

## 10<sup>th</sup> July: The Woodcocks

We are on a rural mooring on the Fossdyke Canal. We've been on this canal for a couple of weeks and it seems we were over-optimistic in hoping for navigation south, on the Trent tomorrow. The rain continues to fall, and the forecast for the rest of the week is not encouraging. This waterway has a far more impressive history than most, as it was built by the Romans around AD120 and was used by the Danes; the Normans carried stone along here to build the cathedral. We are beginning to reconcile ourselves to being here awhile. A day or two back the red light approaching the Glory Hole was flashing, indicating it was unsafe to pass through. At present it is changing from 'Proceed with Caution' to flashing 'Do Not Proceed.' This is not surprising as the navigation is wide and the River Witham enters at the Brayford Pool and then narrows around a bend to pass through the Glory Hole (yesterday we sat atop the said 'Hole' to enjoy a civilized coffee). Consequently, we are limited to an eleven mile, tedious stretch of navigation, tall dykes, preventing much in the way of views over the flat lands. We have now booked for the Lincoln Mystery Plays for Wednesday night which starts in the grounds of the medieval Bishops Palace and finishes in the cathedral so let's hope it's not too cold or wet. Then, hopefully we may well use the time we have to go down to Boston, if we are able to get through the Glory Hole, to use the time before we are able to get on the Trent.

## 11<sup>th</sup> July: Lincoln

We have returned to the city, and are fortunate to have found a mooring that will allow us to stay overnight after our visit to the cathedral this evening.

