

## QUARTERMASTER CREW

### Instructions: (mates read aloud)

This crew packet contains important information for you to know aboard the Balclutha, and it will help you complete your project. First, read the part about your roles. The mate will assign roles to everyone in the crew. If there are not enough roles for everyone, then the mate may assign 2 people to 1 role. Once the mate assigns the roles, there is no switching, but you are allowed to help each other. Once everyone has a role, read the ENTIRE packet through once, taking turns reading aloud. After you have read through once, you can go back and re-read different sections if you need to.

### Roles:

Recorder	While the crew is taking turns reading the packet out loud, the recorder is responsible for writing down important information for the presentation. The recorder should have legible handwriting, and the rest of the crew should be sure to give the recorder enough time to write things down before moving on.
Researcher	The researcher is responsible for finding new information online or in books that will help with the presentation. The researcher should come up with at least three different sources to get more information from. Once the researcher has come up with the three sources, the mate can assign some other crew members to help with the research.
Designer	The designer is responsible for the layout of the poster that will be presented to the class. He or she should come up with a theme for the poster that includes how big (or small) items will be, how many pictures to use, color scheme, and other elements of design.
Artist	The artist is responsible for either picking or drawing the images that will be displayed on the poster during the presentation. The images should fit into the theme determined by the designer.
Writer	The writer is responsible for writing one to two sentences for each image, to be displayed on the poster. These sentences should answer the Presentation Questions and should be coordinated with the images on the poster.
Presenter	The presenter is responsible for coming up with a script for the presentation. The presenter should NOT be the only person who talks during the presentation. This person will decide what can be read off the poster, what should be said that is not on the poster, and what order different people in the crew will speak in.

### Presentation Questions:

1. What was the day-to-day work of a sailor like?
2. What tasks did Captains assign in order to keep their ships in good condition?
3. How do big ships get into port? How do they keep from drifting away once they are there?
4. What are the main parts of a sail and the main control lines for a sail?

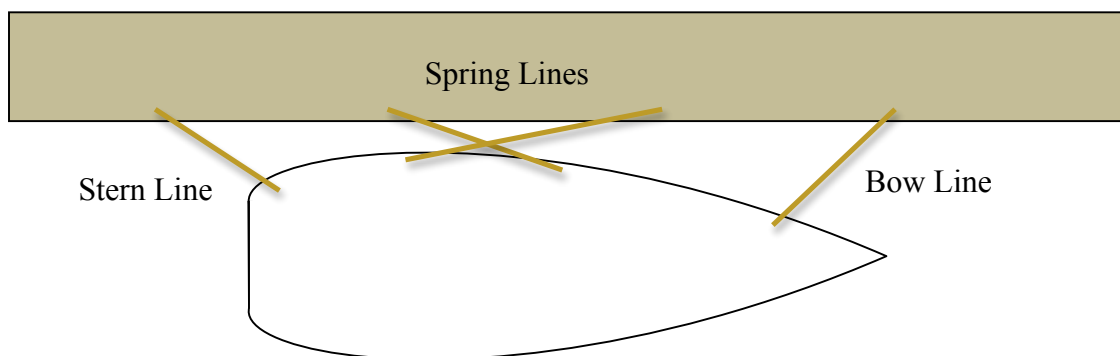
## Quartermaster Crew Overview:

Quartermasters must be thorough seamen for they are responsible for many types of tasks. Along with Deckhands and Bosun's, they are in charge of most tasks done "on deck." These tasks may include: throwing a heaving line, setting hawsers, swabbing decks, and readying stays'ls. Of course, the captain may order additional tasks that require the skills a Quartermaster possesses. The Quartermaster Crew will also be responsible for standing a night watch.

