

TALENT

Families and Affiliates Newsletter

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Talent Gets Her Feet Wet

After a period of almost two years in dry dock, HMS Talent has been successfully re-floated.

With a bright and early start, the Ship's Company ensured everything was in place for the first fall of water to enter the dry dock in which our submarine has had held residence for almost 24 months. Flooding up is the process where water enters the dock and re-floats the submarine at full buoyancy. Water is pumped into the dock stopping at various levels to allow checks of the keel and to ensure nothing is snagged on the blocks TALENT had been sitting on. Just before the submarine freely floated divers conducted a full swim through to ensure the boat was free to float. Then it was time to fully fill the dock and equalise the pressure on either side of the caisson.

On day two, the Ship's Company prepared for a cold move. This is where the submarine is moved from wharf to wharf not under our own power but assisted by tug boats. A skilful evolution involving coordination of tug boats, handlers on the casing and jetty, the cold move was an important evolution which proved the skill and professionalism of all involved. Well into the evening of day two, TALENT had completed her transition from dry dock to being berthed alongside her new home. A great success for all involved and another example of how TALENT's Ship's Company and Babcock Marine are working together to get the boat to the sea.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CAPTAIN

TALENT has been immersed in a deep maintenance period since June 2015, the project has been conducted in Devonport Dockyards Submarine Refit Complex. Although it feels like a long time the work undertaken will ensure the platform is ready to support us in meeting the challenges of 21st century maritime warfare.

For the Ship's Company it is now time for us to transition from an engineering focussed project to getting ourselves ready to go back to sea. We have already started training in simulators testing our navigation, warfighting and damage control skills. Before we are allowed to sail for the first time we will all be thoroughly tested by staff from our Sea Training organisation to ensure we are ready in all respects to go.

2018 is going to be a very busy year for HMS TALENT. For those of you planning to attend our Family BBQ (26 October, details available from your loved one) please come and say hello and I will always be as honest in answering your questions and concerns as I possibly can.

I am, as ever, grateful for the support you give. It would not possible to do what we do without you, thank you.



Talent Riders in Race Against Time For Joe

A team of six cyclists from Royal Navy submarine HMS Talent rode from Plymouth to London in a race against time and to raise funds in memory of a colleague.

Plymouth-based sailors Chief Petty Officers Craig Parker, Scott Yeardley, Matthew Bradley, Warrant Officer Jimmy Dyke, Able Seaman Aidan Madden and Leading Hand Matty Mead covered the 248 miles in less than 23 hours. They raised funds for the RNRMC. The charity supported the family of Lt Joseph Wright, 26, who died in January from natural causes after collapsing while out jogging in Faslane Naval Base, Scotland.

Event organiser Craig said: "I decided to arrange this event as I don't believe that the RNRMC get the acknowledgement they deserve. I was inspired by the amount of support they provided to the family and friends of the late Lt Joe Wright after his death and decided what better time of the year to do something to raise that awareness and remember Joe." Craig manages radio and sonar engineers in HMS Talent and organises the weapon engineering department's training.



The ride finished at the Submarine Memorial on the Embankment during Submarine Memorial Weekend in London, where services were held at the memorial and Westminster Abbey to honour all who serve and have served in submarines.

Jimmy, one of TALENT's marine engineers, said: "I offered my support for this ride because it is for a good cause." Aidan added: "This is a very good cause and deserves the credit for what it gives back to its members. Another reason is the fact that after the ride I get to experience a brilliant parade."

The RNRMC exists to support sailors, marines and their families and makes a difference to thousands of people.

Armed Forces Day Dawlish

For the third year in a row HMS TALENT's Ship's company have helped support Dawlish Armed Forces Day, in July, by sending a healthy percentage of manpower, to parade through the scenic route of this historic town.

The parade marched from the Dawlish Royal British Legion, led by the Air Force Cadet Band, along the Strand and up onto the Lawn. The weather conditions were glorious and with the sun shining, the marching troops were greeted by hundreds of well-wishers who lined the streets. Six Royal British Legion clubs were represented, including Newton Abbot, Kingsteignton and Braunton, who along with HMS TALENT, and platoons from local Air, Army, Sea Cadet and Scout groups, were proud to attend and take part in such a major occasion.

Once fell in on the square the ceremony of colours and the last post was conducted followed by a rousing chorus of the National Anthem. On completion of the parade, TALENT's ships company proceeded to meet the public to share stories and explain naval life in its fullest. Then into the marquee for some well-deserved beverages and to splice the main brace in true naval tradition. TALENT's Commanding Officer Cdr Jamie Mitchell was presented with a Submarine cake by the Dawlish Royal British Legion.



Howzat!!

HMS TALENT Cricket Team clocked a sporting success by making it through to the Navy Cup Semi-Finals after beating HMS DRAKE in the first round and BRNC DARTMOUTH in the Quarters.

