

Apprentice
Connor Norris
with the
clipper ship
City of
Adelaide.



All hands on deck to save clipper

KITTY BARR

RESTORATION of the historic City of Adelaide clipper will be sped up thanks to a team of apprentices from ship-builder ASC.

The submarine apprentices will support the volunteer-run City of Adelaide Preservation Trust, as they work to preserve the world's oldest clipper ship.

Trust director Peter Christopher said the extra support would help reduce restoration time by up to a year.

"The work to be undertaken by ASC apprentices will significantly speed up

the restoration work being undertaken by our volunteers," he said.

"We've just completed a six-year project which was replacing the saloon deck where the first class cabins were. Within the next couple of months we expect to have the first two replica first-class cabins in place."

ASC apprentice Connor Norris said he was looking forward to working on the clipper, with the team set to build customised stanchions, the ship's upright metal and railing structures.

"This project with the City of Adelaide means that we get to take that

work out into the community, show people what we can do, and contribute to the future of Port Adelaide," he said.

Built in 1864 to carry passengers from London to South Australia, the clipper made a total of 23 return voyages. The clipper returned to SA in 2014 and is now based at Dock 2 in Port Adelaide after spending years neglected in Scotland.

More than 250,000 Australians can trace their descendants to someone who travelled as a passenger on the City of Adelaide during voyages from England taken from 1864 to 1887.