



2022 September Newsletter

President – Matt Jordan

Vice President – Brent Blackwell

Secretary – Tony Ward

Treasurer – Wayne Hunt

Newsletter Editor acting – Jeff Yates

Raffles – Brent Blackwell

Public Officer

Tony Ward

Committee Members

Fiona Meredith

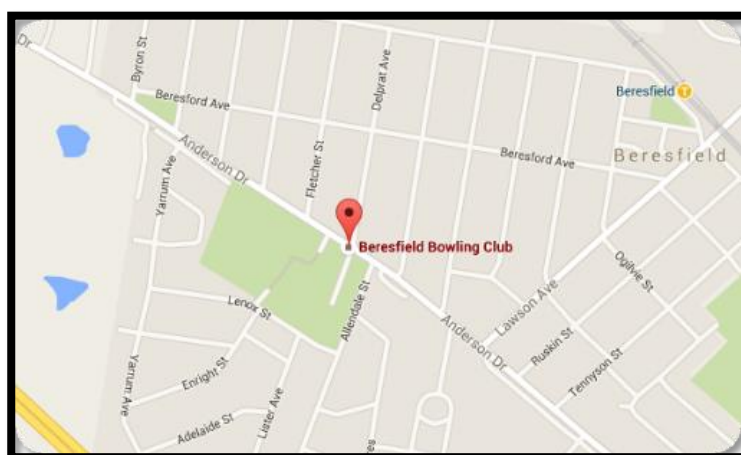
Peter Sewell

Rod Fox

Jeff Yates

Hunter Valley Fly Fishing Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month at:-

Beresfield Bowling Club
Anderson Drive
Bersefield
At 7.00 pm



President's Report



Hi all, and welcome to the September issue of the HVFFC newsletter.

Spring has sprung, the days are longer and warmer (if still wet), and new fishing opportunities are opening up. Off the back of a highly successful club outing to Swansea channel we're backing up with a beach luderick outing/tying day on the central coast and a long-awaited return to Lake Windamere to look for gold(ens).

The praise for the Salmon Classic has been universal, and I'd like to add my voice to the chorus. Pat did a fantastic job coordinating the event, keeping us fed and entertained throughout. The inaugural Iron Fly event saw some extremely haphazard flies thrown out in a flurry of feather and fibres and was as fun for the spectators as it was nerve-wracking for the competitors. We also had a good contingent of guests, with folks coming down from Coffs and up from Sydney. Once again a huge thanks to Brett and Cherie of BWC flies for their sponsorship of the event, the raffle was a roaring success, and it sounds as though the winner of the 8wt (Gavin, a guest from Sydney) will be putting it to good use after breaking his rod on one of our hulking Hunter Valley fish. Whilst the salmon were temperamental, with some boats landing heaps, and others scratching for a bite, I don't think a single person left having had anything less than a wonderful time.

In more somber news, our acting editor has decided to hang up his pen and step down from the post. I know I speak for all of us when I say he has done an amazing job, turning out a thoughtful and well curated newsletter each month. I think that the return of the newsletter has been instrumental in generating club camaraderie and enthusiasm as we have transitioned out of lockdowns as strong as ever. Thank you for your efforts Jeff, they have not gone unnoticed. If anyone would like to step up to the editors role please let us know, they are big shoes to fill.

A reminder that the club AGM is scheduled for 7pm Wednesday the 5th of October. It will be held before the monthly meeting at the regular place and time, Beresfield Bowling Club. All committee positions will be vacated and voted on. If you're thinking of throwing your hat in the ring and contributing to the running of the club as a committee member, now is the time. If you're interested or have any questions, feel free to get in touch with a current committee member and we'll steer you in the right direction.

Messy desks make tidy flies,
Matt.



Acting Editor's Notes

This is my last newsletter as acting editor and I won't be standing at the October election. I hope somebody will pick up the reins and keep the publication going, as it's great to look back through the annals of history and track our club's journey. It's also essential to have it posted on the web site for prospective members to read about our exciting exploits. There are plenty of

people willing to write articles and supply photos, they just need a bit of encouragement and cajoling, but they always seem to deliver on time.

What's in this month's issue?

Swansea Salmon Classic – one of our premier events of the year, and it's great to be back fishing after a 2 year layoff with covid. Patrick organised and run the event like a true master. It's refreshing to see the club getting a revitalisation with new members like Patrick, as us older folk weary and are keen to see the new young blood step up.

