Bespoke: HMS Spey offshore patrol vessel sterling silver wardroom centrepiece

Langfords



REF: 7020

Height: 327 mm (12.87")

Diameter: 244 mm (9.61")

Description

The Royal Navy's HMS Spey is a Batch 2 River Class offshore patrol vessel (OPV). This is the eighth Royal Navy ship to be named Spey and she is the fifth Batch 2 River Class vessel to be commissioned, and probably the last.

Langfords created a commemorative silver centrepiece for the officers' mess for HMS Spey's sister OPV, HMS Trent, the third of the Royal Navy's River Class vessels.

The brief was to design and create a wardroom centrepiece to celebrate HMS Spey joining the fleet in Portsmouth and starting active service. As is tradition, we used the ship's crest as the basis for the design; first models of the fish and base were fashioned in wax,and when the models were approved, cast in silver, assembled and soldered in sections, then chased and polished. The base was then gilded.

She takes her name from Scotland's third longest river, famed for its salmon and natural pearls. The ship's motto of Mack sicker (make sure) can be traced back to Robert the Bruce more than 700 years ago.

The design for the finished model had to include the salmon from the ship's crest along with design cues of the waves and pearls that also feature on the crest.

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