



# OXTALES

First published 1980

Newsletter of the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club Inc.

PO Box 712 Port Macquarie 2444

Club e-mail address: vk2bor@orarc.org

Club Website: www.orarc.org

ORARC's Forty-second Anniversary Year

Club Nets on VK2RPM  
146.700MHz  
(CTCSS 91.5Hz)  
Every Sunday at 0830  
Every Thursday at 1930

## May 2013

Compiled by VK2TT & VK2AYQ

PRESIDENT: Henry Lundell VK2ZHE 6582.0534  
VICE PRES: Bruce Walker VK2HOT 6583.8360  
TREASURER: Keith Anderson VKFKJA 6586.3988  
SECRETARY: Henry Lundell VK2ZHE 6582.0534

### President's Report

I must start this report on a sad note. Our esteemed member, Neil Sandford VK2EI passed away on the 9<sup>th</sup> of March 2013. Thank you to those who kept up their contact with Neil in his last days, and thank you to everyone who attended his funeral on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March. The club has received a lovely thank you letter from Verena Sandford. There is a Silent Key in this issue of Oxtales.



The ORARC 2013 Field Day takes place on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup> of June during the Queen's Birthday Weekend. The venue will be the Tacking Point Surf Life Saving Club hall in Matthew Flinders Drive, Lighthouse Beach, Port Macquarie. The Field Day dinner will be at 6pm on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> of June at the Port Macquarie Golf Club on Ocean Drive. ORARC has booked tables and the full menu is available with payment as you order. The Golf Club has a new caterer this year and the prices are very reasonable.

Please make yourself available when calls are made for assistance in running the Field Day. By sharing the workload we can all enjoy the weekend without anyone being overworked. It is important to make the field day a success as it is the major fund raising activity for the year.

(Continues on page 3)

### ORARC VHF/UHF Repeaters

**MIDDLE BROTHER**  
VK2RPM 2 metre (Voice - CTCSS 91.5Hz)  
O/P 146.700MHz -I/P 146.100MHz

VK2RPM 70 cm (Voice - CTCSS 123Hz)  
O/P 438.525MHz -I/P 433.525MHz

VK2RPM-1 (APRS Digipeater)  
SX 145.175MHz 1200bps

**TELEGRAPH POINT**  
VK2RCN 2 metre (Voice)  
O/P 147.000 MHz - I/P 146.400 MHz

VK2RCN 70 cm (Voice - CTCSS 123 Hz)  
O/P 438.425MHz - I/P 433.425MHz

VK2RCN-1 (APRS Digipeater)  
SX 145.175MHz 1200bps

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Don't forget to join  
or renew your WIA  
membership.

<http://www.wia.org.au/>



## Down The Coax

Monthly meetings held in the S.E.S. Building Central Road, Port Macquarie.

### Monthly Meeting

Saturday 4 May 2013 2:00 pm

### Friday Night Get-Together

Friday 17 May 2013 7.00 pm

### Monthly General Meeting

Saturday 1 June 2013 2:00 pm

### ORARC 2013 Field Day

Venue: Tacking Point Surf Life Saving Club Hall

Saturday 8 June and Sunday 9 June 2013

### Friday Night Get-Together

Friday 21 June 2013 7.00 pm

### Monthly General Meeting

Saturday 6 July 2013 2:00 pm

### Friday Night Get-Together

Friday 19 July 2013 7.00 pm

**e-mail Directory**

## Net Controllers' Roster

Nets on Voice Repeater VK2RPM 146.700 MHz

**Sundays**  
(0830 Local)

**Thursdays**  
(1930 Local)

### May 2013

VK2CHC May - 05    VK2ATM May - 02

VK2TT May - 12    VK2ZHE May - 09

VK2OA May - 19    VK2EM May - 16

VK2CHC May - 26    VK2ATM May - 23

VK2ZHE May - 30

### June 2013

VK2TT Jun - 02    VK2EM Jun - 06

VK2OA Jun - 09    VK2ATM Jun - 13

VK2CHC Jun - 16    VK2ZHE Jun - 20

VK2TT Jun - 23    VK2EM Jun - 27

VK2OA Jun - 30

### July 2013

VK2CHC Jly - 07    VK2ATM Jly - 04

VK2TT Jly - 14    VK2ZHE Jly - 11

VK2OA Jly - 21    VK2EM Jly - 18

VK2CHC Jly - 28    VK2ATM Jly - 25

**Email Directory continued**

*(from page 1)*

The Field Day program is included with this issue of Oxtales.

