



War Veterans Fishing Group

Adventure in Port Hughes 16 - 20 September 2024

Our monthly fishing trip organised by Dinghy Dwiar with accommodation in Moonta Bay. We had Goldy and GJ in Amberjack, Gadget and Nick in the Breeze, Big Al and Lofty in Blue Moon and the Dwiar Straits (Greg & Ben) brothers in Osprey. Greg stays with Ben at his house in Moonta Bay East. My towing behicle is a Mitsi Pajero 2007 model with a 3.2l diesel - good mileage and reliability over the Jeep!!!!

Monday saw all boats on the water. Gadget and I headed South to an area known as Coopers with limited results. A couple of goat fish and a large cuttlefish (supposed to be great whiting bait..... not for us though!) Accommodation was great with two bathrooms, 5 bedrooms and a large kitchen dining area. The filleting facility at the bottom of the garden was adequate.

Tuesday saw us hit the water early and we travelled out to the Whiting Hole which is about 4 kms from the boat ramp. The area had been vey sucessful for Big Al and Lofty on the



Monday. We were singularly unsuccessful but managed to grab a few weedy whiting, a couple of Goat fish, and a trophy Port Jackson. Initially rough with a Northerly wind which flattened out completely in the afternoon. Coopers again failed to deliver!

On Wednesday we headed out again to the Whiting Hole and apart from giving up a load of pippi bait to the hungry baby Trevally, we managed to find a half a dozen whiting and a couple of squid later in the day. BTW, the blood worms Nick had collected and prepared in August were working well, mainly for the other fisho's! Gadget with small hooks caught and identified the thieving little bastards.... Even a double header at one point in the fishing.

Wednesday evening was our party night with the Dwiar Straits brothers coming over for a meal later in the evening. Because of their late return from fishing they could only muster some bacon and eggs for their meal with Gadget donating some bread rolls to help them eat their 'breakfast'.

By the time we awoke on Thursday the wind and rain had set in and it was time to call fishing off and retire to the filleting table to prepare our whiting, squid and jackets. Filleting was made easy with only 8 fish and a couple of squid. Big Al had his work cut out for him when he



filleted and cryovaced 20 whiting on Monday and 18 on Tuesday. Well done Big Al!

Gadget and Nick headed into Moonta for some supplies for the evening meal and ventured on to the Moonta Mines site to see the recent renovations to the Hughes Pumphouse and Chimney. An impressive rebuilding in progress. Thursday saw some rough weather all day so Big Al and Lofty headed for home in the morning, Osprey in the afternoon and the rest of us stayed and went home Friday morning.

A success trip away, enjoyed by all and incident free. The weather was kind to us for 3 days and most of the crews were successful catching fish.

Written by Nick Williams 22 Sep 24.