Wim Hof – another fly fishing adventure during a family holiday for our fearless president.

What's happening on Facebook – an excerpt of postings by our members and too important not to capture in writing.

September 18th Tuggerah. Trip Master Pat has organised fly tying with Brett and Cherie, followed by a session on Luderick off the beach. Unfortunately, the trip master has family commitments, so we'll just have to do it without him. It should be a day of learning with inspiring company, and putting the new skills into action.

October 14th, 15th, 16th Windermere. Trip Master Mik. Time to step up and get your accommodation sorted. I booked one of the last cabins, and as I was chatting to Mark, the caretaker at Cudgegong Waters, he mentioned that there were film crews there this week with the AFN bass fishing competition in full swing, so no doubt there will be a showing soon on the tele.

Farewell, adieus, catch you on the water!

Club Calendar 2022

Month	Date	Venue/Event	Trip Master	Contact Number
January				
February	2	Club Meeting Bero Bowlo		
February	18-20	Clarence Town		
March	2	Moona Brook	Matt	0428193984
March				
April	6	Club Meeting Bero Bowlo		
April	8-10	Laurieton	Ben	0417291593
April				
May	4	Club Meeting Bero Bowlo		
May	15-16	Lake Wallace	Red	0407195508
May				
June	4	Club Meeting Bero Bowlo		
June	17,18,19	St Clair	Peter	0428685101
June				
July	6	Club Meeting Bero Bowlo		
July	16,17	St Clair Awards BBQ Lunch	Red & Narelle	0407195508
July				
August	3	Club Meeting Bero Bowlo		
August	19,20,21	Swansea	Pat Neylon	0438575060
August				
September	7	Club Meeting Bero Bowlo		
September	18	Tuggerah BWC shop	Pat Neylon	0438575060
September				
October	5	Club Meeting Bero Bowlo AGM		
October	14,15,16	Windamere	Mik	
October	29,30	Peter Morse casting skills	Ben	
November	2	Club Meeting Bero Bowlo		
November	20-21	Williams River - Seaham	Tangus	0401960973
December	7	Club Meeting Bero Bowlo		

Club Shirts (Fiona)

Fiona has a few club shirts available. I wore mine for the first time at the Classic, but the air was so chilly that it wasn't on display. I think it is the most comfortable sun shirt that I own, and if these shirt are not bought, I will put my hand up for a second shirt. They are not gaudy or slippery like a lot of the commercial shirts, and have been well received by those who are lucky enough to own one.

Sizes, L, XL, & 2XL, not many left.

SPF 50

Light weight

Easy care

\$38.50



Club Stickers (Peter)

Peter has taken delivery of 50 club stickers, size 260 x 50mm. They are now available from Brent, free, but only 1 per member, if you want another, you'll have to join twice!



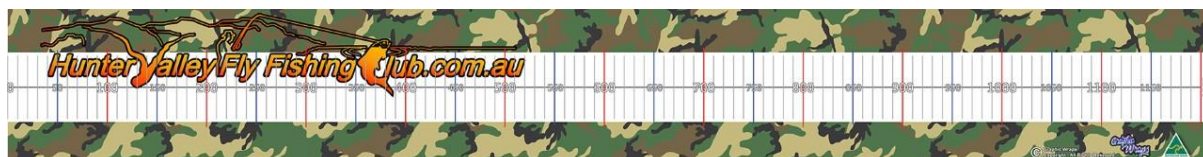
Club Measure Mat (Ben)

Since the brag/measure mat was put forward again and supported, I've gone ahead to get a design for people to see what you would actually get. I did put the design to a couple of people but didn't want too many ideas otherwise it would be hard to make progress.

The minimum order is 20 and the price is \$18 each + shipping which may end up around \$30

This will be much the same as our shirts, if you want one you have to pay for your own.

See below and express your interest if you like it or not and if you would like one.



BWCFLIES SHOPTYING MORNING AND BEACH LUDDERICK AFTERNOON

If long romantic walks on the beach have you thinking of fishing... Here's an outing for you....

