

# July 2020 Windsor (Never Again !)



Thursday 30th July

The weather forecast is good and Fee is still on holiday so we decide to take the boat back up to Windsor !

Question - could this be for the last time ? Who knows !

Graham books us into Windsor Racecourse marina, Fee books us into the restaurant for Thursday night.

We are good to go !

Shepperton Lock passes without incident.

A gentle cruise up into Chertsey Lock which is manned today - hurrah !

Always easier when a lock is manned- especially when you don't have your fully trained, highly proficient crew aboard !

First Mate Fee is up on the bow manning the line (no third mate Don this time)

The gates are opening so Skipper Graham goes to start the engine.

WTF ! ! ! !

The starter switch has disappeared



Oh dear !

We have to inform the lock keeper of our predicament.

We will have to pull the boat out of the lock !

Oh the indignomy of it.

And pull the boat out is exactly what we do.

We drag Drift A Wey out of the lock and along the lay-by a safe distance.

Fee thinks "maybe we should just go home if we manage to get going again. After all, it's only two locks back"

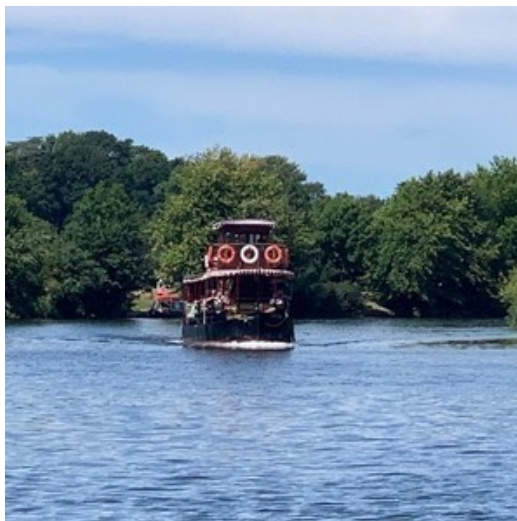
Graham thinks "well, we do have River Canal Rescue cover so they should be able to get us going - worst case"

Graham unscrews the front panel of the helm, retrieves the starter switch and secures it back onto the panel.

Job done !

Fiona thinks the skipper has a screw loose !!

Anyway, we are back on track.



The sun is still shining as we go through Runnymede.

The Lucy Fisher paddles past.

This fella is proud of the fish he has caught



Going down the narrow approach to Windsor Racecourse marina we meet a boat coming the other way - we always dread that, but it rarely happens.

Would you believe it - we actually know the people in the other boat !

We pass with a quick chat and no accidents.

Dinner at Go Go's is great as usual.

On the way back to the boat, Fee spots a large fish lurking below.



On reflection, maybe this noreH Heron has it's eye on the fish !





The sun goes down over the racecourse

And the moon says goodnight !



## Friday 31st July

First Mate Fee cooks a bacon sandwich for brekkie then we fill up with diesel before heading downstream.



Today we are bound for Runnymede.

It's the hottest day of the year !

Just the three locks today which is quite enough in this heat.

Graham says we are crewless, Fiona thinks he says clueless

Fiona could be right

We arrive at Runnymede in good time to find a nice spot for lunch.



Another half an hour and we would have struggled to find somewhere.

The river is certainly getting busier.



The canopy helps keep off the midday sun.

Fiona decides to cool her heels



A nice couple of lads pull up alongside looking for somewhere to rest. They decided to buy kayaks and paddle from Henley down to Teddington where they live.

They must be mad attempting it in this extremely hot weather.

We offer them a line to tie up their kayaks so they can lie down in the shade for an hour or so.

Always good to be able to help out where we can.



After a relaxing afternoon we are witness to the most spectacular colour show from mother nature



and the grand finale

