

Outboard Engine Hinged Bracket

Robin Whittle

It is some time now since I first became interested in a hinged bracket for the outboard engine. In 2015 Alex Crook wrote an article in the Practical Boat Owner (589 Summer 2015).

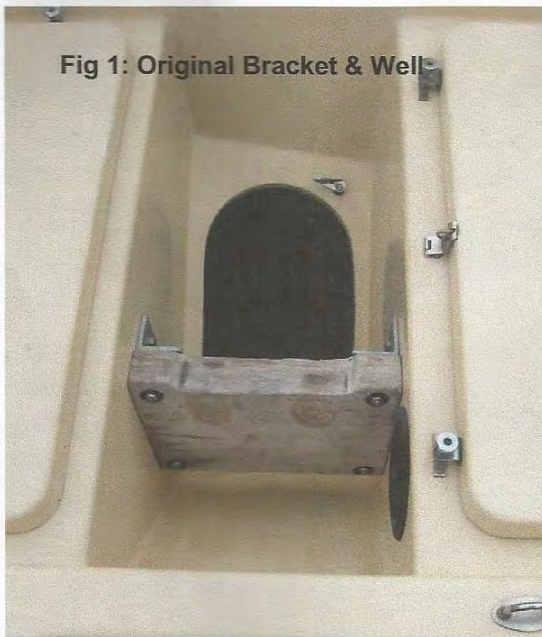


Fig 1: Original Bracket & Well

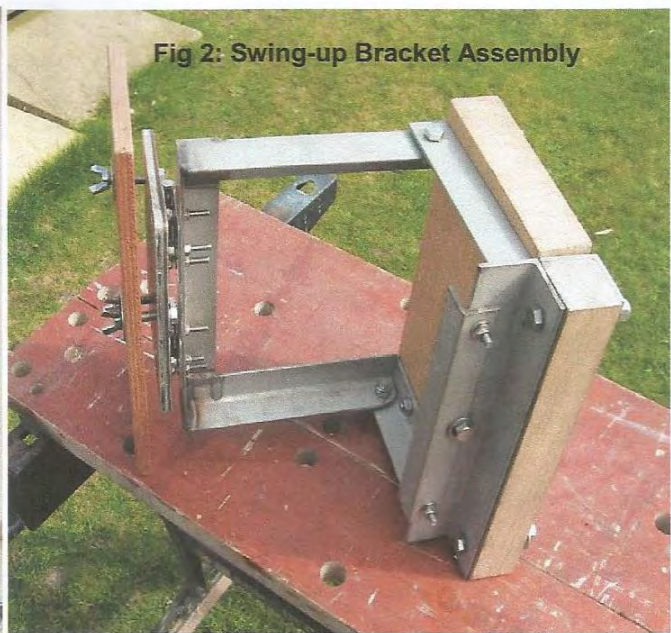


Fig 2: Swing-up Bracket Assembly

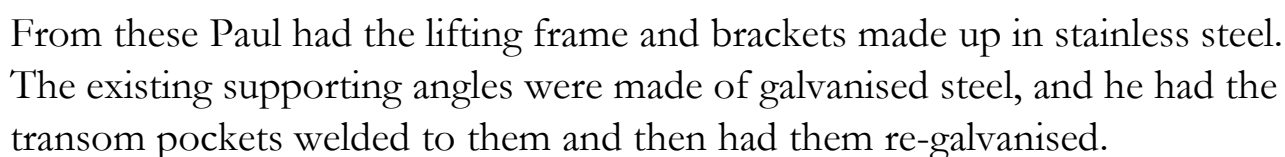
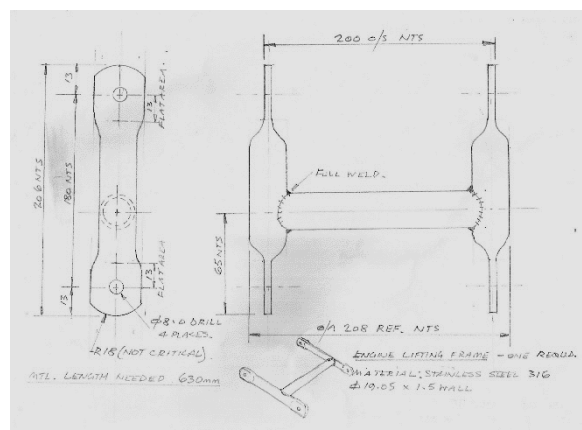
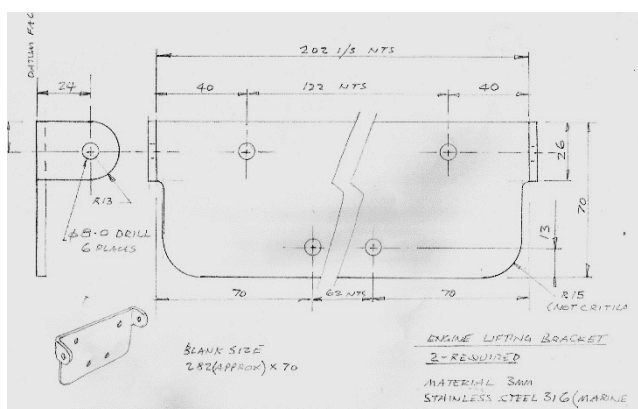


