

Frank Matthews

Roll No 191

June 25, 1938 – March 10, 2021

Growing up on the foreshore of Sydney Harbour in Drummoyne it was only natural that Frank had a lifelong association with Sydney Harbour. Commencing as a deckhand with Nicholson Bros Transport at age 18, then moving to the MSB as a launch driver when he obtained his first skipper's ticket. The next move was to Bailey and Jorgensen lighterage of Balmain where he ended up manager and remained so for 10 years.

Frank said he could see with the advent of containerisation the tug and lighterage business would be disrupted and with the blessing of the owner John Hemphill, Frank orchestrated the sale of the business to Harbour Lighterage owned by the Brambles group.

Frank was then offered a position within the Brambles Group and worked in several roles ashore for their Fenwick's Tugs division. He then moved to General Manager level within Brambles group, managing the CHEP refrigerated container division and then later the Macarthur Shipping Agency.

In 1987 the Matthews and Williams families purchased the Rosman Ferry business – the three vessels *Royale*, *Radar* and *Regal*, this successful partnership that lasted 13 years. In 1999 the remainder of the business was purchased from the Williams family as well as their vessel the *Proclaim* and Frank worked part-time in the business.

The Rosman business was sold to the Noakes group in 2008 and Frank retired and spent time on his private boats, the last of which was sold in 2018.

With thanks to Steve Matthews