

# New Classics



STEFFAN MEYRIC HUGHES



## NEIL THOMPSON BOATS

### The popular Oyster and Gypsy

The Neil Thompson range of classic, small GRP yachts is one of the most popular and long-standing. They represent the superlative in terms of solidity of build and their hundreds of customers over the years are testament to their success. The two most popular models are the 16ft 10in (5.1m) Norfolk Oyster dayboat designed by John Leather (148 built to date and these days also available as an inboard motor launch) and the 20ft (6m) cabin yacht the Norfolk Gypsy (138 built). The good news is that depreciation on the used market is minimal due to the extraordinary build quality. We sailed the Gypsy a couple of years ago and were taken with her volume, simplicity, seaworthiness and a feeling of "rightness" – these are boats that have, over their long production lives, been tweaked to perfection. The Neil Thompson service is also a big pull: put simply, it means that you sail in the season, dump the boat somewhere, and Neil Thompson will collect it, winter it and deliver it back the next year as new. Oyster £20,265; Gypsy £43,750 (prices include VAT).

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C/O WIN CNOOPS

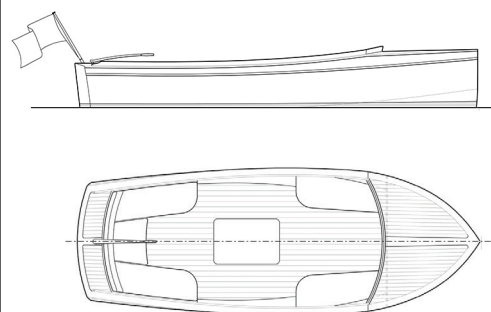
## STAR YACHTS

### The new baby Bristol 16

The new Bristol 16 is the baby of a popular range of semi-displacement wooden motor launches designed by Andrew Wolstenholme and built by Bristol-based Star Yachts. We loved the 27 when we tested it and this 16, which we saw in build in Bristol over the winter, looked stunning – and a couple of feet larger than she actually is. This particular one is for an owner who has also ordered a 32 (in build now), and we're looking forward to taking them both out for a spin in spring 2016.

For now, we are happy to admire the subtly stepped sheerline, the curved transom and hint of tumblehome. It certainly pleases the eye! Prices start at about £26,000 + VAT and speed, as a semi-displacement design, should be pretty nippy, depending on engine choice. This particular boat's inboard diesel is only 10hp but it exceeds hull speed at 7-8 knots. Price is c£32,000 + VAT.

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More at [classicboat.co.uk/new-classics](http://classicboat.co.uk/new-classics)