



## May 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

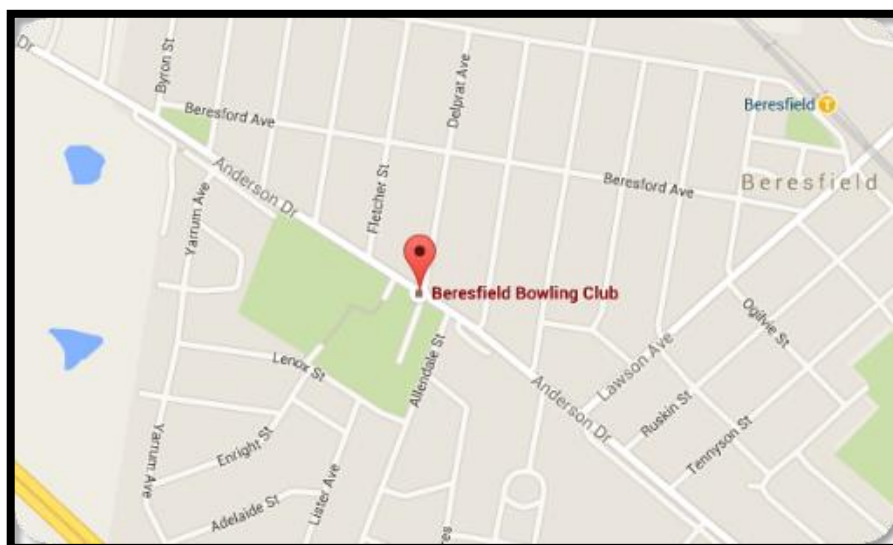
### Committee Members

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 7<sup>th</sup> June 2023**  
**7.00 pm**



# Presidents Report

Hi All,

Welcome to the May edition of the HVFFC newsletter. Although my time for fly fishing has been a little curtailed of late, I hope our members have been getting out and enjoying the transition season. If you do head out, please consider writing up a report for this venerable publication. They don't have to be anything fancy, and I know we all enjoy the chance to live vicariously through other members' successes (and failures).

Our last "outing" saw us back in the club meeting room tying flies and swapping stories. A look around the room suggested that bass were front of mind, with plenty of Trev's and mudeyes rolling off the vice. Our next outing is June 16-18 at Lake St Clair, so I suspect plenty of these new flies will be put through their paces. It was also great to see some new members come out to ask questions about the ins and outs of tying and presenting flies. It's easy to forget the learning curve of fly tying, and just how non-intuitive aspects of it are (think hook sizing), and it's fantastic to see the sharing of knowledge.

On bass, the club's application for \$2 for \$1 DPI funding has been approved. We can now get the wheels in motion to order fingerlings for stocking. It will be a long way away yet, but if anyone is available to help with the release, it is always appreciated.

A reminder that we have the club presentation day coming up on the 15th of July. This will be coordinated by the committee, but many hands make light work, and if you would like to volunteer some time or ideas, please let us know.

Messy desks make tidy flies,

Matt.



# Ramblings from the editor



Thanks Matt and Howdy Everyone,

I'm sorry I only made it to the fly tying day to say a very quick hi to everyone before I had to run back home. It sounds like a great day and much more fun and interesting than cutting concrete to then dig and pour footings for a carport!

In this edition of the Club Newsletter we will be introducing the addition of welcoming our newest members as they join. This has been an initiative that Mark kicked off with Matt and will give us a chance to see who has joined our wonderful club. It's

a bit hard in the newsletter to include too much personal info about our members as it's also posted on our website, but for now we'll put names and hope we can all get to meet via our monthly meetings (email the group if you need zoom details) or better still by some water.

Next month I'll be reintroducing a club events calendar, this wasn't deliberately dropped it is purely the result of not planning out the content each month and throwing it all together at the last minute. However, Matt has covered the next two club days which get's us through until the next edition thankfully.

So though it's a short and late contribution from me this month I would like to acknowledge how wonderful it is to be part of a club that is doing so many wonderful things like fly tying days, monthly outings, presentations and everything else that happens throughout each year. We all know that many hands make light work but ultimately there are a few that continually go that extra mile to keep things ticking along at a club level. If you know of one of these people can I suggest that you get in touch with Matt as there is a "Club Member Of The Year" and nominations are open. The bushy tailed fox (not you Rod) that was giving Matt some serious attention at the Moonan Brook outing doesn't count as a potential nominee sadly, but everyone else does.

Send through your trip reports please! They don't need to be polished, grammatically correct, well worded or even true, just send them through. If you do have something you want to send through but would like a little polish added just let me know and I will, to the limited ability I have. Some words, some pics and some tall tales go a long way to brightening this Newsletter and ruining everyone else's week as they realise how you have just spent your weekend! If you have any good trip reports that happen during a work week please be advised I will adjust the dates to reflect the closest long weekend in the interests of my personal jealousy and limited time off work!

Peter thank you for your contribution this month, it's a great read mate. I know I've used this line before, but that really looked like the perfect weekend. For everyone else, enjoy the read.

'Til next time.

Cheers,

Tom



To our newest members, welcome! We look forward to meeting you, hearing your stories and welcoming you to our club.

