



War Veterans Fishing Group

Meeting held on Friday 31 July 2026 at TPI House starting 10.10am

Notes

1. Welcome

- a. Nick welcomed members to the meeting and acknowledged guests - Jon & Liz Ridgway (KI fishing hosts), Dimi (partner of Spud), Anna (partner of Vic E) and possible a new member - Nick Grant (Ex Navy).

2. Ode

Was read and a minute silence was observed by members and guests.

- 3. Attendance** - Jon and Liz, Stony, Spud and Demi, Nick G, Nick W, Greg, Big Al, Goldy, GJ, Robbie R, Sid, Grabby, Stoker M, Vic E and Anna

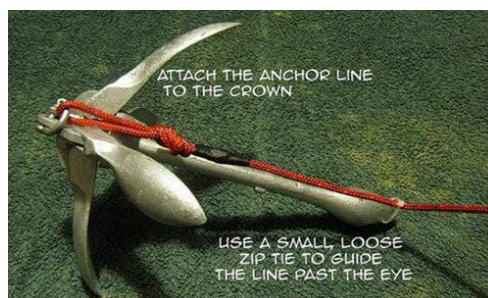
- 4. Apologies** - Tinker B, Gadget, Harry, Ski, Lee, Rob K, Gavin

5. Fishing Reports

- Grabby - no fishing - off to Cairns Saturday morning for a week's holiday
- Sid - no fish caught but an enjoyable 5 days out and about at Port Victoria - accommodation at Roly's was comfortable. Rough weather and rain most days - limited our boat comfort level (BCL)

- Robbie T -no fishing - 4WD trip along Goog's track (West Coast) and a foreshadowed launch of an 'Honour Board' at Adelaide High School -more later! Planning a trip to Sugars Beach with friends.
- Stoker M - fishing with son, Richard, at Moonta - whiting and bagged out on a couple of days. Big whiting landed close to the reef at Cape Elizabeth.
- Goldy - lean time at Port Vic - tried a number of marks with limited results - Friday fish for 3 hours before returning to Roly's to pack up and leave for home.
- GJ - caught some fish on Friday - 6 whiting at 38 cm plus. Nothing caught for the early part of the week. GJ has a new 'data' plan with Telstra at a cheaper cost than his previous plan (more time to buy more Casinos? (An online pursuit for GJ).
- Chris and Harry headed South on Monday and bagged out - Chris credited Steve Kontas (Insane Charters) for his tuition on how to use his sounder effectively.
 - Big Al - his aging Toyota towing vehicle back to about 80% and his boat still to be booked in for a service. Al bought in a bait board and mooring buoy for a give-away. Nick G took the bait board and Sid took the buoy.
- Greg had an indifferent week with the highlight being sounder training with Steve K. A new boat trailer tyre and some repairs to his faulty fuel servicing issues saw him a little lighter in the financial 'hip pocket'. A bagged out result on Thursday with Steve K training and another 9 caught on Friday morning. Greg had some additional problems with his radio and some blade fuses that blew. Further work on the electrics in Osprey may be required? Significant fuel costs were experienced as prices increased due to ongoing blockade in the Middle East.

- Stonie spoke about the need for future planning to avoid bloodworm runs, Neet or Dodge tides and weather conditions adverse for fishing. Nick W encouraged members to take a greater interest in these conditions when planning fishing activities over a 4-day period.
- Vic and Anna - fishing with son-in-law at Moonta. Some good catches of whiting not far out. Mulloway in West Lakes around sunset and an hour or two afterwards.
- Spud advised his health and fitness was improving and he is ready to go on the next activity to Port Hughes.
- Nick and Sid couldn't find fish to take their bait. No snook caught. Activity was severely limited by the rope Jamming in Nick's anchor capstan - Nick has eventually fixed the problem by getting Wally at Boating Scene to fit a new drum winch - long overdue!!! Several boats experienced anchor problems with bent prongs on their grapnel anchors - using a reverse fixing and cable ties may help the recovery of anchors stuck on rocks and broken bottom etc.



The Meeting broke for coffee and a toilet visit etc

6. Responsibilities for safety equipment on trips away, First Aid, Defibrillator, Radio checking. Nick advised that future boating activities need to focus on a radio and safety check before the boat leaves the boat ramp, Goldy advised that he has testing equipment to test the boat radios transmit and receive. Nick W experienced problems until he turned the volume up to hear the other transmissions and shift from a 1Watt to 25Watt transmission to achieve the longer range between boats. (Lack of

practise in recent months has limited his skill in dealing with some of the safety matters)

7. Charter out of Victor Harbour - Tinker Bell experience. Nick read the text message sent by Tinker concerning a recent charter out of Port Hughes. They eventually caught their quota with a few problems with fuel and electrics on the charter boat due mainly to its lack of use. (Skippers wife and pregnancy etc)

8. Treasurers Report

- a. Grabby reported \$3,586.71 at bank and \$3,771.71 to include some fishing shirts held in stock.
- b. Thanks go to Grabby for his diligent work in managing the funds and annual membership fee.

9. General Business

- a. Catch of the Month - No award for July - Greg to pick up gifts from the manufacturer.
- b. Greg Dwiar to gave an overview of his Sounder Training at Port Victoria with Insane Charter Skipper, Steve. A worthwhile activity to have his sounder and brother Ben's equipment setup and shown how to find fish.
- c. Maybe a Winters day trip to Happy Valley Reservoir to fish for Murray River Cod and Callop? (License for 3 days in required!)
- d. Bow Hill - Shane and Callop fishing? Nick to call Shane and advise members of the accommodation, boating and likelihood of catching fish etc. Nick to report back to members.
- e. Conversations with 'Veterans for Fishing' in Victoria and their involvement in supporting veterans through funding support and trips to Eildon Weir, Victoria. No further action is required.

f. New members - Need brochures to go into doctors waiting rooms, dental rooms and RSL Clubs? Nick and Greg will locate the old brochure which was printed at the RAR Association at Tusmore and arrange an update and a publishing.

10. Future Activities

Port Hughes - 12 - 15 August - Crews interested include:

1. Spud and ?
2. Greg and Stonie
3. Goldy and GJ
4. Stoker M and Richard (staying at Richards home)
5. Maybe Big Al and Grabby (Al to advise Greg if boat and truck are ready for fishing!)

Tides look workable and dates Are before the new moon blood worm run!

Month	Date	Activity	Meeting
July 26	20 - 24 Jul	Port Victoria?	31 July 26
August 26	12 - 15 Aug	Trip away to Port Hughes	29 August 26
September 26	TBA for a trip away.	Members to look at tide and moon times and advise a suitable date range.	25 Sep 26 At RFDS HQ at Adelaide Airport

11. Robby T will advise Nick and then members of the unveiling of the Honour board at Adelaide High School.

12. Lunch today was a BBQ with salads at TPI House, Richmond Road Richmond. Thanks to Sid for the setup of the BBQ gear and to GJ and Jon Ridgway for cooking the BBQ - thanks to Nick for collecting meat and salads ready for the BBQ.

Next Meeting Friday 28 August 2026