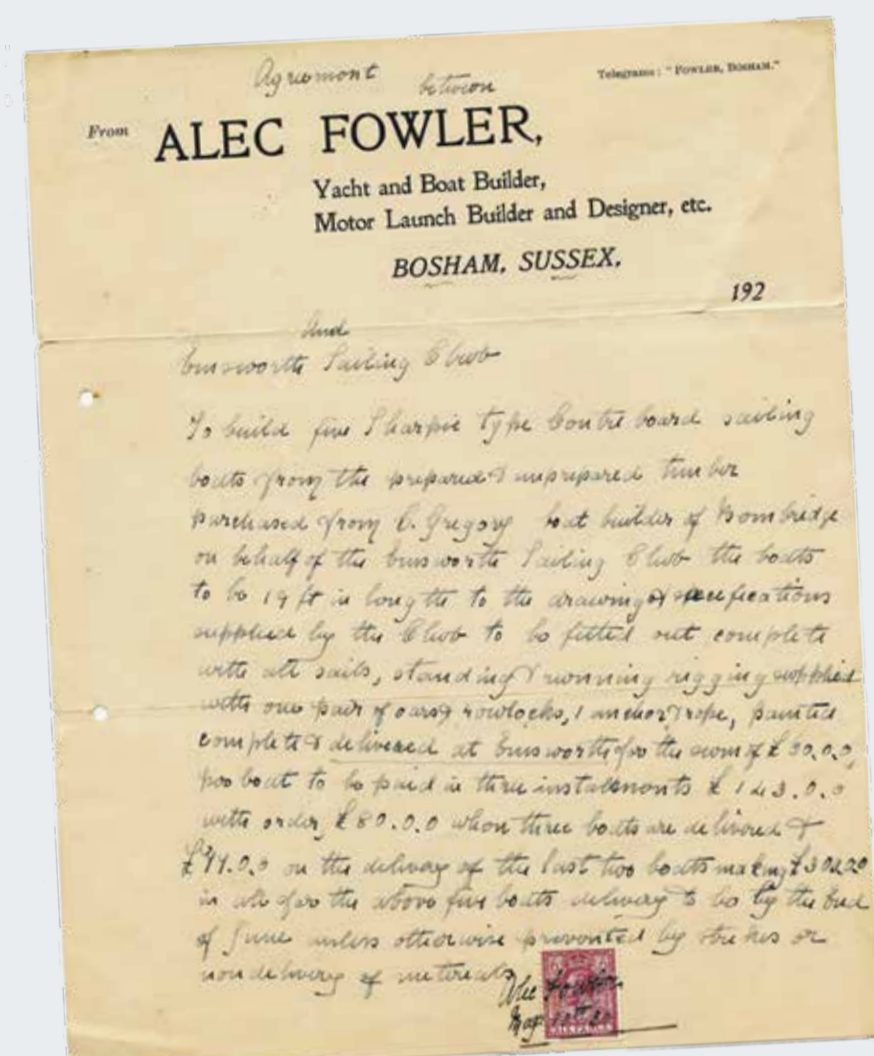


Emsworth Club Boats



Sailors raced each other in Emsworth long before the present Emsworth Sailing Club was established. Originally, this would have been in working fishing boats, but in 1895 six One Design dinghies were built for a group of local businessmen. The boats were built by Mr RS Hills in the Sylvia Yard in East Cowes.

