



# March & April 2023 Newsletter

<b>President</b>	Matt Jordan
<b>Vice President</b>	Brent Blackwell
<b>Secretary</b>	Tony Ward
<b>Treasurer</b>	Mark Schmidt
<b>Newsletter</b>	Tom Brennan
<b>Raffles</b>	Brent Blackwell

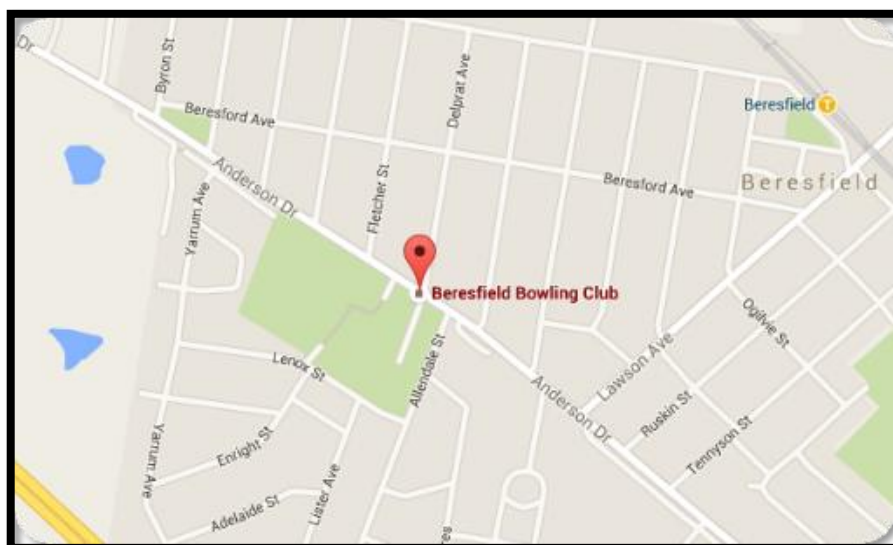
**Public Officer**  
Tony Ward

**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, Beresfield

**Next Meeting**  
**Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2023**  
**7.00 pm**



# Presidents Report

Hi All and welcome to the April/May edition of the HVFFC newsletter. Autumn is making itself known, with some cooler mornings and stunning days (when it's not raining). I love this time of year, including for the fishing. With fish moving about and changing feeding habits, there are plenty of opportunities to come across something feeding.

Feeding fish is exactly what we found on the recent outing to the Upper Hunter. Off the back of 3 unusually cool, wet summers, the creeks and rivers in the area are looking fantastic, and if you can get through the little stockies, there are some quality trout to be had. Almost all members managed at least a fish or two, and it was a great opportunity to meet and greet a few recent recruits. If hunting is more your style, Mik E has developed a new, highly effective, fox trap. Ask him about it next time you see him, just don't ask me to skin another one.

Our next outing is a change of pace, with a tying day at Beresfield Bowling Club, 10am – 3pm on the 20<sup>th</sup> of May. This is an opportunity to socialize, share patterns, and maybe stock up on flies for upcoming outings. Unfortunately Brett and Cherie aren't able to make it, but I'm sure there will still be a wealth of knowledge from club members. The bistro will also be open, and I'm assured the drinks will be cold.

June has us returning to Lake St Clair under the experienced guidance of Pete Sewell. The lake has become extremely popular of late, so even though it's the off season, it may be a good idea to book soon. Reports are coming in that the winter edge bite is establishing nicely, with several members doing very well out there over the past few weeks.

For July we have the club presentation day and (hopefully) another trip to the Luderick beaches with Brett and Cherie of BWC. Although the latter still needs to be confirmed depending on tides and shop hours, we do need someone to coordinate the presentation day, so let me know if you're keen.

Finally there has been a change in the committee structure, with Wayne stepping down as Treasurer, and Mark Schmidt volunteering for the role. This won't make any difference to the day-to-day running of the club, but if you have money matters to discuss, direct them to Mark.

Messy desks make tidy flies,

Matt.



# Ramblings from the editor



Thanks, Matt, for a great Presidents report as usual.

Many apologies from me for missing last month's Newsletter, the wonderful covid monster visited and gifted me the long play version, for which I was not at all grateful. Onwards and upwards from here!

There have been quite a few club activities since our last newsletter, so I will be hassling folks for some updates over the coming weeks for our next edition. We do have a wonderful report from Matt though, from a trip to Windamere last year (we had to fight with some SPAM

filters for a while but then Matt removed all his swearing and we were ok).

