



Boat Archives - 'Belle Epoque'



Do you know more about this boat? [Tell us!](#)

Length	33'	Prior Names	Deirdre Louise
Year Built	1961	Build No.	
Beam	10'	Hull Construction	Double diagonal teak
Draft	3'	Deck Construction	Varnished teak
Engine Make	Twin Ford Watermota	Superstructure Style	Open aft cockpit
Engine Size	1600cc	Number of Berths	4 + 2
Engine Fuel Type	Petrol	Location	Harleyford Marina

History

	Lloyds Register No: 358836
	Only a few of the distinctive Star Craft fleet were ever constructed with an aft cockpit, the majority of these being the smaller 30ft model. It is believed that only two were ever constructed in the larger 33ft size. Tradition has it that the sister ship to BELLE EPOQUE was irreparably damaged during craning, rendering her now the sole surviving example.
1961	Built for W A Howell, (the third boat built for him by Bates) and named after his daughter Deirdre Louise. The original purchase price was £6,071 plus £67 for teak decking.
1969 - 72	Owned by W Bates & Sons, and used by Mrs Beryl Bates (wife of Leonard).
1972 - 75	Purchased by Michael Martin and re-engined.
1975 - 94	Purchased by Mike (a founder of the Star Craft Owners' Club) & Sylvia Morrell.
1979	BMC Vedettes replaced with Ford Watermota Sea Tigers.
1994	Purchased by Roy Griffiths, Sunbury.
1995	Purchased by Mr Brian Hawkins, Farnham.
2004	Purchased by Tony and Gloria Mayes, Wargrave who completely restored her hull, topsides and interior over 14 months.
2005	Name changed from DEIRDRE LOUISE to BELLE EPOQUE .
2007	Purchased by David and Sheila Newing-Ward.
2012	Purchased by John Reeves and Sharon Honeyman. In excess of £30,000 spent on stripping the hull, decks and topsides and re-working heads to fit style of vessel.
2016	Current owner is Jo Ledbrooke.