

Mr Robert (Bob) Charles Morgan

21/10/1941 - 20/11/2022

Chief Engineer

Roll No.203



Thoughts & reminiscences of his passing from former shipmates ...

From Capt Jim Martin ...

Sorry to hear of Bob Morgan's passing - my condolences to his family.

We sailed together in the *Port Quebec* in 1960, Captain Geoff Carling in command. Roger Jones and I as Deck Apprentices and Bob as J/2/E - a good shipmate.

We left the Tyne in ballast (sand) for the US and Australia, north about Scotland, but had to put back into the Tyne due to engine trouble. Our second attempt was successful but due to heavy swell we could not land the Tyne pilot and the compass adjuster off the pier-heads and we had to land them off Methil Roads, much farther to the north. They were both worried that they might be shanghaied to the States!

During the Atlantic crossing we had several days of dense fog but having a problem with the foremast air whistle, we Apprentices were on watches in order to sound the funnel-mounted reserve whistle via a lanyard and lever arrangement in the bridge wing. The constant sounding of this whistle made sleeping difficult for the Engineers amidships so Bob eventually climbed up the foremast and fixed the main whistle.

He was later promoted to Senior Second Engineer in Fremantle.

We later met up again at the 2016 Napier Port Line reunion which he helped organise.

From David Whitby ...

I only met Bob when I visited Sydney a couple of times on *Port New Plymouth* in 74/75 but we both had similar apprenticeships and careers. Mine was with P&O prior to joining Port Line and Cunard, but Bob's entire career from 1952 to 1991 was with Port Line and Cunard. He was always a very well-liked and highly respected member of the Port Line team.

With the help of the sea-staff data base the following spans his career with Port Line: - 52-54 Cadet two years OND course at Technical College (I don't know which). 54-56 Cadet *Port Napier*. 56-57 Cadet one year as apprentice at a UK Shipyard (I don't know which but possibly H&W). 57-58 S4 Eng/J3 Eng *Port Alma*. 59 S3 Eng *Port Dunedin*. 59-60 college Second Eng ticket. 60 J2 Eng *Port Brisbane*. 60-62 J2 Eng/S2 Eng *Port Quebec*. 62-63 college Chief Eng ticket. 63-64 S2 Eng *Port Alfred*. 65 S2 Eng *Port Huon*. 65-66 Chief Eng *Port Wyndham*. 67-73 Asst Superintendent Eng (Sydney office). 73-91 Superintendent Engineer (Sydney office).

I think the timing is right for when he took his tickets (probably Poplar College). I did my shipyard stint of my cadetship at H&W and have a feeling Bob may have also but not certain.