Now for some super exciting admin. We have the new/old club email addresses back up and running:

[treasurer@huntervalleyflyfishingclub.com.au](mailto:treasurer@huntervalleyflyfishingclub.com.au)

[president@huntervalleyflyfishingclub.com.au](mailto:president@huntervalleyflyfishingclub.com.au)

[secretary@huntervalleyflushfishingclub.com.au](mailto:secretary@huntervalleyflushfishingclub.com.au)

We hope to add [membership@huntervalleyflysfishingclub.com.au](mailto:membership@huntervalleyflysfishingclub.com.au) soon if we have a volunteer who would like to monitor that inbox. If you're still awake after that, thank you!

Mark has been quietly working away in the background and has just sent through the updated membership form which has now been split into two, distinct forms. One form for new club members and the other for membership renewal. Both these forms are now part of the regular newsletter and can be found below. Whilst looking over the forms keep in mind that opting in or out of the "members directory" doesn't opt you in or out of clubs communications. The club directory is for connecting members to members, especially given our spread out patterns of habitation. The directory is a wonderful initiative, but if you opt not be part of it you won't miss out on anything. Thanks, Mark, for your time on this.

Facebook has been abuzz. For our new club members, firstly welcome, and secondly if you're on the dreaded facebook do a quick search for the club as it's a great place to share what you're up to, ask for advice or just plain flat-out brag (my day will come to brag, just not yet)!

My folder of stories is dry, so if have been on an outing, attended a club event, caught the fish of a lifetime and then watched it get away (and of course your camera was flat) then send the story through, we would love to hear it. The newsletter could do with anything that you feel would benefit the club. So, if you have some tying techniques you want to share, favourite knots (ask me how to tie your shoelaces like a pro it will change your life) or even fireside recipes for fish fingers (my fishing skills still dictate I take the fish to be consumed with me), then please send them through.

'Til next time keep your lines tight and remember that the only reason the fly fishing hollywood blockbuster flopped was bad casting!

Cheers,

Tom

# Busted Bolts

Matt Jordan

*(Report Originally Submitted November 2022)*

I've never been to Windamere before, but tales of sight-fishing big golden footballs captured my imagination, so I applied for spousal leave well in advance to ensure I could attend the November club outing to Big W. After hanging in the balance at the mercy of floods, the Windamere trip was confirmed and we headed West looking for gold.

After some back and forth regarding the best route to take I arrived at the park and set up camp near Mick and Paul, treating myself to the luxury of the family tent and two (two!) mattresses. By this point a cool breeze was making itself felt and a few beers at camp seemed a better option than launching the boat, so Mick and I made plans to hit the water first thing in the morning.

The morning dawned cool, crisp and still. I pushed the boat out while Mick parked the car, drifting out on the mirrored surface. After half a dozen pulls the outboard was refusing to show any signs of life. I picked up Mick and he had a go, still nothing. Ah well, probably flooded it. We set off under electric power, down a few layers of clothes for our exertions.

We cruised around nearby points and timber under electric power, casting at all the likely haunts. The water was coloured, but not filthy, and we consistently felt we were a chance of fish. With the dam so full we were spoiled for choice on structure and flooded vegetation, and it was hard to know where to focus on a dam and a species that was new to both of us on fly. Every now and then Mick would have a crack at the outboard (clearly he's more optimistic than me), but to no avail. After a few hours we cruised back to shore for lunch and a debrief.

Reports were that everyone was finding it tough, with only one fish landed for the group. There was also a sea of kayak anglers on the water as part of an outing, who were also struggling. Over the course of lunch I noticed a skid on my trailer needed adjusting. My mechanical skills are extremely limited, but this falls just within my wheelhouse, so I grabbed a shifter and loosened the bolt. In fact, I loosened the head right off the shaft. Accepting that I now had a non-functional outboard on an injured trailer, the only thing for it was to go bank bashing for the arvo.

Mick and I headed down to the bottom end of the dam in search of cleaner water. Luckily for us the high level meant it was only a short walk from the road. Things looked much better at this end of the dam, with clean water and loads of baitfish, but the yellas were still conspicuous in their absence. Chatting to a couple of kayak anglers running sounders, apparently there were plenty of fish around, but no one could get them to open their mouths. Eventually we called it quits and headed back to see how everyone else fared.

Reports were that the fishing had been tough for all, with no more fish landed, though a few members had spotted fish and had follows. A hearty stew courtesy of Mik helped ease both

fishing and non-fishing pains (I'll leave it to Mik or Graham to tell that story, but it makes a reluctant outboard and a sheared bolt sound like a walk in the park).

The next morning I visited the same bank as the previous afternoon for much the same result, but gosh watching the sunrise over a glassed out lake is lovely. Returning to the park I broke camp, added an extra strap to the trailer, and headed back home, this time with Pete Sewell along for the ride. Dodging potholes we made good time, and the trip felt faster with some company. Stopping off at the farm on the way Pete and I ran some diagnostics on the outboard and established it wasn't a fuel issue. Pete seemed to think the spark from the plugs might not be enough to ignite under compression, so at least I had a first port of call. We left the tinny to keep the club trailer company and headed back to Newy.