Thank you to all the club members who participated in the John Moyle Memorial Field Day Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2013 at Rosendahl Reserve in Clearwater Crescent, Port Macquarie. The event was extremely well supported this year. The club's Communications Caravan provided a comfortable operating environment for the VK2BOR HF and VHF/UHF stations. Thank you to John McLean VK2KC for providing and erecting the guyed mast for the 2 metre and 70 centimetre horizontal beam antennas. HF conditions were reasonable but on 2 metres and 70 centimetres the only station worked was Grant VK2MAX at Kempsey. There were audible stations portable in the mountains west of Sydney but neither VK2BOR or VK2MAX were able to make scoring contacts with them. The weather was excellent and everyone enjoyed the sausage sizzle lunch ably cooked by Richard VK2CHC on the Council-provided electric barbeque. Please see the report in words and pictures in this issue.

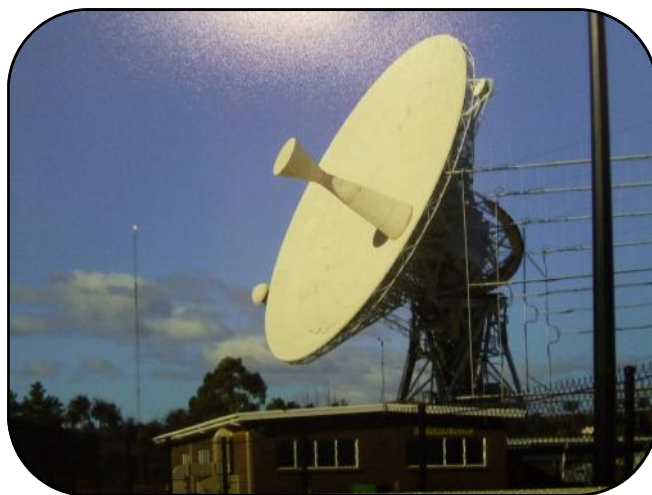
Thank you to those who attended the Urunga Convention over the Easter Weekend on Saturday the 30<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 2013. As usual, there was a good contingent of ORARC members at Urunga.



*Bruce Ekert*

Thank you to Bruce Ekert VK2EM for the excellent talk he presented at the ORARC April Monthly General Meeting on the 6<sup>th</sup> of April 2013. Bruce spoke on Australia's contribution to the Apollo 11 Moon landing mission, and importantly

on how the television pictures of those famous first steps on the Moon were actually received. The pictures came via Honeysuckle Creek near Canberra until the Moon rose above the horizon at Parkes and they were able to receive the signal. The audience was treated to a most interesting collection of photographs taken at the Honeysuckle Creek tracking station which no longer exists. Fortunately, its main dish lives on at Tidbinbilla. Arthur Monck VK2ATM made a video of Bruce's talk and anyone who missed the talk should see Arthur in order to obtain a copy.



*The receiving dish Honeysuckle Creek*



*Neil VK2EI (Silent Key) and Bruce VK2EM at the site of former Honeysuckle Creek tracking station. Unbeknown to Bruce, Neil was also working on the tracking project.*

At the May Monthly General Meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May 2013, Bruce Ekert is presenting his long awaited lecture and demonstration of his 10GHz spectrum analyser. This innovative spectrum analyser uses a ku band LNB feeding into a USB TV dongle plugged into a PC running SDR Sharp. Arthur Monck VK2ATM will make a video of Bruce's spectrum analyser talk and anyone who missed the talk should see Arthur in order to obtain a copy.

