



Waterway	Tiptree - Gt Ouse - Five Miles Inn	Date	3 May 2008
Weather	Sunny intervals, mild, cloudy and breezy	Engine hrs	2
Final mooring	Tiptree	Miles	3
Cruise notes		Locks	0

Crew: Brian & Tessa and Brian & Carol

First cruise after some cleaning & maintainance. Short cruise downstream past Upware and then returned to the Five Miles Inn for an awkward mooring against a broken bank. There's definitely more damage here than last year.

Had a leisurely drink and some food (kangeroo, ostrich burgers, etc) before lazily motoring back to Tiptree.

Several birds seen on the river: goslings, ducks, swans, etc. Also saw the first swallows of the year and also a marsh harrier swooping low over the fen.

We finally got the distance log working again by the simple expedient of turning the little propellor to face backwards. It works, but we now appear to be going backwards!



Waterway	Tiptree - River Gt Ouse	Date	5 May 2008
Weather	Sunny	Engine hrs	3
Final mooring	Tiptree	Miles	5.2
Cruise notes		Locks	0

Crew: Brian M, Brian J & Carol

A nice day with some wind with periods of complete calm, so we decided on a gentle trip up the river. We motored up as far as the lock, but as they were having a sailboat instructional day on the other side, we didn't go through.

We turned around and motored back past the marina to the EA mooring at Fidwell Fen. We then walked back along the bank to see the SSSI opposite the marina.

One tree had 5 large heron nests, several herons and a cormorant (recognisable by its "classic wing-drying pose"!). Lots of different sorts of butterflies, swan's nests and baby cows by the river. A really nice walk. Well recommended.

Having freed-up the speed log propellor, we decided to turn it round to face forwards again. Strangely, it made no difference: we still appear to be going backwards!

Oh, and we put the dinghy up for sale. We don't need it and we'll give the proceeds to Angela's BBQ Fund.



Waterway	Tiptree - Ely & back	Date	29 May 2008
Weather	Dull, overcast, light rain becoming persistent	Engine hrs	3
Final mooring	Tiptree	Miles	14
Cruise notes		Locks	0

Crew: Brian M & Tessa

Set off from Tiptree and almost immediately light rain fell.

We carried on and reached Ely where we filled up with diesel (half a tank - 50 litres at £1 / litre!)

The Babylon Gallery was closed but we had tea in the Tea Rooms. Did some shopping in Ely town and had a lovely meal at Cutter Inn Riverside Restaurant.

Returned through increasing gloom and heavier rain -- the widescreen wipers work!