

Triple Dutch treat of visiting ships heading to Adelaide



FULL SAIL: The Dutch bark Europa. Picture: BRATT YATES *Source: The Advertiser*

THE biggest gathering of tall ships in South Australia in 25 years will take place in Port Adelaide in August.

SA Maritime Museum director Kevin Jones has persuaded the operators of three Dutch tall ships en route to the International Fleet Review in Sydney to stay over at Port Adelaide.

"They were planning to come for a day and we just said we would welcome them and put on a party for the crew and captains and they said maybe they could stay a bit longer," Mr Jones said.

The Dutch ships will be joined by the Maritime Museum's Falie and One & All to fill the Inner Harbour at Port Adelaide with sailing vessels of another era.

The three Dutch tall ships are Oosterschelde, Europa and Tecla.

The Oosterschelde, a 50-metre, three-masted topsail schooner of 400 tonnes, is the last of her kind, fully restored in the 1990s.

The ships will be open to the public on the weekend of August 31 and September 1, before sailing on to Sydney via Hobart.

The visit will enable Port Adelaide to relive its glory days as a busy tall ships port. Mr Jones said the SA Maritime Museum would stage a festival of maritime trades to go with the tall ships visit.

Today the port handles about 15 million tonnes of cargo each year.

The Tall Ships will arrive in Port Adelaide on August 28th and stay till September 1st before heading to Melbourne, Hobart, Sydney and then to Auckland in New Zealand.

South Australia's very own Tall Ships - the *Falie* and the *One & All* will join the trio at McLaren Wharf (next to the lighthouse) in Port Adelaide.

Current schedule:

Wednesday 28 August - Dutch ships arrive

The bridges will be closed to shipping between 4.00pm and 6.30pm so the ships will arrive before or after those times. Stan Nowakowski (0414 488 317) is liaising with the visiting ships. They are expected to reach Port Lincoln on Monday 26 August and will decide to aim for arrival before 4.00pm or after 6.30pm. Stan will contact you as soon as that decision is made.

The bridge managers are also expecting a call from Stan to arrange the opening time. They are being very supportive.

The bridges will open again at 10.00pm to allow yachts to leave the Inner Harbor.

Thursday 29 August - Lord Nelson arrives

Lord Nelson plans to arrive on 29 August and times will be confirmed as soon as possible.

Three masted schooner *Oosterschelde* will take a day sail from 11.00am to 3.30pm.

Friday 30 August

No movements planned.

Saturday 31 August - Yachts enter Inner Harbor

2.30 to 3.30pm bridge opens for one hour, yachts enter Inner Harbor from Cruising Yacht Club, Garden Island Yacht Club, RSAYS and Port Adelaide Sailing Club.

4.30 to 5.00pm bridge opens for 30 minutes for additional yachts to enter.

Berths will be available in Dock One and at the Fishermen's Wharf Market. The Birkenhead Bridge is on standby to open on request for short periods through the afternoon to enable yachts to berth outside the Fisheries Academy.

Sunday 1 September - Dutch ships leave

10.00 to 11.00am, bridge opens for one hour, three Dutch ships leave followed by *One & All*, *ST Yelta* and perhaps 100 yachts.

Birkenhead Bridge opens before 10 am on request to enable yachts to leave

Monday 2 September - Lord Nelson leaves

10.00 to 10.15am, PREXY bridges opens to enable *Lord Nelson* to leave.