



Water way	Great Ouse Upstream and River Cam	Date	10 Apr 05
Weather	Mild & sunny, overcast later	Engine hrs	3
Final mooring	Loveys	Miles	11.6
Cruise notes		Locks	0

Cruise from Loveys to Upware, did not moor before return to Ely.  
 First cruise by Doug & hannah & Luna (ship's dog). Also Ian, Brian & Tess.  
 Saw Dutch sailing barge, several swans' nests by the river edge (always well hidden).

#### ARTICLE FOR POSSIBLE SUBMISSION TO GOBA NEWS?

An appalling display of poor boat handling was witnessed today on the Old West River close to the Fish and Duck Inn at Pope's Corner. A motor cruiser appeared from the direction of Ely and approached the GOBA moorings – already somewhat full with a narrow boat and large barge. Of the two-man crew, the person at the helm was sporting a 'comedy' captains' hat (which proved all too appropriate) whilst the crew member appeared to have a strong French accent.

A mooring was attempted in somewhat unorthodox manner with the crew man, once landed, struggling to hammer in stakes and with rope handling skills that had to be seen to be believed. A mooring was at last achieved, albeit with the boat pointing in the opposite direction. None the less the crew no doubt consoled themselves that they were at least pointing back in the right direction for a return home.

The crew were later seen leaving the Fish and Duck Inn and approached their cruiser. The engine started, the crew member attempted to free the bow mooring rope, this was eventually achieved after a considerable struggle leaving the boat to drift back towards the narrow boat. and resulting in the crew member toppling on the edge of the bank only just stopping himself falling into the river as he attempted to grab the drifting boat. There followed a crashing of gears and throttle from the 'captain' at the helm whilst the crew member desperately sought to free the stern mooring rope. As the cruiser drifted across the river the crew member let go of the rope with mooring pin, both falling into the river. A series of wild gyrations by the cruiser followed with the crew member left on the bank waving ineffectively.

Eventually the cruiser recovered the crew member, recovered the rope and pin and reversed into the river. Now by some miracle facing in the right direction the captain contrived to execute a 360 degree turn - eventually ending up once again pointing in the direction of Ely and cruising away.

The cruiser appeared to bear the unpronounceable name of Nimue and GOBA members are advised to give it wide berth. Members should repel with boathooks any attempt by this crew to moor close to their own boats. You have been warned!

Water way	Upstream Great Ouse to Pope's Corner	Date	24 Apr 05
Weather	Mild, bright but mainly overcast	Engine hrs	2
Final mooring	Loveys	Miles	4.6
Cruise notes		Locks	0

Pleasant run to Pope's Corner. Many more boats on the water. Moored (less than successfully, see report above) at GOBA mooring near Fish & Duck.  
Max cruise speed 5.5 mph on log for short while.

Captain: Brian M, Guest crew member Thomas Couton.