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Bruce lives at Forster and is a member of ORARC. Thank you for coming to Port Macquarie to present the lectures at the monthly general meetings for two months in a row.

This year many members have taken up the challenge of software defined radio SDR utilising USB DVB-T dongles plugged into PCs running SDR sharp and similar software. Demonstrations and question and answer sessions have been very popular at the Friday Night get-togethers. Several members have also invested in the FunCube Pro+ USB dongles which cover from 150kHz to 1.9GHz apart from a gap in coverage between 240MHz and 420MHz. Silicon Chip magazine has a very detailed article in its May 2013 issue dealing with using DVB-T USB dongles on PCs as SDR receivers.

The club's VK2RPM 146.7 MHz and 438.525 MHz voice repeaters and the VK2RPM-1 APRS digipeater at Middle Brother Mountain are all working well.

The VK2RCN 147.0 MHz and 438.425 MHz voice repeaters and the VK2RCN-1 APRS digipeater at Telegraph Point are also working well. There will soon be a working bee at the VK2RCN site at Telegraph to cut the grass and do some maintenance.

After the ORARC Field Day the club station VK2BOR will participate in the following events in the next few months. Mark your calendar now:

The Remembrance Day Contest which takes place on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of August 2013

The International Lighthouse and Lightship Weekend which also takes place on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of August 2013

The Scouts and Guides 55<sup>th</sup> annual Jamboree on the Air (JOTA) which takes place on Saturday and Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> of October 2013.

The RD contest and Lighthouse weekend are both on the same weekend this year. VK2BOR will operate from the club's Communications Caravan at the Tacking Point Lighthouse during the daylight hours on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> of August. The RD Contest starts at 1 pm on the Saturday afternoon and VK2BOR will operate both events

until 5pm when the caravan will be relocated to the usual VK2ZHE QTH. VK2BOR will continue to operate in the RD contest from the caravan until the contest concludes at 1pm on Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup> of August 2013.

As is customary for these events, a hot dog lunch will be provided from the club's caravan at the Tacking Point Lighthouse at 12 noon on Saturday the 17<sup>th</sup> of August 2013. A sausage sizzle barbeque evening meal will be provided at 6 pm at the VK2ZHE QTH on the Saturday evening. On the Sunday morning, 18<sup>th</sup> of August, the barbeque will provide a bacon and egg breakfast and a sausage sizzle lunch at noon.

There will be more details regarding the RD Contest and the Lighthouse weekend in the July issue of Oxtales.

I must finish this report with another reminder of the ORARC 38<sup>th</sup> annual Field Day. It takes place on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> and Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup> of June during the Queen's Birthday Weekend at the Tacking Point Surf Life Saving Club hall in Matthew Flinders Drive, Lighthouse Beach, Port Macquarie. There is a lot of interest in the Field Day this year and we can expect even more visitors than usual.

There will be all the usual attractions at the Field Day. The fox hunts will run on both the Saturday afternoon and all day Sunday.

Don't forget the very popular Field Day dinner at 6pm on Saturday the 8<sup>th</sup> of June at the Port Macquarie Golf Club on Ocean Drive.

Sunday the 9<sup>th</sup> of June 2013 is the trading day of the Field Day. Both Radio Supply and VK2ICE Communications will have a great number of "must have" items for sale. Both have stocked up especially for the Field Day. John VK2JWA will have his range of useful items. If you don't already have one you will be able to pick up a Jaycar catalogue for free. Amateur Radio NSW and ALARA will be represented. If you aren't already a member, please take the opportunity to join the Wireless Institute of Australia.

Arthur Monck VK2ATM will run demonstrations of software for digital communications. HamStuff is back this year on a completely full 16 GB USB flash drive.

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Remember to bring your latest project along and enter it into the Home Brew competition.

As usual, the disposal tables will be well stocked this year. There is no charge to sellers so bring your treasures along. There will be a great number of items from the estate of Neil Sandford VK2EI. This includes hard- to-get microwave bits and pieces and some test equipment and a very large magazine collection.