Where? *BWCFLIES – 5 Joule Place, Tuggerah NSW 2259*

When? *Sunday 18th September, 2022*
Shop opens at 0800. Start 0845

Meet at shop, bring a Vice, and learn how to tie a pattern or two with professional guidance from Brett – \$5 donation for materials provided please. Followed by some Luderick Tactics with both Brett and Cherie. Just checking out the store is exciting as they have done an incredible job.

Cast a new rod from their extensive range, have a coffee and soak up the experience of all things fly tackle.

Early Lunch will be provided – starts at 11:00

BEACH FISHING

Wear waders and boots if you can't stand the water temp. Otherwise Boardies, easy dry hiking pants and bare feet will be fine.

Bring a towel and spare cloths for the trip home. Also a back pack for your gear to keep out of the sand. Also Sunscreen, water, snacks etc

Cherrie and Brett are organising a BBQ to be at the shop so we can all eat lunch at 11am SHARP while they go through the beach luderick Tackle side of things. The rising window for the high tide is small so they don't want to waste any time. They have some volunteers to cook and help on the beach as there will be a few of us.

We need to leave around 11:30 as to get to the beach for 12:00. Yes it's a busy day. Top of the TIDE is everything for these critters.

If you need gear to purchase – call ahead and make sure they have stock.

BWCFlies have been a huge Support to HVFFC. Let's show our support and make a great day of it.

"The gear is the same as I use for the Bream" – Brett Clarke, BWC

6-8 weight rod, rigged with a floating - clear intermediate tipped line to get under the surface swell' 7 to 9 foot tapered leader of 8 - 10lb with a 2 rig Cabbage fly set up – 1 is weighted with a Tungsten bead and the other is unweighted" (Referenced from BWC Authored Article – 05-2020 Luddas off The Beach)



Brett and Cherie with a couple of fine Luderick caught from the beach

All gear and tying needs can be arranged in the morning before the event starts.

Remember you get a 10% Club discount with the Store !

If anyone wants to be a trip master please contact Patrick Neylon.

If anyone is interested in the morning , or want to find out more please contact Patrick Neylon p.neylon@hotmail.com 0438 575 060

If you need any specific items, please give BWCflies a call and they can help you out. 0408 622 959 www.bwcfly.com.au



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Windermere 14th – 16th October

Trip Master Mik

Cudgegong Waters is the camping grounds on Lake Windermere, approximately 3.5 hour drive from Newcastle, via Bylong, and around 20 minutes the other side of Rylstone. This is the sole public boat launching area on the lake. Expect to catch some of the biggest Yellas in Australia, maybe a Cod or even Silvers if you want to target them. But why be limited just to Windermere, slip into Rylstone to Shop 41 for a coffee and feed, or do some kayaking and sight-seeing on the beautiful Dunns Swamp, see the picture below.



Cudgegong Waters offer a variety of accommodation to suit preferences and budget. There are powered or unpowered sites, standard self-contained cabins with or without ensuites. To book your accommodation do online at <https://cudgegongwaterspark.com.au>, or phone 0263588462 from 8am – 6pm.

I am planning a stew for the Saturday night meal. Sarah lee slab cake (chocolate or banana), cream and tin peaches. Self-catering for all your other meals, including water and refreshments.

Mudgee is a 45minute drive if you fancy wine tasting or a spot of shopping.

Firewood and preferred Sherb%t "truth serum" for tales of the day.



Fishing gear can be 8wt-9wt gear to handle Goldens/Cod/Silvers. Sinking, Intermediate and floating for evening poppers.



Yellow Spotters show the fish as Turquoise torpedoes. Good shoes, Snake Bandages and spare jocks as you are likely to encounter Tigers and Browns.

There is plenty of bank to access if you are up for a walk, but having a boat opens access to more fishing areas around the lake. Expect rocky ground, steep drop offs, weed beds and submerged structure.

The Turon below Sofala, or accessed via Turon Gates has trout early season, silvers, cod and carp if looking for more options to explore.

Peter cleaned up with Craigs Nighttimes on intermediate line last time, but black leach patterns work, along with large wooly buggers, bunny flies or whatever else you might want to throw at them. Start stocking up on flies.

The secret to find Gold is balmy weather.

More information to follow as we get closer to the date.

Can I get an indication of numbers of attendees, reliable maybes and dunno yet.

