



Water way	River Great Ouse & Old West River	Date	30 Aug 06
Weather	Warm, windy at first, sunnier and calmer later	Engine hrs	2
Final mooring	Cathedral Marina	Miles	7
Cruise notes		Locks	0

Crew: Brian M, Ian and Aunt Betts

Afternoon cruise to the new EA mooring on the Old West River just past the now-closed Fish & Duck pub.



Water way	Great Ouse to Five Miles Inn, Upware	Date	09-10 Sep 06
Weather	Sunny outbound. Very misty then clear on return.	Engine hrs	3
Final mooring	Cathedral Marina	Miles	13
Cruise notes		Locks	0

Crew: Tessa & Brian

Evening cruise to Five Mile Inn, moored on the grass field near the pub.

Joined by Carol & Brian for a short walk to Wicken Lode (glorious sunset) then a meal at the Inn where we then listened to a local blues band.

Quiet night and awoke to very dense mist. Left at 8.30am with very low visibility until the Fish & Duck. Sun then broke through for a glorious hot late-summer day.

Spotted one kingfisher, several herons.



Water way	River Great Ouse down to the the Ship Inn	Date	10 Sep 06
Weather	Bright, sunny & warm.	Engine hr s	4.5
Final mooring	Cathedral Marina	Miles	17.6
Cruise notes		Locks	0

Crew: Brian & Carol, Ian, Cath & Joni

Took over from Brian & Tessa and went down the Gt Ouse for a meal. Stopped off briefly at Littleport to see what they had to eat there. Nothing. Crisps if you were lucky. We were told by the bar staff that the pub hadn't done meals since last year and they'd all be off down the Ship Inn to eat when they'd finished their shift. So, we all got hastily back aboard and set off downstream to beat them to it!

Moored at the grassy EA mooring just before the Ship Inn and had a quite acceptable meal which took 45 mins to arrive (they were busy and we were warned!). All-in-all, we spent a very pleasant hour or so watching the comings and goings of the boat traffic. It's a nice place to relax on a sunny day.

On our way there, we saw 2 Birchwood 25's in convoy and we saw them moored up on our way back. In retrospect, I suppose we should have moored alongside and taken some pictures of Nimue as part of a trio! We also saw plenty of assorted wildlife – including herons, geese and rabbits.

Arrived back in the early evening while it was still pleasantly warm.



Water way	River Great Ouse	Date	24 Sep 06
Weather	Bright and warm, but slightly windy	Engine hrs	3
Final mooring	Tip Tree Marina	Miles	7.5
Cruise notes		Locks	0

Crew: Brian & BrianM on the move from Cathedral to Tip Tree.

We decided to grab the chance to move to Tip Tree while we still had decent weather, and so we set off upstream from Ely intending to meet up with Carol & Tessa and have lunch at the Five Miles Inn.

However, along the way, we met a stranded boat (overheated engine) against the west bank and tried to give them a tow out. Sadly, the wind was always blowing us back into the weeds so we couldn't manage to drag them – either alongside us (a rubbish idea!) or behind us (the easiest way). What we did manage to do, though, was to completely clog our water intake, and that led to us overheating our engine!

Very slowly, we limped into the Five Miles Inn where we met the girls, unclogged our intake (see the Notices for how this is done!) and had some liquid refreshments.

After the engine had cooled somewhat, we motored on up to Tip Tree where we successfully moored in front of an audience and were met by the marina owners. A very exciting day!