

## RFA TIDESPRING



*The First of Class, RFA TIDESPRING has been named by Fleur, Lady Boyce, wife of Admiral of the Fleet the Lord Boyce. The ceremony, which was attended by First Sea Lord Admiral Sir George Zambellas, took place on 7th October 2015 at Daewoo Shipbuilding and Marine Engineering's yard in South Korea.*

Lady Boyce cut the rope to release a confetti ball marking the Naming, along with the traditional champagne breaking. Lady Boyce said

"It is a great honour and privilege to become the sponsor of the RFA's latest ship, especially as TIDESPRING is the first of her Class. I already feel a real connection to the ship, as the previous TIDESPRING served as my husband's flagship for a time. Having been on board today and seen this magnificent new vessel at first hand, I very much look forward to extending my relationship with TIDESPRING and her crew."

*Left to Right: Commodore RFA Robert Dorey, Sung-Leep Jung (CEO DSME), Fleur, Lady Boyce (Lady Sponsor), Admiral of the Fleet the Lord Boyce, Lady Zambellas, 1SL Admiral Sir George Zambellas.*



Captain Jim Collins, RFA, the MARS TIDE Class Superintendent based onsite at DSME said "The Naming Ceremony is the latest celebration in her life, and the culmination of a huge effort and commitment of all involved in bringing her to this stage. On 24th June 2014 I witnessed the steel cut of TIDESPRING, at which point the ship was little more than a lot of hard work by many people in DE&S, BMT, Lloyds Register and DSME, some 470 days later we are here to witness the naming by Fleur, Lady Boyce".

*Following completion of fit out and harbour and sea trials, RFA TIDESPRING will travel to the UK during Spring next year for her Customisation and Capability Assessment Trials.*





Production continues with major progress to the build of ships two and three. TIDERACE was floated out for the second time on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2015, only 10 months into build. She was floated out for the final time in November 2015 and has now commenced fit out. All four of the tankers are now in build as steel was cut for TIDEFORCE, the fourth in class, on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2015.

*TIDERACE Second Float out 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2015*



## MARS TANKER PEOPLE

*Robin Boulby, MARS Tanker Team Leader with Capt Jim Collins, RFA, the TIDE Class Superintendent*



**Robin Boulby, the DE&S MARS Tanker Team Leader** joined the MOD in 1998 as a Naval Architect and is now the Team Leader for MARS Tanker, as part of his responsibility as Commercially Support Shipping (CSS) Deputy Head. Here he leads all acquisition of future RFA and RN shipping above 50m.

After completing the graduate engineering scheme in 2001, including seetime on the destroyer HMS YORK, Robin joined the Future Attack Submarine project where he completed a number of nuclear, conventional and mini submarine concept studies. From

there he moved to Future Aircraft Carrier project where he was the Naval Architect responsible for structures, and led the international liaison with French and US Navies in regaining conventional carrier design knowledge and later he helped coordinate the ship build strategy for multi-yard construction. In 2005, Robin moved to the Future Business Group and R&D management aimed at improving exploitation of technology in MOD projects, here he co-authored the Defence Technology Plan. In 2009 Robin returned to Maritime to become Deputy Head Design & Construction for RFAs. In 2012 during a merger of teams that formed Commercially Supported Shipping, he took on the Ice Patrol Ship project and has since successfully purchased HMS PROTECTOR in 2013, and overseen the successful delivery of the Heavy Replenishment at Sea (HRAS) 5 tonne demonstrator at HMS Raleigh, which is now the RN and RFA's centre piece in the School of Seamanship. Robin said "The best part of working on MARS Tanker is the opportunity to work alongside the Royal Fleet Auxiliary, and the freedom of working with international commercial organisations who can help MOD deliver really effective solutions".