Cheers
Mik



2022 Swansea Salmon Classic

Jeff Yates



Blacksmiths ramp under a beautiful sunrise to herald the start of the Classic weekend

This is the first Salmon Classic since 2019, having been wiped out on the previous two occasions with Covid. Full marks to Patty for patiently organising the event, catering superbly and initiating the inaugural Iron Fly.

There are several facets to this weekend:- the organising, catering, Iron Fly, raffles and of course the fishing!

Fishing:- A bit slow to start, with a couple of members commencing their weekend early with a Wed start, having travelled from Coffs. Numerous reports of fish in Salts Bay, but some difficulty getting them to take the fly. However, the old proverb, “good things come to those who wait”, certainly rang true for many who turned up on the very successful weekend. By Saturday, the early morning fishing was superb, with massive schools in Salts Bay doing their tailing ritual as a prelude to spawning, only to be interrupted by monsters from the deep sending the school into a white frothy wave. There are videos on the Facebook site showing the action.

The salmon still took flies while being marauded from below, but the outgoing tide soon pushed the school out through the heads. A couple of seals corralled the acres of fish against the rocks, where they sought sanctuary over a bommie. Peter and myself picked off several fish each until my delicate tummy decided that I needed some still water and a coffee fix.

Later on Saturday the salmon returned to Salts and literally inhabited almost all of the water. The fish were picky, and I found that smaller, say #6 flies picked up fish regularly. Though, the 31 boats in the bay certainly didn't help our cause. On our return to the boat ramp we came across a few of our members having a beach party in the Blacksmiths boat ramp bay.



Lunch time at Blacksmiths

Caught a blackfish while waiting for the salmon to chew again



Ben says with the Salmon being a little tight lipped at times, he decided to fish a Clouser deep out the front of the island and came up tight on a new species on fly for him, a smelly Barracoota.

Meanwhile others were having some success with Kevin's boat regularly landing fish. Kev had Fiona and Ray on board and they were having a ball.





Dave



Rob

Catering:- Jordan#1 and Jordan #2 prepared salads, while Patty organised the cooking of snags and burgers with the able assistance of Wayne and Tom. What a spread, no one left hungry!



Iron Fly:- This was the inaugural tie off for 6 busy fly tyers. Given a selection of donated materials and hooks, the tyers were given 15 minutes to create a fly with originality and initiative. Patty had a trophy made up for hanging in the BWC shop, which was presented to Sydney Fly Rodder Steve Peach. Certainly a fun event and I'm sure it will continue into the future. The secret ingredient was an outrageous Pink fibre which was quite the spanner in the works for some. And was hard to miss (and incorporate). Steve's unique winning frog pattern was dubbed – "The Dame Edna" for its obvious outrageous features. Ben Hall even caught a salmon on his Competition fly the next morning !



Trip master Patrick with his Iron Fly masterpiece

Raffles:- The one and only raffle was eagerly patronised, with the 1st prize of TFO Mangrove Coast 8wt rod and TFO NXTIII fly reel donated by BWC flies. This was won by another Sydneysider, Gavin van der Wagen, and presented by the very generous sponsors from BWC flies, Cherie and Brett.





Salmon erupting



Brian



Russell and the raw salmon ready for snacking on



Wim Hof

Matt Jordan

My partner left Wagga Wagga when she was 18 and has since shown absolutely no desire to go back. Sure, she visits every few years to see her family but it's never been high on our list of family holiday destinations, and due to work I'd never accompanied her on one of these forays to the motherland. However, with covid restrictions lifted and a break in both our work schedules, we decided the time was ripe to visit Nonna and Grandpa in the land of many crows.

Based on Claire's girlhood recollections I was expecting a barren hellscape of dust and locusts, however the internet insisted that there was in fact water in Wagga, and what's more, it held cod! As such I started tying up 6/0 and 8/0 monstrosities of feather, fur and flash on the off chance we crossed a creek or river on our way down. This plan was somewhat curtailed by a plan to fly rather than drive, but this merely required a tweak of plans, and some smaller yellowbelly patterns were added to the box to fish Lake Albert in town.

Remembering to remove my rod from the car this time, we were greeted by grey skies and a frigid westerly when we touched down on the tarmac of Wagga's quaint airport. Not exactly ideal fishing conditions, but still better than the Mad Max scene I had been primed for. We loaded up the suspension-free Berlina and took the scenic route back to Nonna and Grandpa's house.