The Field Day barbeque will run hot for lunch on the Saturday and Sunday, and for a bacon and egg breakfast on Sunday morning. The ever popular fruit salad and ice cream dessert will be available for Sunday lunch. As usual, tea and coffee and biscuits will be free throughout the two days to those who have registered.

Henry Lundell VK2ZHE  
President

### Vale Neil Sandford VKEI



Silent Key – Neil Sandford VK2EI

It is with great sadness that we record the passing of Neil Sandford VK2EI at home at Port Macquarie on Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> of March 2013 at the age of 82 years.

Neil was born to school teacher parents in rural New Zealand on the 31<sup>st</sup> of December 1930. He was the eldest of 3 children. His full name was Herbert Neil Sandford but everyone knew him as Neil throughout his life.

After a boarding School education Neil followed his passion of electronics and communications and joined the New Zealand Post Office where he installed remote area communications links and radio systems. His other passions included his family, fishing, deer stalking and pig hunting. He could always be engaged in conversation over his first hand experience in motorcycles. He was a man of many talents. He built his own house amongst many achievements.

Neil wintered at Scott Base with the New Zealand Antarctic Program during the 1957/1958 International Geophysical Year. A major highlight in his career was participating in the 1958 crossing of the Antarctic continent with Sir Edmund Hillary. Neil has the honour of the Sandford Mountains in Antarctica being named after him. He attended the New Zealand Antarctic reunion at Scott Base in 2000.

Neil took his family to Australia in 1966 when he commenced work at deep space tracking stations in a long career that took him to several states. These included stations at Cooby Creek near Toowoomba in Queensland, Honeysuckle Creek and Tidbinbilla near Canberra in the ACT and Geraldton in Western Australia. He was involved in various space programmes including the Apollo Moon landings. Neil received many accolades from NASA for his expertise and ingenuity.

Throughout his career Neil gained a great deal of practical experience in microwave radio technology which he carried through to Amateur Radio. He was always active in pushing the limits of microwave communications from the regions where he lived and held a series of distance records with other similar minded keen experimenters.

Neil retired to a house in an excellent radio location in Port Macquarie, NSW, in 1998 where he became very active in the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club. He never missed a club event and unselfishly contributed his time and considerable expertise. He fostered microwave activity both locally and elsewhere through his infectious enthusiasm in building new and more advanced systems for several microwave bands and making many

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contacts from portable locations. Neil was a great supporter of GippsTech and travelled to Victoria every year for the event where he delivered a large number of papers on a diverse range of technical topics. He always went to the Central Coast Field Day and each year returned with some interesting bargains. He derived great stimulation from both events each year in meeting up with a large circle of keen microwave enthusiasts.

The well attended funeral for Neil was held at Port Macquarie on Wednesday the 13<sup>th</sup> of March 2013. The Chapel overflowed and over 20 of the mourners had to be content with watching the Service on Closed Circuit Television. Michael, Neil's eldest son, delivered a loving eulogy which summarised a full and interesting life. This was followed by testimonials from family members, the Oxley Region Amateur Radio Club, and from Probus, another organisation in which he had been active. As well as these organisations, SES was well represented, together with family and many other friends.

To Neil's wife Verena and their children, Cheryl, Michael and Guy, and their families, the Amateur Radio fraternity offers its deepest sympathy.



Vale Neil Sandford VK2EI

Submitted by Henry Lundell VK2ZHE



## Antenna Masts in New South Wales

### WIA Broadcast

This is Roger Harrison VK2ZRH.

