



Our Facebook page is “Stella Maris Adelaide”  
The Gangway Bulletin – (Edited by Steve Reynolds)  
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### Merchant Navy Day 2021



Phil Mason, the Merchant Navy Association of South Australia’s President, invited a representative from Stella Maris to attend the annual Merchant Navy Day service in Port Adelaide on 3<sup>rd</sup> September. The term ‘Merchant Navy’ refers to a nation’s commercial shipping and crews. Steve & Noeleen Reynolds attended the service on behalf of Ian Keane, our Centre Manager. Phil Mason also sent Stella Maris



copies of letters received from both the Queen and the British Prime Minister. These were both posted to our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/stellamaris.adelaide> . Both Elizabeth R & Boris J sent their best wishes. The British PM also mentioned Stella Maris, saying “In the last twelve months, ..... the seafarers' charity, **Stella Maris**, celebrated their 100th (anniversary).” The service was held at the Navigator Memorial in Timpson St, Port Adelaide. It consisted of a few speeches, blessings, hymns & prayers. Several organisations laid wreaths for the Merchant Navy. Dignitaries such as Mark Butler MP and Mayor Clare Boan were amongst those that laid a wreath during the service. A bugler played “The Last Post” and a bagpiper played “Fleurs of the Forest” (Piper’s Lament). The half-mast flag was re-raised, and the national anthem was sung, towards the end of the service.

### More on Street Names and Place Names

I use several references to research the reasons behind different street names and place names. My main references are books such as “South Australia -What’s in a Name? (Historically significant place names)” by Rodney Cockburn. Another similar book is “Place Names of South Australia” by R. Praithe & JC Tolley. “Walk Round Corners: Port Adelaide” by John Couper-Smartt is very helpful when it comes to street names in Port Adelaide. Street directories are helpful too.

Until now, I always thought that St Vincent Street in Port Adelaide had a direct connection with Gulf St Vincent. The clue to the truth is in the names of other nearby streets such as Nelson Street and Nile Street. It seems that Nelson Street is named after Admiral Sir Horatio Nelson who fought in the Battle of the Nile against Napoleon Bonaparte. Nelson also fought in the Battle of Cape St Vincent. Nelson Street runs across the Birkenhead Bridge, between Victoria Road and St Vincent Street. Nile Street runs across Nelson Street, between the Old Port Reach and Commercial Road. Although “Walk Round Corners” refers to Nelson in relation to Nile & Nelson streets, it does not, however, mention Nelson in relation to St Vincent Street.

### Tent City at Taperoo

As reported in last month’s issue, the areas immediately to both the north and the west of the Fort Largs Police Academy were once used as a campground. The area to the north is now the Roy Marten Playground. The area to the west is now taken up by Housing Trust properties. A recent letter writer to the Editor of The Advertiser explained that ‘Zinc’\* camps took place there every school holiday (Christmas only) in the 50s and 60s. “There were meals in the vast food tents, days spent at Taperoo beach, children playing and love

blooming. Train trips to town for shopping were popular. Money was short but community fun was rich. And camping cheek-by-cheek was highly prized. Ian Keane, our Centre Manager, says that the Tent City used to have a full time Site Manager called Brian Shepley who was on the Parish Pastoral Council at Our Lady of the Visitation when Ian was the Chair of the Parish Pastoral Council. Ian also says that Brian took him for a tour of the tent city site one day and it was very interesting.

\* (The camps were organised by the Zinc Corporation which ran mines at Broken Hill.)

### **Can You Eat Your Cake & Still Have It?**

Although I enjoy writing, I have never been particularly good with ‘fancy’ words. Even though I am fond of phrases, I didn’t know what an idiom was. I am still learning new things late in life, and words are no exception. Even as I type this little piece, I have learnt something new about my laptop computer, or at least my wireless keyboard. At least there was no damage done! Before I started typing, however, I looked up the word ‘idiom’. My Oxford dictionary says that it means ‘phrase... established by usage and not immediately comprehensible from the words used. ‘Idiom’ is also said to mean a “form of expression peculiar to a language”. ‘Idiom’ comes from the Greek word *idios*, meaning ‘own’. Today’s phrase discussion concerns ‘having your cake and eating it too’. The phrase “You can’t have your cake and eat it too” has sometimes confused people, making it an idiom. I recently read that it means something like “you can’t have it both ways”. It is said to signify “an unreasonable attempt to get one’s way in two or more situations, when this may not be possible or desirable”. It seems that the wording was different over 70 years ago. It is said that around the 1930s or 1940s, the more common form of the phrase was “You can’t eat your cake and have it too”. Etymologists (students of words) say that this form makes more sense in that “it more clearly conveys the underlying message that one cannot continue to possess something which will provide future benefits after they have already availed themselves of those benefits”. ‘Have’ was never intended to be a synonym for ‘eat’, but was supposed to signify possessing a cake prior to, or instead of, eating it. A lexicographer (compiler of dictionaries) called Richard Mason (a distant relative of mine perhaps?) once stated “I eat things when I have them all the time. Only when the object is entirely consumed do I no longer have it (and at that time the eating is also terminated).” The Duke of York is said to have written a letter to Thomas Cromwell in 1538, stating that “a man cannot have his cake and eat his cake”. I read about this topic in “What’s Your Problem” in The Advertiser of 10<sup>th</sup> August this year, and there is still a bit more to this tale.

### **Hit by Hailstones**

When I see a street name that I haven’t seen before, I ask myself, “What are the origins of the name?” This happened when I saw Hailstone Lane at Willunga. I was reminded of this by Operation Hailstone in a DVD titled “Pacific Graveyard” (episode 2 of Shipwreck Detectives Series 1). “Pacific Graveyard” is about the WWII American attack against the Japanese on Truk Lagoon (now Chuuk) in 1944. According to Wikipedia, Truk Lagoon (Chuuk) “is renowned today as a tourist destination for divers interested in seeing the many shipwrecks left in the lagoon, many of which were sunk in Operation Hailstone”. I had seen Hailstone Lane whilst visiting a friend, who happened to be a maritime archaeologist, at Willunga. I naturally assumed a maritime connection in the name of Hailstone Lane., but when I asked my friend about the lane’s name origins, he told me, “Hailstone Lane is named after the Hailstone family who were a local family in the Willunga District in the 19th century”. It just goes to show that you cannot assume anything.