The Jewel of Muscat





Outline

- Background
- Design and construction
- Launching
- The voyage











Construction site





Side rudders



the tiller for centre rudder













Launch preparation

- Slipway gradient
- Ballasting
- Tides
- Launch mechanism

Launch options

4 days to launch



- Quick launch (high tide)
- Slow launch (high tide)
- Dry launch (low tide)





4 days to launch



Ballasting – stability v. water depth

- Too much ballast = not enough water depth
- Too little ballast = boat may capsize
- Decision: 6 tonnes ballast



4 days to launch





Launch mechanism: 60hrs to launch constraints



- Space
- Foundations for anchor points



Launch mechanism: 60hrs to launch constraints



- Space
- Foundations for anchor points
- Lack of materials (rails, sleepers, winches)
- Time (concrete pour)

Launch mechanism: 24hrs to launch final solution









cradle













railway





railway



The launch itself

- First attempt 0900 Saturday (high water)
- Second attempt 0900 Sunday (1 hr before high water)
- Next tide 1 month away!

First attempt

















Loading ballast







• Video 313

















-1hr to launch







Effect of waves





second attempt



second attempt – success!





The real story







Captain Saleh Al Jabri

"Our lives have depended upon her, in the most adverse weather conditions, on tossing seas and in driving winds. She has not failed us. She has surprised and perplexed us on many occasions. But she has proven loyal and true, exceeding our expectations, and above all protecting our lives."

