



Power Solutions



'Ladybird'

Application

- St John Ambulance's new care boat, Ladybird, is used to give "breakaway" river trips to disadvantaged children, the disabled and the terminally ill.
- She was purpose-built for the St John Ambulance charity by narrow-boat specialist, Fox Narrowboats in March, Cambridgeshire.

Boat Details

Ladybird is Cambridgeshire's first care ambulance boat and is crewed entirely by volunteers from St John Ambulance, the UK's leading first-aid charity. She features wheelchair access, a heated cabin, kitchen area, disabled toilet and a large open foredeck for fine weather cruising. She can carry a total of 20 passengers, with up to six being wheelchair-bound, and is powered by an M92B engine.

- Length overall: 19.8 metres

Customer view

St John Ambulance's Mark Overland.

"Several reasons led to our choosing the M92B for Ladybird. High on the list was the engine's low-revving design that will ensure that it provides the charity with years of trouble-free service and a much extended life expectancy when compared with the high-revving engines on the market. It also provides Ladybird with remarkable smoothness and ease of manoeuvrability at low revs."

"The trip to Hartford Marina proved that the power was going to be a match for anything the river could throw at it. On subsequent trips, the M92B has been able to handle even the strongest currents on the river. Of course, there are strict speed limits on stretches of the river, but I would certainly describe Ladybird as 'going like a rocket'. The engine's environmental credentials were another factor in its favour. The M92B is definitely not the smallest engine on the river, but everyone comments that it is certainly the quietest, and that is a factor that our disabled passengers very much appreciate."

Total Marine Technology in Action