The Maritime High School based at Le Fevre High School, is an initiative of the South Australian government which combines secondary school studies with a specific focus on high level maths and science and technical Vocational Education and Training (VET) within a maritime context.

In addition to the maritime vocational courses, a number of maritime scientific studies courses have been developed providing opportunities for students to study ship design, electronics, radar, GPS and navigation technologies. This provides a training pathway towards achieving a nationally recognised vocational accreditation and the South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE) at the same time.

A voyage on the One and All

A sailing voyage on the One and All training ship was a highlight for Maritime Industry Pathway students in March. The voyage is part of the introduction into commercial sea training and used as a resource by the students to complete competencies.

"After an overnight stay anchored in Port Vincent, we were abruptly woken at 4.00am to start the voyage back to Port Adelaide," said Eddie Grzeskowiak, Maritime Program Leader.

"The weather was not too pleasant, with a strong breeze and rolling seas. Many on board were seasick, and needless to say there was very little sleep to be had. Most of us were tired and a little queasy but we were assured that the best remedy was to be active. As dawn broke, the sails were unfurled and it was full steam ahead. We were kept busy setting sails, checking rigging, coiling ropes and performing safety drills."

By mid-morning the clouds started to clear and the sun broke through to raise the crew's spirits ready for morning tea. "More sails were set as we tacked our way across the gulf. It was amazing how much rope handling was involved, no sooner had you coiled a rope then had to uncoil to adjust the sail. More safety drills were done with a man overboard exercise triggered by a wayward soccer ball from the aft deck by the captain. Happy to report that the ball was saved in record time," reported Eddie.

As we sailed into Outer Harbour the students donned harnesses and started climbing the rigging to furl the sails. All were in high spirits as we sailed up the Port River towards home!

The students were commended by the ship's captain and crew for the way they participated in the voyage and their positive outlook. Eddie said that he was proud of how the students represented themselves, their families and above all their school in this adventure.

Thanks to Thierry Herman and Karen Hemsley who kindly volunteered to help the students on this sailing journey. The students are now volunteer members of the One and All and will have the opportunity to go on more sailing adventures.

Engineering trades training through VET

The 2017 VET Engineering Trades Training course at Le Fevre High School has already seen students begin work on achieving their practical competencies in metal fabrication. The students each have a toolkit of items they will need throughout the year but make their own tool box. The tools were provided through the generous support from local tool company, GRH Supplies at Wingfield.

Over time, the achievements of graduates from this course have been impressive and several students have progressed to apprenticeships in engineering fields.

Industry engagement is an important component of VET and next term students will be visiting the ASC and local engineering firms with links to the maritime sector to expose them to the current and future opportunities in these industries.
Port Adelaide maritime precinct history valued

The state government, together with the Port Adelaide Council have made a commitment to preserve the maritime history of the Port Adelaide region.

The One and All and the historic Ketch, Falie will have a continued presence on the McLaren Wharf in Port Adelaide, together with workshop space at Dock 2.

The Falie was one of a fleet of ketches that were the lifeblood of South Australia and plied our ports from the south-east to the west coast, delivering necessities to our outlying towns and transporting the grain and wool that drove the state’s economy.

In a time when road access from Adelaide to our regions was, at best, unreliable and, at worst, non-existent, the ketches were the road trains of their day. Even when the roads improved, South Australia’s unique shape, with 3 peninsulas and 2 large gulfs, meant that transportation by sea was often still the cheapest and most efficient method.

Up to 400 of these magnificent small ships worked the South Australian coastline, with perhaps 50 or 60 working at any one time.

Now they’re virtually all gone — sunk, scuttled, sold off or left to rot in fields. Only one floating ketch — the Falie — remains, a unique link to our seafaring past. Restored for the state’s 150th celebrations in 1986, this 46m steel-hulled ship not only served the state but also served the country during World War II.

A team of dedicated volunteers meet on board the Falie every Wednesday and Friday to keep the old girl shipshape.

The Dock 2 precinct will become a home for the City of Adelaide clipper and the schooner Nelcebee, where they will be on permanent display at the dock in the heart of the port.

The dock will also provide an area for restoration projects and have space for artisan skills to be on display to the public. Many of these skills are from a bygone era and should be preserved and nurtured.

The plan, aimed at boosting local tourism, was unveiled to coincide with the 30th anniversary of the One And All, a purpose-built sail training ship operated by Adelaide volunteers and owned by the state government.

For more information see http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-02-26/one-and-all-tall-ship-marks-30-year-anniversary/8304448

30th birthday for the One and All

The 30th birthday in April of the sailing ship, the One and All, was a great opportunity for schools to explore opportunities to incorporate some on-board learning activities.

Maritime Program Leader Eddie Grzeskowiak at Le Fevre (Maritime) High School said that there are lots of ways that schools can be involved with the One and All. “Because the ship will have a major refit in May, there will be opportunities to assist in some of the refurbishment work. The staff and crew are truly passionate about this ship and I am sure they would be only too happy to sit down and discuss how they can help,” he said.

The ship is a valuable maritime resource for the state and as it is a commercial training vessel, students can use it to gain competency in elements of the Maritime Industry Pathways (MIPP) course.

One of the recent opportunities for young adults was a 5 day voyage sponsored by the Port Adelaide Enfield council. “Le Fevre High School was fortunate to have 6 students invited to complete the voyage,” said Eddie. “It was interesting to see the change in the students from the time they left Port Adelaide and then on their return. The trip held challenges for the students — apart from being at sea, they also learnt the value of teamwork, leadership and, above all, camaraderie.”

One of the students was upgraded to become part of the crew and on return to dock, 2 more students were invited to be a part of the crew — a fantastic achievement.

Thanks to Port Adelaide Enfield council for providing this opportunity for young people to gain important experiences and skills.

Successful students James Walder, Josh Whaley, Deelan Speroes, Lachlan Landreth and Damien Williams