

## Testimonial

Our first boating experience was almost 40 years ago in 1974, when along with some friends, we hired a narrowboat and cruised "The Avon Ring". Looking back, the boat was a bit of an old tub compared with today's standards, but we thoroughly enjoyed it and from that moment on, we were hooked ! We subsequently hired boats and the children loved the experience, (and were eager to share the locking with us).

In 1998 we decided to take the plunge and buy our own boat. I had noticed a photograph of a Braidbar boat in a magazine and it's Tim Tyler hull and stylish paintwork caught my eye, but what was it like inside ? We had looked at second hand boats, but upon enquiring about one which impressed us, we found that this too was a Braidbar.

We visited the boat show in 1998, (the last one held at Braunston), where Braidbar were exhibiting No. 42 TRISULI. We looked over a large number of boats, but there was no contest -once we had seen the fitting out quality, it had to be a Braidbar !

So we ordered "PRISCILLA", (named after the likeable rogue of a maid, who did the washing, ironing and cleaning during a period of working in South Africa).

Completed in May 1999, we were delighted with No.46 PRISCILLA. She served us well and was greatly admired, over the next 14 years, by friends and even passing strangers. PRISCILLA was still in fine fettle, but after we both retired, we decided to take the plunge and order our second Braidbar boat.

Over the years the standard of Braidbar boats had got better and better and we had become members of the Braidbar Owners Group. This was a group with lots of very satisfied customers, many different boats and layouts to sample and we had no hesitation in going back to Braidbar !

Braidbar are renowned for their flexibility and interaction with customers. Nevertheless, when, after many hours of discussion and the drawing of plans at home, I presented my drawings, which had some 45 degree angles in the galley and bathroom area, Peter was momentarily taken aback. However, we held some detailed discussions, including type and make of fittings and appliances, after which Peter said, "Yes, I think it's going to work out OK".

When the Braidbar joiners, John and Reg. saw the drawings, they too were a little bit reticent, but then announced "Well, we always like a challenge". The rest of the team were every bit as enthusiastic and Susan was a source of invaluable help with curtains and soft furnishing fabrics.

As PRISCILLA II (No.141) neared completion, Susan & Peter asked us if we would be willing to exhibit her at the 2013 Crick Boat Show. We were delighted and honoured to be asked, and enjoyed showing people over our new boat with some pride.

Our experience in the building of PRISCILLA II demonstrated the bespoke nature of Braidbar boats and the extent to which the Braidbar team were willing to discuss and advise at every stage of the design and build.

Last, but not least, the Braidbar motto is "Arrive as a customer, leave as a friend". We and other members of the Braidbar Owners Group can testify to the truth of that statement.