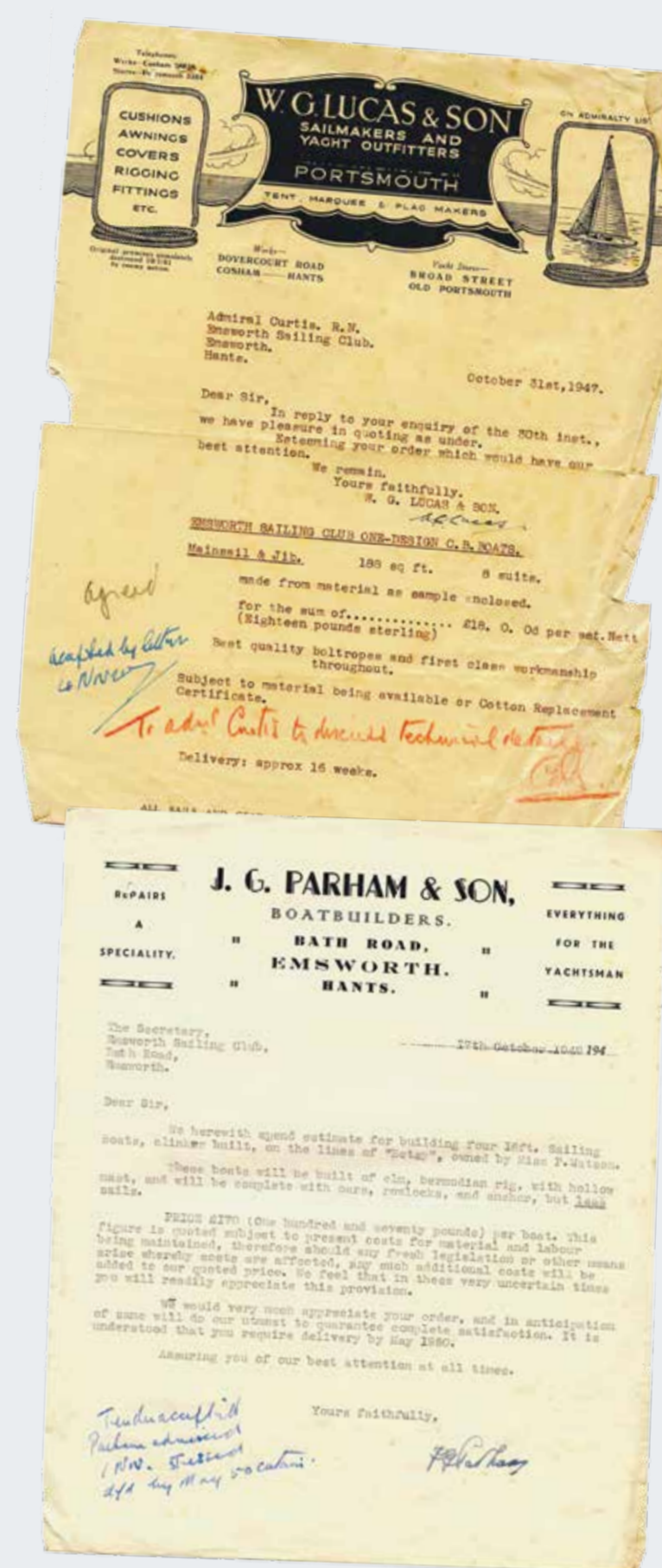
The first Club boats



When the Club was founded in 1919, members wanted to find a suitable class of sailing boat. Following the advice of Bembridge Sailing Club, six boats of the 19ft Sharpie type were ordered from Mr C Gregory in Bembridge, at a cost of £50 each. Construction faltered in Bembridge and the work was completed by Mr Fowler in Bosham. Their first full racing season was 1921, but only a year later they were sold. Why they were sold is a puzzle but it was said that they capsized too readily, and perhaps the cost of upkeep was too expensive.

After World War Two

By 1948 the Club was again considering new boats. Mr H J Penrose, a naval architect, built a prototype of his own design for members to evaluate. However *Martlet* was beaten soundly by *Betsy* in the 1949 Regatta and failed to impress for the rest of the year. Parham's were therefore given an order for four boats similar to *Betsy*, to cost £170 each without sails. The new boats first raced in 1950 and by 1952, their numbers had increased to seven.