As we drove through town the Murrumbidgee revealed itself as swollen and turbid, a testament to the wet summer past. Once we got home and unpacked I wandered down to Lake Albert to practice casting and enjoy some solitude. No fish were forthcoming, but it was satisfying to put into practice some of the techniques for dealing with a headwind, learned at the club's casting clinic.



Inviting

After making our way through Claire's café list and visiting the local tackle shop (you shoulda been here a few weeks ago!), I managed an afternoon off to visit a tributary of the 'bidge. It too was running high, dirty and cold, but at least the steep banks cut most of the wind. Acquiescing to common sense

and the tackle shop proprietor's advice, I kept the 8wt stowed and opted to throw a big surface lure instead. It wasn't fly fishing, but it was fun getting reacquainted with the baitcaster.

With no signs of cod after a couple of hours walking and scrabbling along the bank, I allowed myself to become distracted by the carp mudding along the bank. They weren't big fish (most around the 40cm mark) but they were much, much less spooky than the river carp at home, most feeding happily as I stood next to them on the bank. In the interests of experiencing one fish during the trip, I assembled the fly rod and tied on a Sunbaker. It wasn't so much a cast as an ungainly flop as I tried to guess where the carp's head was positioned in the turbid water. Drawing the streamer past what I assumed was its nose, the tippet caught on some grass and lifted the fly out of the water. As such, all but the zonker tail of the fly was high and dry when a smaller fish sauntered over and plucked it off the blade of grass. The close quarters fight was over quickly (I'm not sure my fly line even touched the water, let's call it euro-carping) but at least I had the monkey off my back, and the terrestrial eat had been cool to watch.



Amphibious carp.

Continuing up the river I threw the (expensive) surface monstrosity for a bit longer, before lodging it in a tree just out of reach. Balancing on a log, I could just about get to the lure, when the log shifted, pitching me headfirst into the cold, brown water with almost comical slowness. I'm not sure if I swam out or if the cold shock propelled me back up the bank, but I was wet through. In a soggy huff I broke the lure off and retrieved it with a stick (intelligent tool-use a little too late) and squelched back to the car, mentally preparing how I would explain that this wasn't even close to my worst day out.

Dried off and (eventually) warmed up, we headed home a couple of days later. The weather and fishing may not have been ideal, but Wagga Wagga had its charms, and I think we'll be back. Mind you, I wouldn't recommend swimming as a winter activity.



What's happening on Facebook

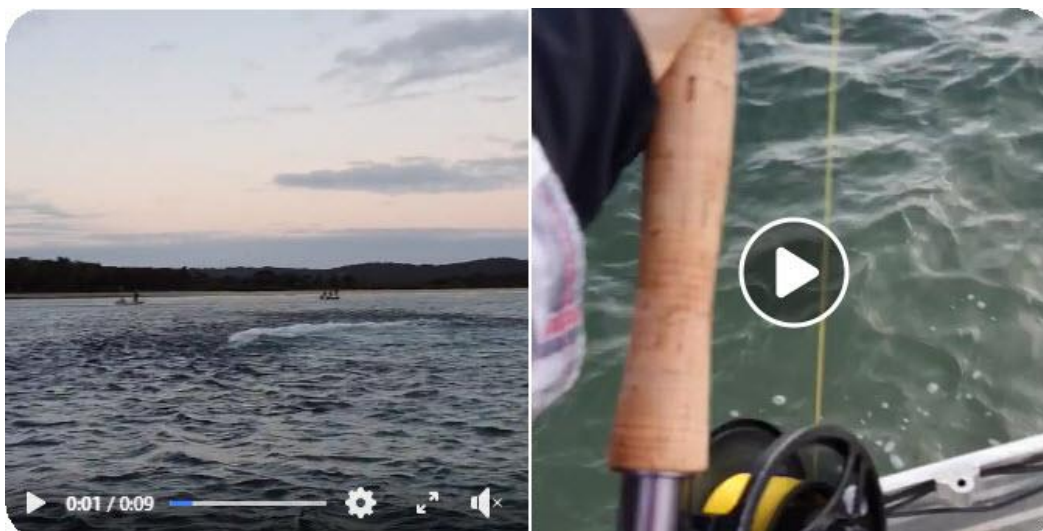
Brett and Cherie

A couple hours of the better Luds from the beach during the weekend the arvo sessions. 8 weights with a 10lb fluorocarbon leader are the preferred set up, matched with a clear headed intermediate line.



