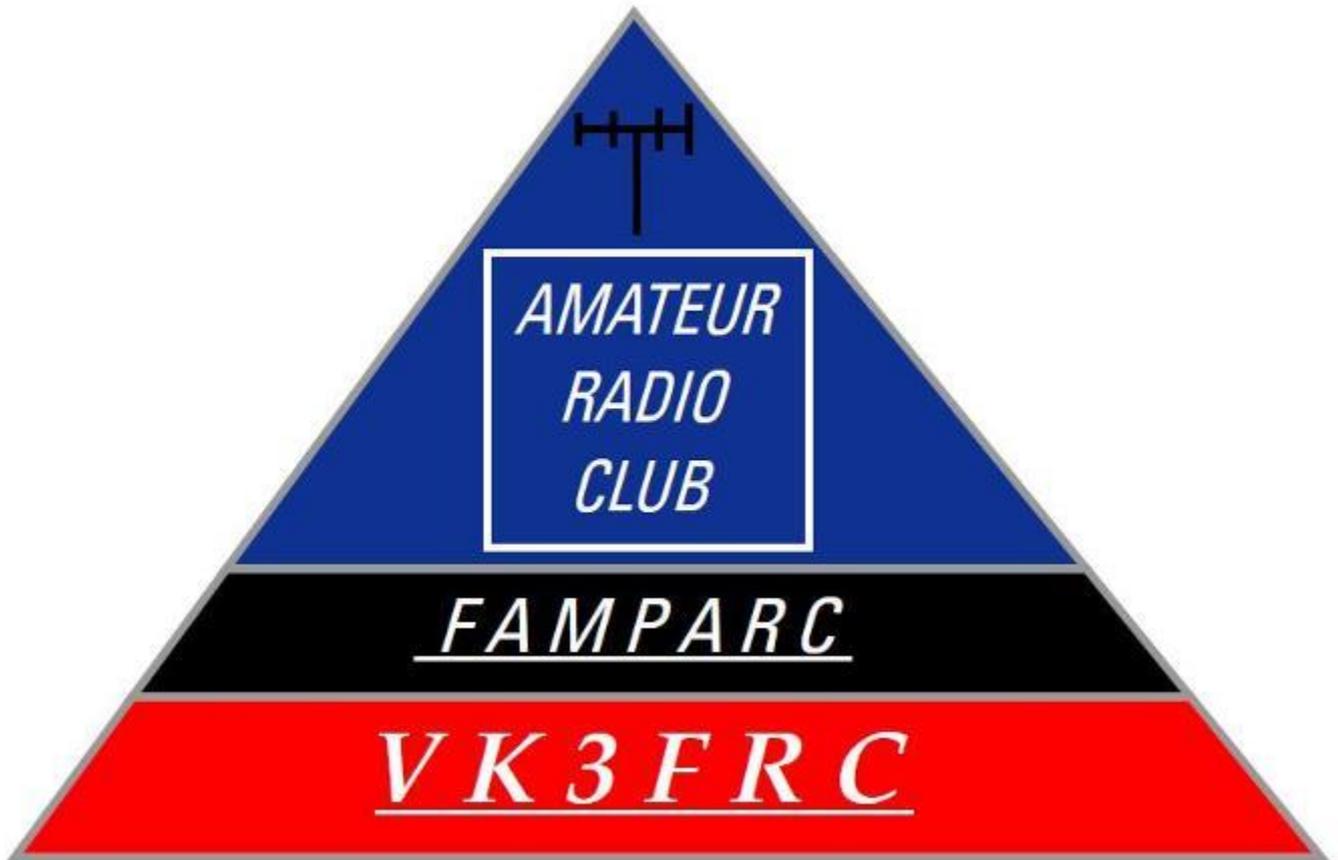




# FAMPARC - VK3FRC

FRANKSTON AND MORNINGTON PENINSULA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB Inc.

