



## Apostleship of the Sea

Supporting Seafarers Worldwide

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**The Gangway Bulletin, October 2018 (No.124)**

(Edited by Steve Reynolds)

The Stella Maris Seafarers Centre is operated by the Apostleship of the Sea Adelaide (based at Taperoo). The centre provides a ‘home’ for all seafarers from ships visiting Outer Harbor.

**Our Facebook page is titled “Stella Maris Seafarers Centre Adelaide”.**

### Shipping containers

50 years ago, Australian ports were trialling container shipments in preparation for services to the UK due to commence in 1969. In 1968, it was reported that Australian exporters had doubled their calls for trial container shipments (from Sydney?) to the UK. A company called Overseas Containers Pty Ltd was due to inaugurate the Australia to UK container service early in 1969. On 31<sup>st</sup> July 1968, seven containers of the standard size (20’x8’x8’) were loaded into the freighter *City of Winchester*, which was due to sail for London the next day (1<sup>st</sup> August). The consignment of containers was part of an experiment to see how the goods (wines, dried fruits, yacka gum & preserves) would carry when container ships began trading early the following year.

Something like 130m containers are transported via sea each year. According to Wikipedia, containerization is a system of ‘intermodal freight transport’. Shipping containers are also called either ‘intermodal containers’ or ‘ISO containers’. Containers are said to have ‘standardized dimensions’. This enables them to be “loaded & unloaded, stacked, transported efficiently over long distances, and transferred from one mode of transport to ..... without being opened. The handling system is completely mechanized so that all handling is done with cranes and special forklift trucks. All containers are numbered and tracked using computerized systems.”



“Containerization originated several centuries ago but was not well developed or widely applied until after World War II, when it dramatically reduced the costs of transport, supported the post-war boom in international trade, and was a major element in globalization. Containerization did away with the manual sorting of most shipments and the need for warehousing. It displaced many thousands of dock workers who formerly handled break bulk cargo. Containerization also reduced congestion in ports, significantly shortened

shipping time and reduced losses from damage and theft.”

The Outer Harbor container terminal was opened by then Premier, Don Dunstan on 17th March (St.Patrick’s Day) in 1977. The loading and unloading of shipping containers at the container berths is said to be a 24/7 operation. The terminal is now known as the Flinders Adelaide Container Terminal (FACT) and it currently handles about 390,000 containers per year.



## Anchors

An anchor is the symbol of hope and salvation for a ship in troubled waters. The logos for many organisations around Port Adelaide feature an anchor, including Stella Maris, Lefevre Catholic Community and Lefevre (Le Fevre) High School.

The Apostleship of the Sea logo features an anchor. The centrepiece of the logo is the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Rays radiate from the heart – symbols of the apostles who take his love to seafarers. The words ‘Apostolatus Maris’ are written in the life buoy, which connotes the saving work of the Apostolate. The anchor in the background is a symbol of hope and salvation for a ship in troubled waters.



This particular anchor is a Trotman anchor located at Semaphore jetty. The Trotman anchor was patented in 1852 by John Trotman. The large anchor at Semaphore is said to be the swing anchor from the *Star of Greece* shipwreck at Port Willunga. The ship carried two Trotman anchors and two admiralty patent anchors. The large gun by the Semaphore jetty, near the *Star of Greece* anchor, is from the *Protector*.

You’ve probably seen a few memorial anchors (that aren’t attached to a ship) around Port Adelaide, what with it being a working port and all. There may be more of them than you realise though. I have found a total of nine so far. Here are some photos of the other eight of them: -



You may recognise some of them. Do you know where they are all located? Have I missed any from the Port Adelaide area at all? If so, please let me know which ones and where.

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