Matt

A couple of videos from yesterday morning before the salmon moved outside. The wave in the first video is a mass of fish spooking. The second video may be the first time I've seen my backing.



Some last minute Swansea prep.
Well, bottom left did the job.



Ben Hall

Normally a Barracoota is not very welcome on anyone's boat, you can't eat them, they are very smelly and there a bycatch when targeting more prized fish. But I was a little excited catch one on fly.

With the start of the new season so much to get excited about. Tied these 4/0 Bendbacks with Flathead in mind.

If you haven't got any or fished Bendbacks something to consider, you can fish these over and through ribbon weed and mangrove roots and hardly pick up any weed or get snagged, and with a slow sink hopefully they are in the zone long enough that a big Flatty won't be able to refuse.



Peter Sewell

They were there thick at day break in Salts Bay. Then as the tide receded further they went down past Lucy's wall and around the corner along the headland rocks as they often do. Hopefully they'll come back in on the rising tide.



Russell Humble

One from later in the day

Trying some new baitfish patterns. Very thin. Almost transparent.



Russell Humble

Wont make the meeting tonight. Chasing Swamp Trout at Chaffey Dam. Both took the game changer fly I won in the raffle at Swansea.

Mick Zoricic

Trying to make the most of the shitty weather knocked out a few Donny Brasco's for the upcoming trip to Windamere

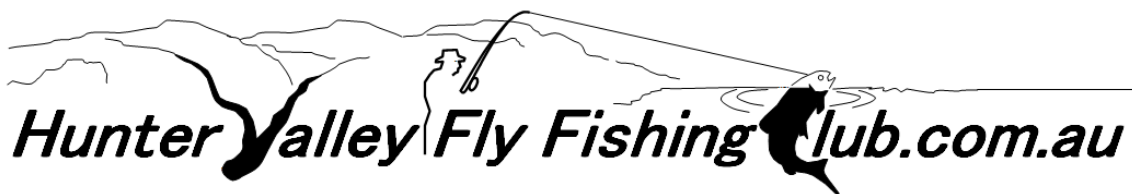


Rob Gorseski
Hi All. Few pics from the Salmon classic. It

was great to catch up with a lot of people and also meet some new faces. I had a great time.

Matt Jordan
Bring on September 1st.





MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2022 - 2023

Hunter Valley Fly Fishing Club Incorporated (the "Association")
(Incorporated under the *Associations Incorporation Act 2009*)

I,
[insert full name]
of
[insert address]
.....
[insert email]
.....
[insert contact number]

☐ Full member ☐ Junior member ☐ Family membership** (✓ applicable)
(\$40 pro rata) (\$20 pro rata) (\$50 pro rata)

I hereby apply to renew my membership of the Association until 30th Sept 2023
By renewing my membership, I agree to comply with and be bound by the constitution
of the Association for the time being in force.

.....
Signature of applicant

Date:

** Members renewing a Family Membership must complete the information on page 2
below.

LODGEMENT AND PAYMENT

Once completed, please sign, scan and email back to c3091769@uon.edu.au and
headstarting@bigpond.com

Membership fees can be paid by cheque or via bank transfer.

If paying by bank transfer, please use your name as a reference for payment so your
payment can be easily identified.

Bank transfer should be paid to the following account:

Name: Hunter Valley Fly Fishing Club

BSB: 637 000

Account No: 780 089 059

Please make cheques payable to **Hunter Valley Fly Fishing Club**

Application for Family Membership

To be eligible for Family Membership, and have the Association's insurance cover extend to include all applicable family members, the following conditions will apply:

- Family Membership is available for a member and their immediate family members only (i.e. wife/husband/ partner and children under 18 years of age at the start of the new membership term) and does not include Grandparents or member's siblings or other relations, etc.
- Member's children 18 years or older will be required to join as a full member
- Each family membership is only entitled to 1 vote at club meetings.
- the requested information in the following table must be supplied in respect of all people proposed to be covered by a Family Membership:

Full name	Date of birth	Relationship to member

--Sponsors--



UNIT 8 5 JOULE PLACE
TUGGERAH NSW 2259