July / August 2013



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## COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

President	Roy Seabridge	VK3GB	5971 4782
Vice President	Allan Bengtsson	VK3AB	9584 5685
Secretary	Peter Collins	VK3IJ	9551 4591
Treasurer	Brian Rich	VK3VBJ	9747 3872
Committee Member	Michael Lammer	VK3UUU	0428 880 500
Committee Member	Ken Halse	VK3ZER	9773 2563
Committee Member	Barry Gardner	VK3THE	
Committee Member	David McAulay	VK3EW	0417 358 095
Committee Member	Andrew Stewart	VK3AEJ	0430 476 489
Committee Member	Bill Grypstra	VK3MMM	9781 2886
<b>Other Committee Positions..... (Note these are A/H Numbers)</b>			
Exam / Class Admin (Temp)	Allan Bengtsson	VK3AB	9584 5685
VK3 Nominated Assessor	Peter Willmott	VK3TQ	0434 623 423
WIA Exam Assessor	Michael Lammer	VK3UUU	0428 880 500
Contest Manager	Roy Seabridge	VK3GB	5971 4782
Class Instructor	Ken Halse	VK3ZER	9773 2563
Public Officer	Jeff Fletcher	VK3EUL	0419 877 447
QSL Manager	Bill Grypstra	VK3MMM	9781 2886
Equipment Officer	Bill Grypstra	VK3MMM	9781 2886
Homepage & Newsletter	David Roitman	VK3LDR	0439 037 203
Newsletter Assistant	Peter Collins	VK3IJ	9551 4591

All Surface Mail & QSL to P.O. Box 65, Patterson Lakes Vic 3197

The club location is Cornish College, Riverend Rd Bangholme Melway Map ref 93 J11 or UBD Ref Map 276 A3. **Please take careful note for Sth heading traffic, take Wells Rd not the freeway.**

Follow the road into the college, observing speed limits, take a left turn at the roundabout, go left around to the car park and turn left at the tennis courts, then follow slowly to the club. In winter please do not park on the grass and please angle park on Saturdays. We would be happy to see members, guests and anyone interested to come along.

- **Weekly Net:** Tuesdays at 8pm club members (and friends) meet on 146.425 MHz controlled by Bill VK3MMM.
- **Weekly Wednesdays 9am - 2pm at the club rooms.**
  - Meet other club members no longer in the work force and reflect on those busy days. Some work may be done on projects at your leisure.
- **Weekly Saturdays 9am - 2pm at the club rooms.**
  - Get together by club members (and friends). Have a chat on HF or VHF, join in with various projects, or at least discuss them over a cup of coffee.
- **Last Saturday of the month.**
  - Member business meeting starting at 10.30 am
- Club Regular Frequencies: 2m 146.425MHz Simplex & 70cm 439.900MHz Duplex
- D-Star Repeater: 2M Port C 146.7625 MHz Output & 70cm Port B 438.125 MHz Output

## A few words from the President

Via Peter VK3IJ

*I think most of you are aware that our esteemed President Roy GB is on his annual pilgrimage to the north in search of some warmer weather. Being in holiday mode he asked me if I could pen something for the Presidents report for the News Letter. I came up with the idea of using the email Roy sent me after he got back from his cruise around the Pacific Islands so here it is .....*

We are pleased to say we are back on dry land and glad to not feel any swaying. At times the ship was rocking quite considerably and it has taken a couple of days on dry land to get over it. We arrived back in Sydney during a real heavy downfall of rain, which continued at times until we collected our car and started to head north. Half an hour into the journey, down it came again more or less until we arrived in Foster-Tun-Curry.

Today, Wednesday (*July 3<sup>rd</sup>*) the weather has really brightened up with full sun and temperature around 20c. We are at a fantastic apartment more or less on top of a hill the view over the local beach and ocean is fantastic. The balcony is so large I have managed to hang up a 20 metre double bazooka. That was the good news the bad news is I am the south east side of the hill so putting out a great signal into the Pacific Ocean! Having said that I have made a couple of EU contacts so it's not all bad.

I don't think I have told you but the fishing trip (*Roy's wife Gloria had purchased a marlin fishing trip for his birthday*) was called off the night before due to an impending storm. I have "hopefully" rescheduled for the 24th August on our way back home. I am really keeping my fingers crossed, if it is cancelled again it will be expensive to travel back up to Sydney simply for a days fishing.

