

# Basic Detail Report

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**Title**

Christmas dinner crew menu from MV MATTHEW FLINDERS II

**Date**

1972

**Primary Maker**

Australian National Line

**Medium**

Ink on paper

**Dimensions**

Overall: 185 x 105 mm

**Name**

Menu

**History**

In 1970, Kawasaki Heavy Industries Ltd in Japan built MATTHEW FLINDERS for The Flinders Shipping Company Ltd. It functioned as a roll-on/roll-off cargo vessel, servicing routes to Japan, Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne. It was sold to the Australian National Line in 1975 and was renamed AUSTRALIAN EXPLORER. The ship was to continue servicing the Japan, Australia route until it was withdrawn and dismantled in Taiwan in 1987. There are a large number of shipboard menus in the museum's collection and a vast majority of these menus appeared in passenger liners. This shipboard menu offers a rare glimpse into the social life of crew members on board a merchant vessel. The menu would have served as a decorative keepsake for crew members travelling across Australia's coastal waters on en route to Japan.