Against BRNC, TALENT produced a night on flawless performance in which every member of the team contributed; a solid opening partnership from ET Lowe (44) and Lt Hatherall RN (55) set the benchmark with TALENT eventually finishing on 264 for 6 from their allotted 35 overs. TALENT then made quick work of the BRNC batsmen, bowling them all out for just 31 runs. PO Brunel was the pick of the bowlers, taking 5 for 12.

In the Semi-Final against HMS Seahawk, previous winners for the last two years, TALENT won the toss and put Seahawk in to bat. A strong bowling display from TALENT seemed to put them in the driving seat, bowling Seahawk out for what they thought would be a competitive 201; but they would rue a number of dropped catches in the field. In reply, TALENT's batting did not get off to the best of starts, losing the opening batsmen with just 15 runs on the board. Which, followed by a very dubious LBW decision for CPO Parker, sparked a collapse and TALENT were finally out for just 82. Credit must go to the Seahawk bowling attack who boasted a number of Full Navy team bowlers. TALENT can justifiably hold their heads high. With only a relatively small Ship's Company to choose from to make it to the semi-final of the Navy Cup is a tremendous achievement. Here's hoping for more success next summer.



RN Bobsleigh Team Selection

Following the RN Bobsleigh Team's recruitment day in June, ET 'Rich' Pendlebury has been selected to represent the Royal Navy at the 2018 Inter-Service Ice Sports Championships at the Olympic Bobsleigh Track Igls, Innsbruck AUSTRIA between 9 Feb 18 – 4 Mar 18.

Rich was invited to the recruitment day for the RN Bobsleigh Team at Norton Manor Royal Marines Barracks. Where after an introduction and meet and greet with key members of the Bobsleigh team and the training team, the potential candidates were briefed on the criteria required for selection. The rest of the day consisted of recording 30 metre sprints and maximum achieved Deadlifts.

The Inter-service championships involve competition at three disciplines: Bobsleigh, Skeleton and Luge. Single service training will take place from 10 Feb 18 – 26 Feb 18. The IS Championships are 1 and 2 Mar 18. Good Luck Rich!





The Mayor of Shrewsbury Parade and Civic Service.

Members HMS Talent's crew were invited to attend the civic service in which Councillor Jane Mackenzie was sworn in as the new Mayor of our affiliated town Shrewsbury on the 21st May 2017.

The civic service took place in the beautiful and prestigious grade 1 listed church of St Chard's which was built in 1792, and with its distinctive round shape and high tower it is a well-known landmark in the town. Prior to the civic service, members of the crew had the honour to lead the parade through the beautiful town in honour of the newly elected Mayor.

The Parade was marched off from Shrewsbury Castle which is now home to the Shropshire Regimental Museum, housing artifacts from the King's Shropshire Light Infantry. The Parade included the town's volunteer band which provided a sound beat for all to remain in step throughout. The parade included past elected Mayors and council dignitaries with mace and sword bearers, all in full ceremonial robes. The town's youth organisations from the Air Cadet Corp to Brownies also took pride of place in the parade. During the parade it was fantastic to see warm welcome from the people of Shrewsbury that lined the streets on the beautiful May Sunday Morning.

The civic ceremony took place at 10am in which Councillor Jane Mackenzie was officially sworn in as Mayor and welcomed by the Freeman of the town. The Guild of Freemen of Shrewsbury exists to protect the Legality of the Freedom; to promote the historical institution of the Freedom and to inform interested parties about the development of medieval Towns. During this part of the ceremony the guild of freeman also offered their support to the newly elected Mayor for the duration of her term in office. Following the church service the traditional 'Loving Cup' ceremony took place at which the Mayor was invited to drink from the Loving Cup which contained a secret recipe. Cllr Mackenzie then proceeded to toast the Queen and town before inviting the congregation to share the toast from the 'Loving Cup'.

Royal Navy Royal Marines Welfare (RNRMW)

RNRMW offers a range of services to Naval Personnel and their families across the UK and overseas, which provide accessible, confidential specialist welfare services to individuals and the Divisional system.

Services also include: Community Support, providing activities and events for Service Families; Information Support on various service related topics; and Communication Networks, including the RN Forum and Facebook.

RNRMW can be contacted on 023 9272 8777. For further information including planned events:

Website: www.royalnavy.mod.uk/welfare

RN Forum: www.royalnavy.mod.uk/forums

Facebook: Royal Navy Royal Marines Welfare

HMS TALENT – FACTS & FIGURES

Dimensions

Displacement	5200 tonnes (dived)
Length	85.4m
Beam	9.8m
Draught	9.5m
Complement	130

Propulsion

- 1 x Rolls Royce PWR1 nuclear reactor
- 2 x GEC steam turbines
- 2 x WH Allen turbo generators 3.2 MW
- 2 x Paxman diesel alternators 2.1 MW
- 1 x pump jet propulsor
- 1 x motor for emergency drive
- 1 x auxiliary retractable prop

Weapons

- 5 x Torpedo Tubes
- Spearfish Torpedoes
- Tomahawk Cruise Missiles (TLAM)

Sensors

- Masts carrying advanced optronics, ESM, and Radar
- Type 2076 fully integrated Sonar
- Towed Array Sonar