For all New South Wales amateurs waiting to hear what the NSW planning department is doing about including provisions for amateur radio masts and antennas in the planning laws currently being revised, I have some news for you. Last week I had a discussion with one of our contacts in the department. There's some good news and some not so good news. The good news is: NSW amateurs will get pretty much what we wanted

That is - antennas and masts up to 10 metres height will be an exempt development within residential zones R1 to R5. There will be no need for a development application to your local council, or a consent certificate, provided the structure meets a few simple parameters - such as complying with Australian Standard AS 1170, footings to comply with Australian Standard

AS 3600, positioned at a specified set-back from the nearest boundary depending on its height, and so on. We will learn more about the detail later. And we hope there aren't too many devils in that detail. The not so good news is - you will have to be patient for it to become law.

I was informed that, in relation to the planning regulations that affect us (and many other stakeholders as well), the legal branch of the department will be submitting the revisions to the parliamentary counsel - the people who actually draft the legislation - by the end of the second quarter this year. That means June. When the parliamentary counsel completes their work, it will be recommended to the

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NSW Governor, who will make the legislation - bless her soul - which will then be gazetted some time later this year. But the legislation will not come into effect for another six weeks after that, to allow time for local councils and other organizations to become familiar with it. Maybe, just maybe, we will have a Christmas present !

Our contact in the planning department told me that they had enjoyed the input from the "amateur communications lobby". However, he did say that it would not be productive for you all to continue writing. Further letters to the department , the NSW Minister for Planning, or your local member - even just "thank you" letters - would only necessitate them taking time out to write replies, rather than concentrating on the important work of completing the legislation.

If you want to write or email your thanks, send them to WIA President Phil Wait VK2ASD. The Institute will, at the appropriate time, convey everyone's thanks to the planning department and the minister. While I'm on the subject, I must congratulate and thank everyone - individual amateurs and radio clubs alike - who went to the effort of making a submission during all the phases of the Planning System Review over the past 18 months and also writing to your local members last year. All the effort has paid off.

This is Roger Harrison VK2ZRH for VK1WIA National News.

### *Silent Key: Pat Hawker, G3VA (SK)*



*RadCom* columnist and RSGB Life Vice President Pat Hawker, G3VA, of London, England, passed away February 21. He was 90. For 50 years -- 1958-2008 -- Hawker penned the bi-monthly "Technical Topics" column in *RadCom*, the member journal of the Radio Society of Great Britain, focusing on many new techniques and devices that

came into being and were enjoyed by radio amateurs in the second half of the 20th century.

Born in Minehead, Somerset in 1922, Hawker's schoolboy interest in radio never left him. He heard his first amateur station on 20 meters in the autumn of 1935. He obtained the "artificial aerial" license 2BUH at age 14 and became G3VA in October 1938, at the then-minimum age of 16. Hawker was involved in many aspects of radio, beginning in World War II as a member of the Radio Security Service (RSS) and its connections to MI5 and MI6. After the Allied invasion of Europe, he spent time with British intelligence services, as well as time with Holland's Bureau of National Security. In 1948, Hawker became an assistant to RSGB General Secretary John Clarricoats, G6CL (SK). Read more [here](#).

*Extract from the ARRL Letter for February 28, 2013*

### **John Moyle Memorial Field Day**



The John Moyle Memorial Field Day was held at the Port Macquarie was held at the Port Macquarie Off Creek Storage Dam on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> of March 2013 at Rosendahl Reserve.

Caravan set up with HF and VHF antennas.

Bruce VK2HOT and Alex VKFOAB deep in discussion.



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John VK2KC and David VK2FRAB operating VK2BOR station on HF.



The day was well supported by many members of the club. Bruce VK2HOT, Arthur VK2ATM, Bill VK2ZCV Alex VK2FOAB and John VK2KC discussing radio operations.



Henry VK2ZHE operating station VK2BOR on VHF.



Mark VK2FMGM and David VK2FRAB take a turn on HF operating VK2BOR.



An army marches on its stomach and ORAC operates on its famous sausage sizzles. Being prepared and served by VK2CHC and assisted by Dennis .



Craig VK2ZCM and Bruce VK2HOT relax and chat. The weather was fine and the views over the water were picturesque. A very pleasant John Moyle Memorial Field Day was had by all.



