



## MERCHANT NAVY WELFARE BOARD

### Merchant Navy Awareness Course Programme

This course is designed to give staff and volunteers, within the maritime charities, an overview and background of Merchant Navy seafarers. It is intended that those attending the course will gain a better understanding of the recent history of the Merchant Navy, the shipboard environment, working conditions and background of merchant seafarers.

#### Contents

- What is the Merchant Navy
- Merchant ships
- What is a seafarer
- Identifying a seafarer
- Employment arrangements;
  - Direct employment
  - Crewing agents
  - The Shipping Pool
  - Pensions
  - Leave
- The shipboard structure – who's who
- Terminology
- Shipboard conditions
  - Working patterns inc. watches
  - Hierarchy
  - Multinational crews
  - Accommodation
  - Social arrangements
  - Discipline
  - Emergencies
- Flags
  - Own flag
  - Port of registry
  - FoC
- Ports of call
- Family life and isolation
- Careers ashore
- Retirement