I have had a couple of ideas of things we could do for this year, (hopefully to interest members) but will wait for spring/summer time before starting on that.

Oh yes the other thing I wanted to tell you.....Vanuatu what a place!

I can understand why the ODXG group (*who went to Vanuatu on a DXpedition last year*) went down with a tummy bug. Most English people believe the French to be a bit on the nose. I have to say I haven't seen anything that would change my mind!!!!

*That was it from Roy, he is continuing his journey north, I'm not sure where he is staying on his way further north but will end up in Coolangatta. Coincidentally my wife and I were planning a trip to Surfers Paradise and it turned out we will be there at the same time and plan to meet.*

73, Peter

## A few words from the Editor

Dear Members,

As Peter advised, Roy has fled up North again to avoid the cold!

Firstly, sorry for the late newsletter. I've been too busy with family commitments of late but finally made some time on Saturday night the 6th and Sunday the 7th to finalise the newsletter!

I'm in the midst of having sold our house, signed to buy another and am currently going through what I find the stressful situation of going back and forth between estate agents, conveyancing and finance broker. This has been quite a busy affair with de-cluttering the house, dismantling my station (Mast down, dipole packed away, antennas hidden away etc), cleaning again before every open and having to vacate the house for the inspections! We were lucky to secure a buyer prior to going to auction! We did get people turn up on the last open that was cancelled once sale was locked in, and a few people did show up for the cancelled auction - I felt sorry for those. I've now learnt what a convoluted procedure selling and buying is, we have yet to finalise formal adjustment of settlement dates and a tick from the bank! It should all come good in the end, and I should myself moving in a couple of months - and I've already scouted the ACMA database for fellow local amateurs. There are a couple surprisingly close, there could be some operational band usage problems!

So looking forward to a house with an extra bedroom, a proper "study", plenty of lounge/dining area, 2 car garage and plenty of yard area for the kids and probably a wire antenna or two. There's quite a tall Palm tree on the property that might just serve well to throw a dipole over ;) Back to square one with the bank though :(

It seems life now with both kids has changed the dynamic of day to day life that I'm now unable to find time to lock away for the Famparc newsletter duties. So if anyone is interested in taking over potentially, get in touch with me! I'll keep at it least for the rest of this year. It does not in fact take terribly long to assemble everything together - my problem has just been trying to reserve the time away from everything else. I think I've logged only one single new QSO in the logbook this year and am sadly unable to participate in this years RD contest as it's my much loved favorite contest!

I also have Isla's first birthday coming up in a couple of months and Ethan's 3rd birthday next month!

As you know this year sees the end of the production of the Famous Famparc HF Whip. The website has been updated to reflect this news and there's a note on Page 5 of this newsletter.

Some general radio news you might find interesting;

[http://www.itwire.com/it-industry-news/deals/59683-cfa-gets-\\$43-million-digital-radio-network](http://www.itwire.com/it-industry-news/deals/59683-cfa-gets-$43-million-digital-radio-network)

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/red-tape-holds-up-licence-for-lifesaving-emergency-warning-technology/story-fnfwt5vp-1226645926579>

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/pirate-infiltrates-queensland-police-radio-network/story-fng45phq-1226653266535>

<http://www.itnews.com.au/News/343220,telecom-nz-builds-phone-booth-wi-fi-for-3g-offload.aspx>

<http://www.zdnet.com/au/acma-defends-emergency-spectrum-management-7000017186/>

Cheers,

Dave VK3LDR

## Meetings & News

As you know, there's a monthly business meeting on the last Saturday of each month. There are generally around fifteen to twenty members in attendance. Here's a **rollup summary** of some of the items discussed at club meetings.

**May 25th** Meeting opened 10:35am, closed 11:40am

Correspondence in: Building insurance renewal.

Correspondence out: Building insurance payment.