## Quartermaster Crew Responsibilities

### Hawsers

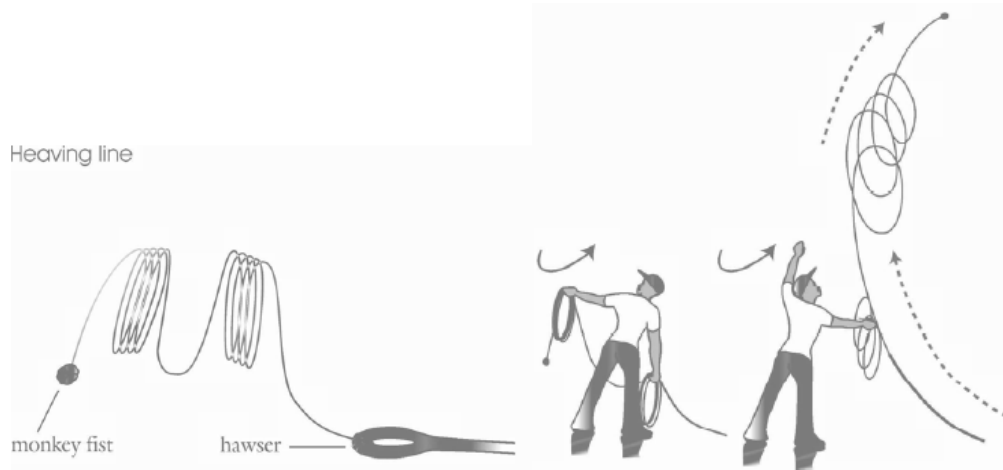
Hawsers are large, thick lines used for either securing a vessel to the dock or towing another vessel. Hawser means 'thick rope' and so sailors give hawsers more specific names depending on the exact job they have. Hawsers also vary in length depending on which part of the ship they are meant to tie to the dock. Typically there are two very long hawsers; one set at the bow, called the bow line, and one at the stern, called the stern line. A hawser set from the middle of the ship is called either a breast line or a spring line, and usually does not need to be as long as the bow and stern lines. A typical configuration is to have two spring lines that cross each other, just like the diagram below. It is one of the jobs of the deckhands to prepare the correct lines in the correct places when a ship comes into port. Once the lines are distributed, the crew will get ready to send the lines ashore. Since the hawsers are large, they are also heavy and hard to throw. For this reason, sailors use heaving lines to get the hawsers across to shore.



### Heaving Line

A Heaving line is a long, thin line with a heavy knot at the end called a monkey's fist. This line is used for throwing to the dock or another boat when you need to pass a line across that is too heavy to throw. The first step to throwing a heaving line is to hitch the bitter end of the heaving line to a stationary part of the vessel. This will ensure that both ends of the line are not thrown over and the heaving line lost at sea. Once the line is secure, two neat coils are made in a clockwise manner. NEVER WRAP THE LINE AROUND YOUR ELBOW OR OTHER BODY PART. Other lads can be sent to the shore in order to catch the heaving line as it hits the dock. The person throwing the line holds one coil in each hand with the monkey's fist coil in their throwing hand. Move to the closest point to the dock and heave the line in a smooth arcing motion towards the dock WITH BOTH HANDS. Once the heaving line reaches the other side,

untie the bitter end of the heaving line and bend it to the eye of the hawser using a heaving line bend or bowline (not a square knot). At this point, part of the crew must go ashore to haul and part of the crew stays aboard to slack on the hawser. Once the eye splice reaches the pier, untie the heaving line from the eye splice and secure it to the bollard or cleat. On board the crew will haul any slack from the line (leaving enough slack in the line to allow for the changing tides) and, using a figure-eight pattern, secure the bitter end of the hawser to the vessel.



## VOCABULARY

**Aft** –the direction towards the stern of a vessel

**Bell-time** -time kept by ringing a series of bells every half hour

**Bitter end** -the end of a line

**Bollard** -single or double steel posts secured to the pier and used for mooring vessels

**Bow** -the forward end of the vessel

**Breast line** -a mooring line at a 90 degree angle to the keel, set abreast of the vessel

**Cleat** -a piece of wood or metal with 2 horns used for belaying (tying) lines

**Clew** – The aftermost grommet in the foot of a sail, used to attach the sheet

**Downhaul** – The line that hauls a sail back down to the deck

**Eye or Eyesplice** (on a line) –a permanent loop at the end of a line

**Foredeck** -the raised deck at the bow of the vessel

**Forward** - direction towards the bow of a ship

**Furl** – to bundle and secure a sail with line.

**Hawser** -a line with a diameter of 2 1/2 inches or more

**Halyard** – the line that hauls a sail up into the air

**Head** – The topmost grommet in a sail, used to attach the halyard for raising sail

**Heaving line** -a light weight "messenger" line with a monkey's fist knot at the end

**Sheet** – A line used to control a sail

**Spring line** -a mooring line at less than a 90 degree angle to the keel

**Stays'l** – The triangular sail at the head of a ship that is raised along the forestay. Located on the foredeck of Balclutha.

**Stern** -the back end, of a vessel

**Sweat the line** – describes the difficult work of hauling on the standing part of the line to raise sail.

**Tack** – the forward most grommet in the foot of a sail. Used to hold the sail down at a certain height.