**Adam Griffith**

**Julie Marr**

**Paul Barker**

**Peter Tomkins**

# Nibbles and Bytes



- NSW Angler Access map (created by DPI)  
<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/resources/angler-access>
- Fish stocking sites map (created by NSW DPI)  
<https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/resources/stocking>
- River levels (created by WaterNSW)  
<https://realtimedata.watarnsw.com.au/>
- Boat ramps map (created by NSW RMS)  
<https://roads-waterways.transport.nsw.gov.au/maritime/using-waterways/boat-ramps-map/boat-ramps/index.html>
- Travelling stock reserve map (created by NSW Local Land Services)  
<https://trade.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=dd585551cd5c4320bfc d2d671d8f2364>
- Gavin Hurley's (Stalker's) series exclusively about fly fishing in Australia and New Zealand  
<https://7plus.com.au/on-the-fly>
- Freshwater angler access: The Fisheries Management Act 1994 permits boating on or wading in a river or creek, providing you stay within the bed of the river, including parts which are covered and left bare with the increase of flows, other than at times of flood. This does not apply to lakes.

*Please send through any links, suggestions of apps or other sources of information that you find helpful and we'll add it to this page. Same goes for updated or broken links, let us know and we'll update.*



# *A RIVER SOMEWHERE*

*Peter Sewell*

I could have called this article '*A Trip to Remember*', because it was! Starting from Redhead, Graeme driving us in his trusty "lifted" Prado with All Terrain tyres, towing my box trailer full of stuff. We headed off a bit after 6am down the M1 through Sydney, along the M7 and onto the Hume highway. Having cleared Campbelltown, I suggested we have a coffee at Goulburn. "Bugger that!" says Graeme, (or something similar), "I always stop at Eling Forest Winery" (near Sutton Forest), and being a half hour closer than Goulburn there was no argument from us. Fantastic location ("in a beautiful rural setting" says the brochure, "Make your day extra special with a backdrop of rolling hills, the picturesque lake, lovely gardens, and of course, the vineyard" Oh, we weren't getting married there, so maybe not that special a day for us), however, great coffee and breakfast so we had better add that to the itinerary for future trips anyway. So, down the Hume and onto the Monaro Highway past a very full lake George and into Cooma around four hours later. Next stop, 'The Loft', on the corner past the second roundabout in Cooma for lunch, another great coffee, good food and really friendly service. Another one for the future itinerary list. After that, about 50 minutes away, following five kilometres of a 4WD-only track we were in Snowy Mountains country and alongside A River Somewhere.



Some of us will remember the fly fishing TV series/documentary '*A River Somewhere*', which had more than a smattering of humour starring Rob Sitch and Tom Gleisner. It was released on ABC when millennials were only a glint in the eye of their parents. The series was a great expose of fly fishing mainly in Australia and often around the Snowy Mountains. They didn't name their specific location but they generalized about the area. They even polaroided rocks that looked like fish. I can identify with that, do it all the time.

So, Jeff, Graeme and I had our own three-day fishing experience in the Snowys and despite temperatures down to -6 degrees, frost and fog, we had a ball. We did have a mountain hut to stay in and a roaring fire but unfortunately open fires don't do much heating unless you lie in front of them. The fire did look nice and Jeff keep busy with his chain saw, cutting logs.



There were kilometers of a pristine river to fish and the property had rabbits, wallabies, kangaroos, deer, platypus, black cockatoos, red breasted robins, yellow breasted robins and the list goes on but did it have trout? So our second biggest challenge after the cold, was were there any fish and where to fish, even if that meant breaking ice at the edges to wade into the river.

We had time to explore and work out the river and it was realized early on that we probably should have been using the chain saw to clear a bit of bankside vegetation but we didn't because that would have reduced our fishing time. As much as the tea tree shrubs and eucalypts were attractive, they didn't really support casting flies. They were really good at catching them!







Day 1 saw us all hook up on fish, not far from the hut, some of us also landed them. Jeff almost released a rainbow before he meant to, see photo below but in his reliable form almost caught his bag limit. He stopped when he caught a stonker Brown Trout on a size 16 black tungsten bead headed nymph, wow was that a fish to be content with, at 580mm long in excellent condition, recently spawned and an estimated 6lb in weight. I like to use pounds because it always sounds bigger.

Day 2 saw us exploring the property, eying off pools to fish later in the trip and then returning to pools fished the day before. This was a bit of *de ja vu* as once again we all hooked up, some catching and some not. Lunch was smoked trout courtesy of Graeme's smoker and dinner was trout cooked by Jeff in foil on the coals of the fire, accompanied by garlic infused olive oil cooked chips followed by custard and Lyn's cake and that, plus a glass of port, saw day two put to bed in style.

Our final fishing day, Day 3 was spent exploring those upstream pools after once again breaking ice. I managed to catch a nice rainbow using that orange bead headed fly in the bush, shown up above. A fly in the hand is worth two in the bush? Maybe so, but a couple of casts after catching that rainbow, the fly wasn't in the hand or the bush, it was snagged on a rock. Day 3 Graeme landed two nice rainbows and Jeff caught four trout while sitting on the same rock, show off.



With fading light we finally adjourned to the hut for our last supper of sausages, gravy, onions and mashed potato courtesy of Graeme. That was the end to fishing on this trip. The next day, after two and a half hours packing and a stop in Cooma at 'The Loft' for another coffee, we took to the long road and headed for home.



A trip to remember with around twenty trout landed many others hooked and most released.

Now its dream time, time to plan the next trip and see if we can better this one. That's a tall order, but as Rob and Tom say **"There's always a river...somewhere"**.



# 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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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## 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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.....