- Roy GB advised members that members are not to dispose of anything in the schools rubbish bin. He also talked about the disposal of the equipment donated to the club by the Barry BAP.
- Allan AB congratulated Shaun FSDS on reaching 75 DXCC's in the short time he has had his license.
- Roy GB and Peter IJ gave a brief talk about the experience of the VK9NT DXpedition.
- David EW commented on the operation of the VK9NT especially 30m SSB and 40m CW/SSB and said it was one of the better VK9NT operations he has observed.

**June 29th** Meeting opened 10:35am, closed 11:05am

Correspondence in: None

Correspondence out: None

- Allan AB advised that all the equipment Barry BAP had donated to the club had been sold with the exception of a couple of books which could be purchased by members or they would be sold at the next hamfest.
- David EW mentioned that the antenna tuner purchased by Gerard was missing a cable and would members look if they may have that cable amongst items they purchased.
- Allan mentioned there was some more miscellaneous antennas left over from Barry's donations.
- He also mentioned Kerry Boulger the principle from Cornish College had his contract extended which is good for our club as Kerry is keen for us to remain at the college.

### Next Business Meetings

- Saturday 27th July
- Saturday 31st August

### Talks

We are always planning to arrange a lecture/talk each month. If any club members would be willing to give a talk on something they feel would be interesting and informative for club members please telephone Roy on 59714782 to make arrangements.

## The "END OF AN ERA"



June 2013, an era ended when Allan VK3AB and Bill VK3MMM sold the last FAMPARC antenna. The pair have been making the antennas for over 12 years and have supplied the antennas to 100's of very satisfied customers. The antennas have been made in a variety of models to suit 4WD and various Amateur Radio bands and even RFDS.

The Famparc whip can be found and heard in all areas of Australia and most areas of New Zealand. There's at least one being driven round in South Africa! Over the years enquiries for the whip has been received from most areas of Europe and the U.S.A. The building of the Famparc whip started out as a club project and simply developed due to its effectiveness and rugged design.

The work done by Allan and Bill over the years has been extremely valuable to the club and will ensure the financial viability of FAMPARC for many years.

**WELL DONE ALLAN AND BILL AND THANKS FROM ALL THE MEMBERS**

## Amplifier Presentation

Article by Barry Gardner VK3THE

It was my great pleasure to attend the FAMPARC club house on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June where Mark Cvik VK3ABT kindly gave a very informative presentation describing the approach he took in choosing the type of HF Liner Amplifier which would become a part of the equipment line up in his shack.

Marks very sharp pencil approach and meticulous eye for detail, quality, service ability and ongoing maintenance were part of his plan to have a cost efficient amp. with complete ease of operation backed by a programmed hardware protection system.

Mark pointed out that sub standard chips are sometimes used and the model numbers are identical so buyer beware. The photos show Mark and the equipment in his presentation. Thanks for opening up the amplifier for us to inspect.



# What's on & Coming up??

## Contests & Hamfests

For popular local contest see the WIA Calendar: <http://www.wia.org.au/newsevents/events/>

For popular DX Contests See the following websites & calendars:

ARRL: <http://www.arrl.org/contests/calendar.html>

WA7BNM's calendar: <http://www.hornucopia.com/contestcal/contestcal.html>

- GippsTech Conference (July 13th-14th) - <http://www.vk3bez.org/gippstech.htm>
- GGREC Hamfest (July 20th) - <http://ggrec.org.au/sales.php>
- ALARA Contest (Sat 24th and Sun 25th August) - <http://www.alara.org.au/contests/>
- Remembrance Day Contest (August 17th-18th) - <http://www.wia.org.au/members/contests/rdcontest/>
- International Lighthouse Lightship Weekend (August 17th-18th) - <http://illw.net/>

## Birthdays!

If your birthday isn't at some stage in this newsletter we may not have your details so please supply to Allan VK3AB.

### July

Allan VK3AB, Ed VK3GD, Allen VK3FARW , Shaun VK3MSD & Andrew VK3CAH.

### August

Allan VK3ALA, Murray (Callsign pending!), Dana VK3HHL, Martin VK3JAZ & Claireen VK3KMB