Fig 3: Swing-up Bracket Fitted in Boat



Fig 4: Swing-up Bracket with Engine attached

It wasn't until August 2020, during the Aldeburgh Racing Week, that I suddenly became interested again. One of the other competitors, Paul Durbin, was discussing some of the enhancements that he had made to his Mk 1 Shrimper (No. 96). I mentioned Alex's invention, and agreed to send Paul a copy of the PBO article. He immediately got busy doodling. These rapidly developed into production sketches:

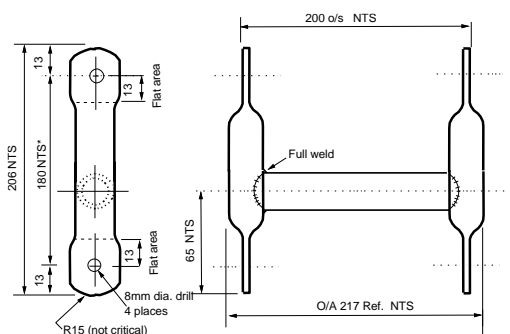


One point that we discussed concerned the need to bolt the transom in position. The system relied on the weight of the engine to keep it located in the sockets welded to the angles. We decided that locking pins might be necessary in choppy conditions. Paul found a neat clevis pin to do the job.

The outcome of Paul's design is as shown below:



My version follows Paul's design very closely. The existing supporting angles in my boat were badly rusted and I decided to replace them with stainless steel with welded transom pockets. For me, the main purpose of the hinged frame was to be able to raise the propellor out of the water when the boat was sitting at its mooring. This avoided the growth of weed and barnacles. Another important reason was to be able to clear the propellor of weed.



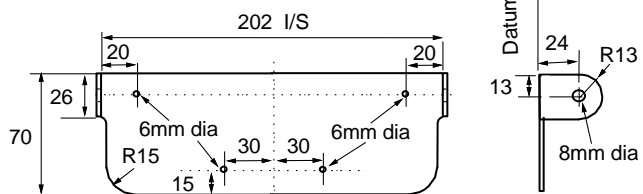
* NB: This dimension turned out to be 185mm

Material: Stainless steel '316' (marine)
20mm dia. x 1.5mm wall

Finish: deburr, no unsightly scratches,
no welding burn marks, polished.

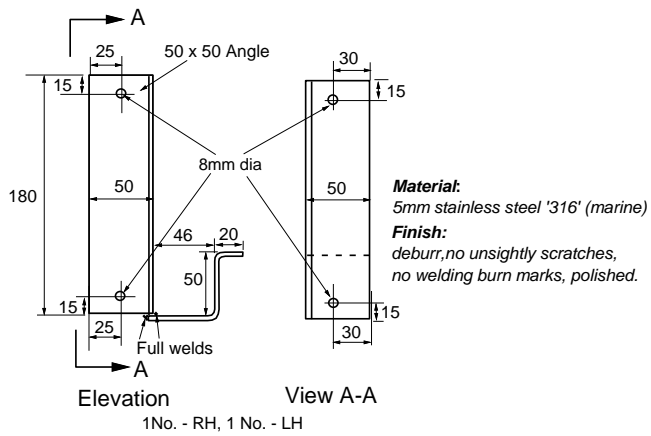
Material: 3mm stainless steel '316' (marine)

Finish: deburr, no unsightly scratches,
no welding burn marks, polished.

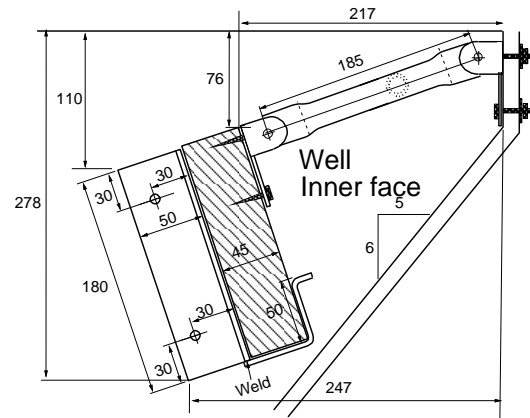


Engine Lifting Frame – 1No. reqd.

Engine lifting bracket – 2 No. reqd.



Engine fixed frame



View from starboard





Word of Warning: The dimensions given for each of the designs are specific for the boats for which they were made. The required dimensions are likely to be different for any particular boat.

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