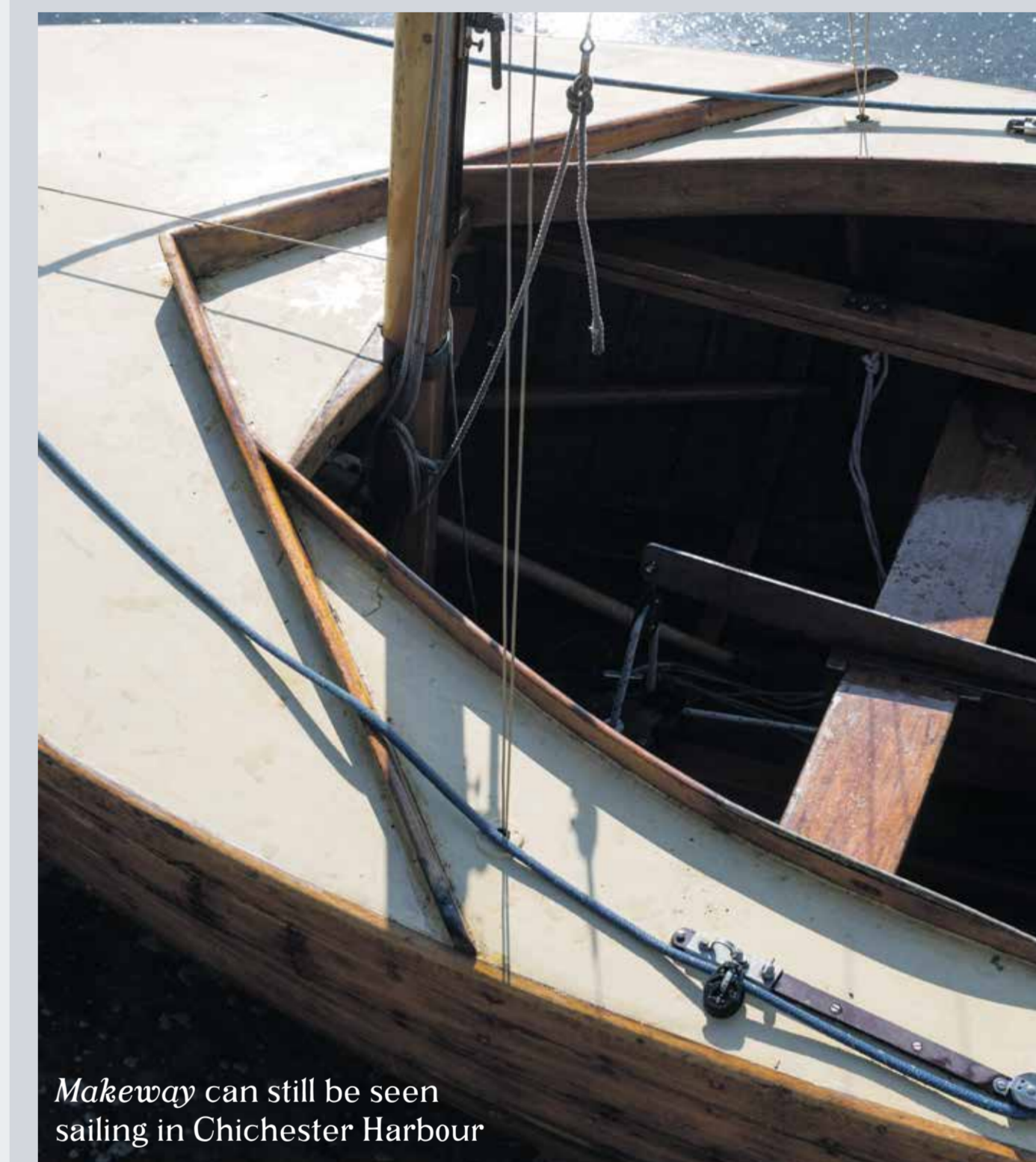


End of the Club boats

The Emsworth One Design boats served the Club until 1962, but they were becoming expensive to maintain and faced competition from more modern and lighter designs such as the *Enterprise* and *Wayfarer*. At the Annual General Meeting of 1962, after a thorough and emotional discussion, the members voted in favour of selling the EODs.

