

The Chair
Amber Hill Parish Council
21 Sea Lane
Butterwick
Boston
Lincolnshire
PE22 0HG

35276

14th May 2018

Dear Chair

Please help to raise public awareness of our island nation's reliance on seafarers and shipping by flying a Red Ensign ashore on Merchant Navy Day, 3rd September

The Red Ensign is the official flag of the British Merchant Navy and those men and women on whom we depend to keep our island nation supplied with food, fuel and other imports.

Merchant Navy Day on 3rd September has been commemorated since 2000 and for the past three years has been the focus of our UK-nationwide campaign to raise awareness of our ongoing reliance on seafarers and shipping.

Flying the Red Ensign on a civic building or prominent flagpole in your neighbourhood provides an ideal opportunity for you to issue a press release with a photograph and to use social media for publicity.

You may also wish to organise a flag-hoisting ceremony, inviting Merchant Navy veterans to attend alongside your own Councillors and local VIPs? In which case please feel free to read out the message of support from HRH The Earl of Wessex included in the enclosed guide, that contains plenty of other helpful information.

This is a free service! So please let us know what you are planning to do by completing the online registration form at www.merchantnavyday.uk or emailing nick.harvey@seafarers.uk

All participating Councils and Local Authorities will be added to our prestigious 'Roll of Honour' on the website. And all those who send us a photograph will be rewarded with a Commemorative Certificate. (Please ensure you register again this year - even if you participated in previous years - to enable us to keep our records up to date and in accordance with GDPR requirements).

On behalf of Seafarers UK may I thank you in advance for supporting this important initiative.

Yours sincerely



Nick Harvey
Campaigns Manager

P.S. As Merchant Navy Day falls on a Monday this year, you may wish to arrange for your Red Ensign to be flown for the whole week and the preceding weekend? There are no restrictions on when or where a Red Ensign may be flown ashore in the UK.