

# Transport



## Lighthouse – *Why do we have lighthouses? – How are they connected with transport?*

- The Port Adelaide Lighthouse served South Australia's coast line for 120 years.
- The lighthouse was made in England and shipped to Australia in pieces. It was put together at the entrance to the Port River and was first lit on January 1<sup>st</sup> 1869.
- In 1901 it was moved to South Neptune Island. Lighthouse keepers and their families lived in a cottage on the island, with food and mail arriving once a month from Adelaide.
- It used vaporised kerosene to fuel the light, and in 1976 it was converted to electricity.
- In 1985 the lighthouse was donated to the South Australian Maritime Museum. It was restored and reassembled where it sits today at Black Diamond Square.

## Cargo Vessels

- There are 20 wharves along the Port River. These are used by container ships to bring goods into and out of South Australia.
- Container ships come from all parts of the world. Some ships can be up to 292 metres long. This is 24 times the length of Archie.
- Cranes lift the containers onto and off the ships. Some of the goods they move include grain and seeds, motor vehicles and minerals.

## Tugboats – The Fearless

- A tugboat is a small, strongly built vessel that is used to guide large ships into and out of the harbour.
- Tugboats were steam powered until diesel and electric drives were developed.
- Most tugs are built of wood or metal-sheathed wood because the strength of a wooden hull reduces the chance of damage to both the tugboat and larger ship in berthing operations.

## Ketches – The Falie

- Ketches are smaller cargo vessels that were used in South Australia up until about 40 years ago. There is a ketch when you walk into the museum.
- They carried wheat, wool, live animals, gypsum, salt, firewood and many other cargoes around Australia's ports and were used to lighter these cargoes to larger vessels for the overseas trade.
- About 100 years ago there were about 80 ketches working in SA waters. They were called the Mosquito Fleet because when you looked out at the horizon from the beach, they looked like a swarm of mosquitos.
- We no longer use ketches to transport cargo because we have air, rail and road freight.

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