

ACA

Weekly Communication

News

New distribution date

The ACA Weekly Communications bulletin will now be distributed every Monday.

If you receive an e-mailed copy look out for it appearing before lunch.

Stern – dropped!

In a key operation for HMS Queen Elizabeth, teams in Rosyth have removed all the supports at the aft end of the ship.

This has seen the level of the stern drop by more than seven centimetres as the ship found its equilibrium over several days.

It is currently sitting in much the same position as it will when she takes to the water.

Assistant Project Manager Euan Hamilton said: “This careful operation is an important milestone. Once complete it will allow work to continue towards installing and aligning the shafts.”

The yellow supports can be seen in the image below



Spotlight on....

David Littlejohn, QEC Zone 3 'Change' Supervisor

Where did you start your career?

I first started out with Motherwell Bridge Fabricators where I completed a three year Craft Apprenticeship in the fabrication of pressure vessels.



What led you to the QEC Programme?

After completing my apprenticeship I spent about twelve years in the construction industry as a site fabricator/welder, working with on-site structural remedial teams and steel erectors before moving on to site supervision and managerial roles. Unfortunately my last managerial role was cut short due to the company I was working for going into liquidation in 2010. In a bizarre twist of fate, this led me to contract work and eventually the QEC programme.

When did you first start on the programme?

I joined the programme in October 2011 when I was contracted to BAE Systems in Govan working night shift in the fabrication shed before moving into the SBOH where I had the opportunity to work on HMS Queen Elizabeth LB04 and HMS Prince of Wales LB03. I moved across to Rosyth in April of this year working as a Plater and just last week I started my new role as supervisor.

What does your role entail?

I am one of the supervisors on QEC zone 3 'Change' where I am responsible for a squad consisting of platers and welders. In my new role, I prioritise the jobs that my team must carry out and due the work being 'change', my team and I work to resolve any issues that may have arisen due to previous work having been carried out. Before moving forward I make sure that the correct safety measures are in place and that the team has the correct information, materials, equipment and training to carry out their various tasks in a safe manner.

What has been the most impressive milestone you have seen?

I think seeing the sheer scale of the Carrier in the dock. I remember being back at the Clyde thinking that the 11000 tonne LB04 block looked gigantic sitting on the dockside. Then you arrive at Rosyth and see the full length and height of the Carrier practically dwarfing the drydock... it is very impressive.

What do you do in your spare time?

I spent most of my time with my family; my wife Laraine and I have been together for 7 years and married for 3 this August. We have a very beautiful eleven month old baby girl, Taylor. I have a passion for rock music and have been writing and performing my own music for many years.

Rosyth

HMS Queen Elizabeth LB03

The close out of engineering change and affected packages of work is entering the final stages on LB03 ahead of planned completion. The galley area has been through a rigorous final internal inspection by Quality Control. Some minor issues have been raised and formal cabin handover inspections (CHOI) are scheduled for next week.

HMS Queen Elizabeth LB04

This week the focus has remained on the formal CHOI programme. 14 compartments are expected to be signed off by the client. With ring S now handed over the emphasis turns to ring R, the next to be handed over to Babcock. There have been a number a number of initial CHOI inspections on 8 deck and 5 deck ahead of proposed sign off next week. The stairwells will then be given a deep clean in preparation for CHOI inspections and final ring handover.

All trades are working to support this and the pipe teams are expected to complete testing of 350 spools this week. The electrical team expect to pull 780m of cable and complete 600 terminations.

Shaft installation

Progress has continued on the shaft installation programme with the drop stern milestone now achieved. Operations are awaiting final measurements from engineering to complete this process. The shaft team has built the port and starboard flange couplings frame and lifting equipment and has started laying out shaft length batons.

Engineering Forum

A weekly Engineering Forum has been set up to ensure change is tackled proactively and the Design Intent is achieved in a timely manner prior to Compartment Completion Inspection, whilst focus is maintained to ensure the opening of the tanks continues to allow this to happen.

Manufacturing

Sponson 11 and 12 for HMS Queen Elizabeth are going through final inspections prior to the handover to the Assembly team mid- August. Work has commenced on the remaining Gun Sponsons for HMS Queen Elizabeth.

Portsmouth

HMS Prince of Wales LB02

It has been another busy week in Portsmouth on LB02 as structural welding continues on three ring joins; Outfitting is back again with a focus on D ring which is due to join E ring in six weeks. Painting, insulation and systems are in progress on D 5/6 decks with a view to cabins being shipped into position in week 34 (see below). 7 deck has been handed over to paint and is on plan for completion. C ring consolidation is progressing well along with upstands on 4 deck to complete, allowing outfitting in cabin area. There are now over 4000 pipes installed on LB02 and pipe testing is progressing.



HMS Prince of Wales CB02:

Unit C201 has now been welded into position on the ring A build and transportation grillage in Hall B. There are 10 units in Hall A where the unit construction phase continues. The painting of unit C202 in Hall A is complete (see below) and this unit will be moved in to Hall B and erected on to the ring A build and transportation grillage on 5th August. Paint preparation has started on units C203 and C206 in Hall A. Units C216 and C225 are in the steel production hall (SPH) preparation area and units C211, C215, C239 and C240 are on the panel line in the SPH. Construction of the ring B build and transportation grillage is progressing well in Hall A.



Govan

HMS Prince of Wales LB03:

Quick facts

There have been no lost working day cases on LB03 since April 2012.

Total cable pulled:	174km
Electrical terminations completed:	24,300
Pipe spools installed:	8,138
Pipe spools pressure tested:	3,510

The paint programme continues this week. Preparations for the shot blasting of the aft machinery space are also underway. Insulation continues to progress well following the paint programme.

This week has also seen the Compartment Hand Over Inspection (CHOI) progressing with 18 compartments in ring K. The compartments have been completed to a high standard and following the clearing of minor observations, expect to be handed over by the end of the week, bringing the total inspected compartments to 86.

HMS Prince of Wales LB04:

This week 84 units are in preparation with 76 in the fabrication stage.

Two units have been erected in the build hall, bringing rings R and S up to 5 Deck, showing the pace at which these units are being erected.

The Machinery Space Shot blasting continues. Five of the six areas planned for rings P/Q have now started, with one fully complete. This brings into view the preparation work for the delivery of the first propulsion motor.

Appledore

The catwalks for HMS Queen Elizabeth's Sponson 9 were delivered to Rosyth this week.

The catwalks for Sponson 10 have been moved into the paint facility ready for their protective coating to be applied.

Teams continue to work on the manufacture of Sponson 2 units for HMS Prince of Wales.

Tyne

HMS Prince of Wales CB03: Last week work continued on joining ring H Port and Starboard sides together through the week with units being moved together and welded out. This will be finalised this week. Outfit activities began to pick up pace with insulation in a number of compartments and pipe being installed

The two flight deck units for ring J were lifted onto the half rings and are being welded out.

The first ring K units decks plates were moved onto stands ready for bulkhead erection.

Merseyside

HMS Prince of Wales CB02: Ring G plates continue to be cut in Robert Smits and then transported to Cammell Laird.

The first plates are now on the Jigs where the Fabricated T's are being welded out and are awaiting bulkhead erection.

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