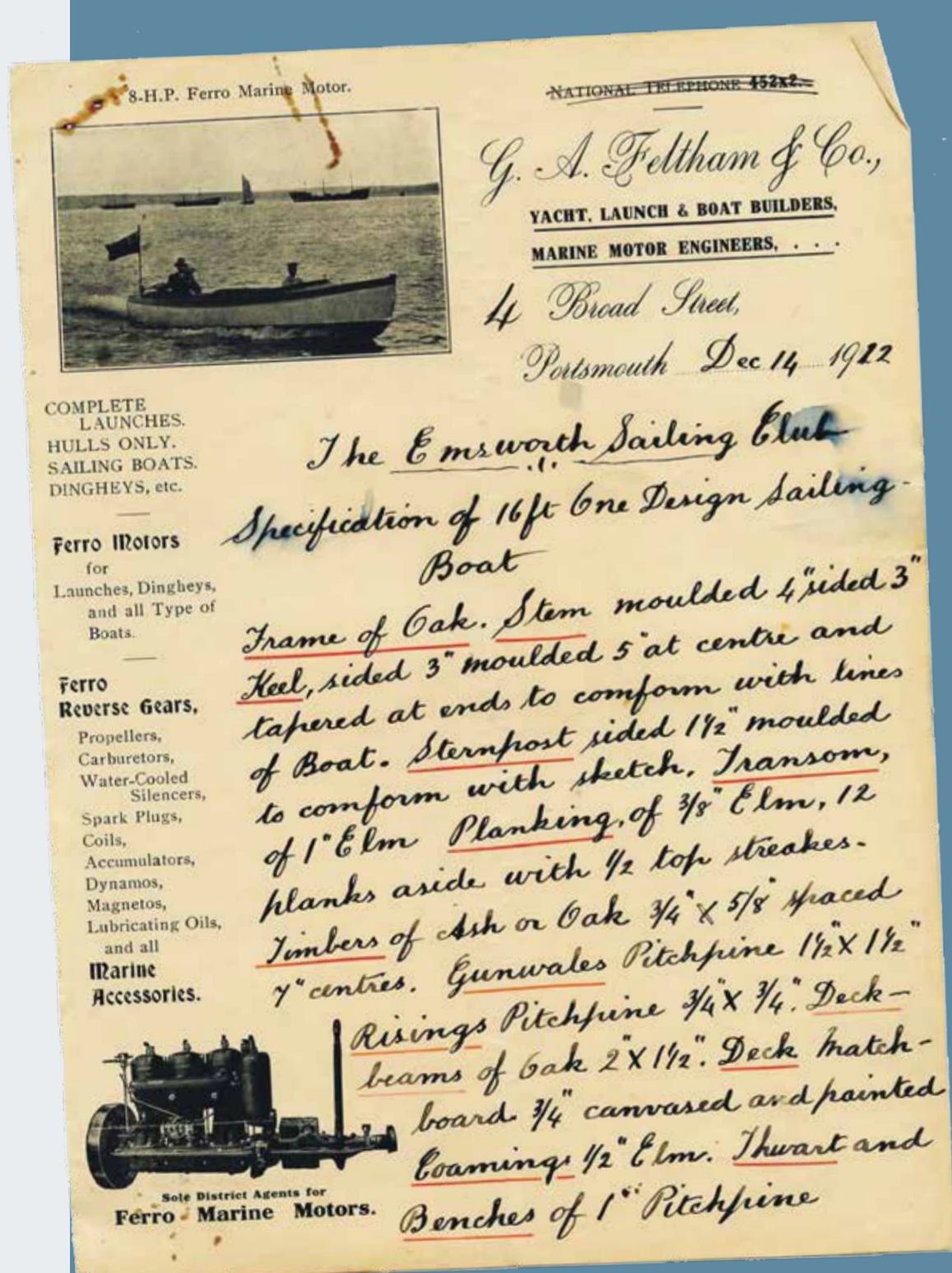


The second generation One Design was based on *Betsy*, a hard-to-beat boat with a Bermudan rig owned by club member Major Reed.



Makeway can still be seen sailing in Chichester Harbour

The Emsworth One Designs (EOD)



In 1922, George Feltham in Portsmouth was asked to provide a specification for an Emsworth One Design boat. The boats were 16ft in length with an iron centreplate, roller jib and a gunter rig. They cost £52 each and were delivered to the Club in 1923. On each race day the boats were allocated to members by lottery. They served the Club well for the next 27 years.

In 1933, two more boats were built by Harry Feltham. They were fitted with a Bermudan rig but this proved to be a mistake as the new boats were slower than the old ones. They were re-fitted with gunter rig and handicapped to allow for their slower speed.

In the mid-1930s members' privately-owned boats were appearing on the scene. *Betsy*, owned by Major Reed, with a Bermudan rig, proved hard to beat as the racing records after WW2 show.

Parham's and Son built several EODs for private owners and three of these are still sailing today. *Breeze* is in Bosham. *Ilona*, which was owned by General Sir Brian Horrocks, was recently restored. *Makeway* is owned by Club members, David and Sylvie Townsend and can often be seen sailing in Chichester Harbour.



Emsworth One Designs racing in 1939 along with *Emerald* and other privately-owned boats

One of the original One Designs built in 1895 is *Eva*. The boat still exists and had been in the Mant family throughout its life until it recently went to the Classic Boat Museum in Cowes.

