

The SA Maritime Museums values *Nelcebee* as a very significant vessel. Through its long life it has been used as a tug, a coastal trader and a lighter. Like the ketch *Falie*, which is berthed at McLaren Wharf, *Nelcebee* was one of the last two ketches working under sail in South Australia.

Ships work in hostile environments, subject to wind, water, salt and corrosion. After almost 125 years at sea *Nelcebee* was taken out of the water in 2005 because a substantial part of its iron hull was too thin.

Port Adelaide is home to a large and significant historic fleet.

This includes the sail training vessel *One & All*, ketch *Falie*, clipper *City of Adelaide*, and the Maritime Museum's vessels: steam tug *Yelta*, motor vessel *Archie Badenoch* and the *Nelcebee*.

With finite resources and a large fleet of heritage vessels, it has not as yet been possible to address the conservation needs of *Nelcebee*.

KEVIN JONES
Director
South Australian Maritime Museum