## Oxtales blasts from the past.



Who is this earnest young person who is a current member of our club?

He also wrote the following story for Oxtales in 1988.

From the 1988/1989 issue of the OXLEY REGION AMATEUR RADIO CLUB NEWSLETTER (OXTALES).

“A Call from above.

No, not the divine type, but definitely one to remember.

T’was 5am local time on Saturday the 25 November 1988 when I was disturbed; by that I know not. Being one of those who cannot lay around in bed once awake I decided to make the move and slip into the ‘shack’ where I maybe could do something fruitful without disturbing the rest of the household. Once in the SHACK what to do? “AHH turn on the monitors and have a look on ART’S BBS, ( I run the receiver with a dummy load on the speaker... so no noise).

Here we go, that what I want, some more info on the MIR space station, that could be interesting and maybe useful, I’ll save that lot to disk and print it out a little later.

Now it is a lot later, having attended to the calls of nature, I was ready to print out the info that I had saved to disk, if only I can find that program to read sequential files! There it is, only take a minute to load that, there that’s done now to get the printer on line and away we go. With paper tumbling out it was much easier to read the info than

whilst I had been down loading, it scrolls too fast for my tired old eyes, there is the important bit, frequency of expected operation , 145.5 Mhz to 145.600, most used 145.550 Mhz simplex FM. I may as well turn the gear on while I wait, you never know your luck in the big city.

Off the roller chair and over to the gear, think I’ll give the clubs rig a run, keep it dried out. It was only a moments work to hook up the coax from the Slim Jim and the DC leads, what’s the printer up to, what’s that!! Who is that calling “CQ Australia ... this is U2MIR calling CQ Australia.”

Quick as a flash after picking myself up from the floor I grabbed the mic and called, “This is Australian station VK2ZCV calling U2MIR.. do you copy.” Yes came the reply, a quick exchange of reports followed.

Musa spoke very good English, just as well as my Russian is non existant!. The contact lasted approx. one minute. The signal strength here was S2 and Q5 copy. Well that’s one for the book... here I am getting the info and he pops up out of the blue.. has to be at least a million to one chance. The time of contact 06.41 am local time.”

## Items for Sale

Submitted on behalf of Jack Cook by John VK2KC.

Baofeng UV-3R dual band hand held. Brand new. Boxed. Never used. \$30

Realistic PRO-64 200 channel V/UHF hand held scanner. Used condition, but working OK. \$30

Jack Cook  
VK2AXL / MM0AXL  
0437 045 475  
Skype- mm0axl

Model 15 Teletype complete with Manual is also offered again by John VK2AYQ free to anyone.

Good for spares and for the manual!



Contact John Hansen  
VK2AYQ via email at hansen-jo@ozemail.com.au

## Popular Amateur Equipment from the Past The Yaesu FT101

The FT101 was a very popular Amateur Band transceiver which saw the start of many an amateurs station.

The following details are compiled mainly from NW2M's website and Wikipedia



The FT-101 is a hybrid radio that employs a solid state transmitter, receiver, and a tube final amplifier. The solid state features of the radio offer high-performance, low-current characteristics, while the tube amplifier provides a nearly "bullet-proof" transmitter and tuner stage.

The tube amplifier consists of a 12BY7A pre-driver stage that feeds a pair of 6JS6C tubes providing a nominal output power of 130 watts PEP SSB, 90 watts CW, 40 watts AM. The 6JS6C tubes are matched to 50 Ohms through a conventional pi-output network. The pi-network transforms the 3000 ohm output impedance of the tubes to a 50 Ohm feed system, provides harmonic attenuation, and can actually match to a variety of output impedances from 25 to 100 Ohms with ease.

The transceivers were made with plug-in boards that could be sent to the factory for replacement or repair. This modular design was unprecedented in the amateur community, which explains why so many FT-101's are still in use today. In fact, board extenders could be purchased to extend any board above the main chassis for measurement, alignment, and repair. For any plug-in board, all voltages, grounds, and signal traces were routed through a single edge connector (facing down into the main chassis). This removed the need for wires and cables to these circuit boards. This yielded a clean and trim internal upper chassis. The bulk of the wiring harness is below the deck of the main chassis where all main circuit board edge connectors are fed. Yes, there are many wires!

