

LADY BEA - Owner's notes

Build Year - 1960

Length - 30ft

Beam - 10ft 8in

Draught - 2ft 9in

Propulsion - Diesel Electric - 2 x 26Kw motors

Construction -

Hull - Double Diagonal Mahogany

Superstructure - Mahogany

Deck - Teak

Built in 1960, by Bates of Chertsey and originally called 'GEORGETTE'. Powered by twin Morris Navigator petrol engines

1965 - Mr. P. B. Abrahams returned her to Bates yard for minor work and moorings. Then named "LADY BEA". 1967 - Mr. J. Gregg, moved her to Tom Jones boat yard, Windsor.

1970's - Mr Watson, a navigation Inspector with Thames Conservancy, owned Lady Bea and cruised extensively on the Thames, Medway and Crouch and along the South Coast. At that time she had bilge keels to allow for drying out at low tides in the estuary.

Next heard of in 1982 when major works were undertaken, but not completed, after which she remained in the yard, deteriorating, for seven years. 1991 - Diana Bates, (the builders daughter) took pity on the boat, and she was taken to Michael Dennett's yard and completely restored.

1992 - Re-launched, and moored at W. Bates & Son.

Feb 1998 - Owned by Emma Blackburn & Don Galles of Marlow.

2006 - Acquired by Quentin Hoodless of Sutton Courtney. Major restoration undertaken at Henwood and Dean boatyard at Hambleden and re-launched in 2007 with a diesel electric propulsion system.

2015-16 - Further restoration work to the hull and transom by Henwood and Dean when substantial sections of the outer layer of her 55 year old hull had to be replaced. All work carried out using traditional methods and materials.

Lady Bea now cruises the Thames to Teddington and beyond and is a regular visitor to the Classic Festivals at Henley and St Katherine Docks and was lucky enough to be selected to take part in the 1000 boat Queen's Diamond Jubilee Pageant on the Thames in 2012.