

## **RYA HELMSMANS COURSE**

This course is aimed at the novice or the boating enthusiast wishing to formalise and/or expand their knowledge. It is suitable for those with little or no previous experience. All aspects of boat handling including safety, collision avoidance and care of the environment are covered.

### **DECKWORK**

Common nautical terms

Handling warps and fenders

Throwing and heaving line or coiled rope

Knots

Securing to bollards, rings, cleats and mooring stakes

Anchor work

### **HELMSMANSHIP AND BOAT HANDLING**

Loading and weight distribution

Steering in a canal and river/control of speed

Interaction and canal effect

Turning

Berthing and unberthing, alongside and between buoys/piles

Recovery of man overboard

### **PERSONAL SAFETY**

Identification of risks - including cold shock

Use of life jackets and buoyancy aids

Avoidance of personal injury, including crushing of limbs when fending off

Special risks to children

### **BOAT SAFETY**

Fire hazards, particularly gas and petrol

Use of fire extinguishers

Watertight integrity

Refloating after grounding

### **ENGINES**

Engine care: Checks to be carried out before starting and while running

Routine periodic check

### **LOCKS**

General Understanding

Operation

Tending lines in locks

### **BRIDGES AND TUNNELS**

Safety General understanding of operation of bridges and use of tunnels

## **COLLISION AVOIDANCE**

Steering and sailing rules of the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea

Bye-laws and local regulations, including traffic signals, signs and priorities

Awareness of other national and local regulations

## **CARE OF ENVIRONMENT**

Avoiding damage to boats, banks, flora and fauna

Pollution avoidance

Consideration for other waterway users