The FT-101 series of transceivers first appeared outside of the United States in 1970 and then inside the United States in late 1971. It gained overnight approval of amateur radio operators for its quality of signal, flexibility and for professional attention to workmanship and design. The modular design of 10 solid state circuit boards on a common chassis with a tube amplifier caught the eye of discriminating hams world wide.

### FT-101 Features

- Built-in AC and DC power supplies.
- True RF Speech Processor.
- Solid state VFO, 1kHz resolution.
- Modulation modes - USB, LSB, CW, AM.
- Built-in, adjustable, VOX.
- Adjustable CW Side tone.
- Selectable 25kHz and 100kHz calibrator/marker.
- RIT control +/- 5kHz range.
- WWV reception for time and fine frequency calibration.
- Built-in speaker.
- Eight pole SSB filter. CW filter optional.

Complete line of station accessories providing 160M thru 2M coverage.

### General FT-101 Specifications

Frequency Range: 3.5-30 MHz\*

(80/40/20/15/10 meters)

27.0-27.5 MHz (11/AUX)

10.0-10.5 MHz (WWV receive only)

160 meters included with B/E/F Series

USB, LSB, CW, AM

Power Input: SSB 260 watts PEP DC Input  
(130 watts output)

CW 180 watts PEP DC Input ( 90 watts output)

AM 80 watts PEP DC Input ( 40 watts output)

TX Freq Response: 300 Hz - 2700 Hz

RX Freq Response: 300 Hz - 2400 Hz Standard

Yaesu SSB Filter

500 Hz Optional Yaesu CW Filter

Optional Filters: 300 Hz - 1800 Hz SSB Narrow  
(Fox Tango Filter)

250 Hz CW Narrow (Fox Tango Filter)

Audio Output: 3 watts

AC Power: Rx 35 watts, Tx 300 watts

DC Power: Rx 0.5 amps, Tx 20.0 amps

Weight: 35 lbs

Size: 13-1/2" x 6" x 11-1/2"

## Amateur Radio from Darwin

Keith VK2FKJA recently visited Darwin radio club and Stuart VK8NSB. Stuart and his family showed Keith around and provided great hospitality. Below are a couple of photographs of a really well equipped shack.



*Stuart VK8NSB in his shack.*



*Darwin Radio Club*



*Darwin Radio Club space, equipment and storage.*

## ORAC MEMBERSHIP

ORARC Membership subscriptions for the 2013-2013 Financial Year will fall due on the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2013. The new rates are: Ordinary Membership \$40, Family Membership \$40, Associate Membership \$20, Distant Membership \$10. Renewal notices will be sent out soon. Payments may be made by direct deposit, by post, or in person to the Treasurer or the President/Secretary at club meetings and gatherings. Please renew promptly. Thank you.

Classes for the Standard Licence commenced on Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> of August 2013 and will continue each Friday night from 6pm to 9pm at the SES Building in Central Road, Port Macquarie until the candidates are ready for assessment. There are currently 7 candidates with several intending to continue to the Advanced licence. Classes and assessments will soon be run for the Foundation Licence. Please contact the club's Education Officer Larry Lindsay VK2CLL if you would like to obtain your licence or upgrade your existing licence. The classes and assessments are conducted by Larry Lindsay VK2CLL and Ross Boyd VK2RR who are both WIA Assessors.

### ORARC's Annual Field Day Weekend Sat-Sun 8th & 9th June 2013 (during the Queens Birthday Weekend)

Tacking Point Surf Life Saving Club Hall  
Matthew Flinders Drive,  
Lighthouse Beach, Port Macquarie.

**Field Day Dinner on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> June  
6pm at Port Macquarie Golf Club  
See accompanying programme  
For full particulars of timing & ever**