I dropped Pete off and returned home, tired from driving. My partner can't understand how I could drive an 8.5 hr round trip, have my boat not work, damage the trailer, not catch any fish, and still have a nice time, but I guess if you know you know. It's the vibe of the thing.



P.S. I'm happy to report that the outboard is now running like a charm (new spark plugs) and the trailer has been repaired (new bracket tube combined with some angle grinding and swearing), just in time for the November outing to Clarencetown.

# HVFFC Sponsors



If you follow BWCflies on social media, you are most likely aware of our fly fishing dedicated store located on the NSW Central Coast.

Our range of fly tying materials, fly tying tools, fly boxes, accessories and fly fishing equipment is always expanding as new product and new Brands are being sought from around the world to bring them to the range available in the Shop.

A vast product mix from the leading Brands in the flyfishing industry are now on offer. Our goal is to deliver fly fishing product that represents high quality and consistency each time. Flyfishing, It's our passion and we take personal pride in upholding our professional and service ethic goals.

Our Fly Shop is open to the public (see Trading Hours on the website for opening and closing times), with 4 car parking spaces available right at the front door.

If you heading to the Central Coast or in need some fresh gear before heading north or south, be sure to stop by.

We are located approximately 5 minutes off the M1 Wyong Rd turnoff.

Visit us at Unit 8, 5 Joule Place, Tuggerah NSW, 2259.

Cherie and I hope to catch up with you in the store, sharing a coffee or a yarn about recent sessions.

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# LIDDELL

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# GLENCORE





### **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2023 – 2024**

Please fill in this form if you are renewing a Family Membership, if your current details have changed or if you wish to join our members' directory. Single members whose information has not changed do not need to fill in this form.

I am:

- ☐ updating my information as a single full member
- ☐ renewing a Family Membership
- ☐ wanting to join the members' directory

.....  
[full name]

.....  
[address]

.....  
[email]

.....  
[contact number(s)]

☐ \$50 Full member    ☐ \$20 Junior member    ☐ \$60 Family membership    (✓)

.....  
Signature

Date: .....

### **Renewal of 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 only (i.e. wife/husband/partner and children under 18 years of age as at 1<sup>st</sup> July) and does not include grandparents, members' siblings or other relations, etc.
- members' children 18 years or older will be required to join as a full member
- each family membership is entitled to one 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

## Lodgement and Payment

Once completed, please sign, scan and email back to [president@huntervalleyflyfishingclub.com.au](mailto:president@huntervalleyflyfishingclub.com.au), [headstarting@bigpond.com](mailto:headstarting@bigpond.com) and [treasurer@huntervalleyflyfishingclub.com.au](mailto:treasurer@huntervalleyflyfishingclub.com.au).

Membership fees can be paid by cash, 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**

## Members' Directory

The club operates an opt-in members' directory. It allows members to contact each other for advice and fishing trips. If you choose to participate, you will be added to the current directory, and you'll receive the current copy, and your own details will be available to other members upon the next mailout (usually twice a year). The directory is STRICTLY paper only and does not include addresses. Only members who are in the directory receive a copy. We ask for your partner's name so we can address them with courtesy. All fields are optional.

I wish to participate in the members' directory ☐

Spouse/partner's first name .....

General locality (eg Sydney, Newcastle, upper or lower Hunter, Central Coast etc)

.....

Fly fishing interests (particular species, techniques, places...anything that you may be able to contribute to another member, and you don't have to be an expert. This is about connecting members with members.)

.....





### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

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

I, .....  
[full name]  
of .....  
[address]  
.....  
[email]  
.....  
[contact number(s)]

☐ \$50 Full member    ☐ \$20 Junior member    ☐ \$60 Family membership    (✓)

I hereby apply to join the Association. I agree to comply with and be bound by the constitution of the Association for the time being in force.

.....  
Signature of applicant

Date: .....

#### **Fees:**

For applications dated between 1<sup>st</sup> July and 31<sup>st</sup> December, please pay the full fee.

For applications dated between 1<sup>st</sup> January and 31<sup>st</sup> March, please pay HALF the full fee.

For applications dated between 1<sup>st</sup> April and 30<sup>th</sup> June, please pay the full fee, but your membership will extend to the end of the NEXT financial year. That is, up to 15 months' membership.

Fee paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### **Application for Family Membership**

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

## Communications

All members participate in a group email for communications about meetings, outings and general fly fishing chat. Separately, we operate a members' directory.

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