

PEGASUS

WITH ALL FOUR DECKS EXTENDED AND AN ENTIRELY REFURBISHED INTERIOR, THIS PHENOMENAL FEADSHIP HAS BEEN RADICALLY REFITTED SINCE BEING TRACKED DOWN IN THE BAHAMAS IN 2008



While many of us use the internet to find old friends or bargain hunt for books, a few search for bigger prizes. The owner of *Pegasus* found her online while seeking a Feadship that he could transform into his very own onboard lifestyle. After ten months of work at De Vries Makkum, the former *White Rabbit* has a very different look and feel to the original Feadship launched in 1995.

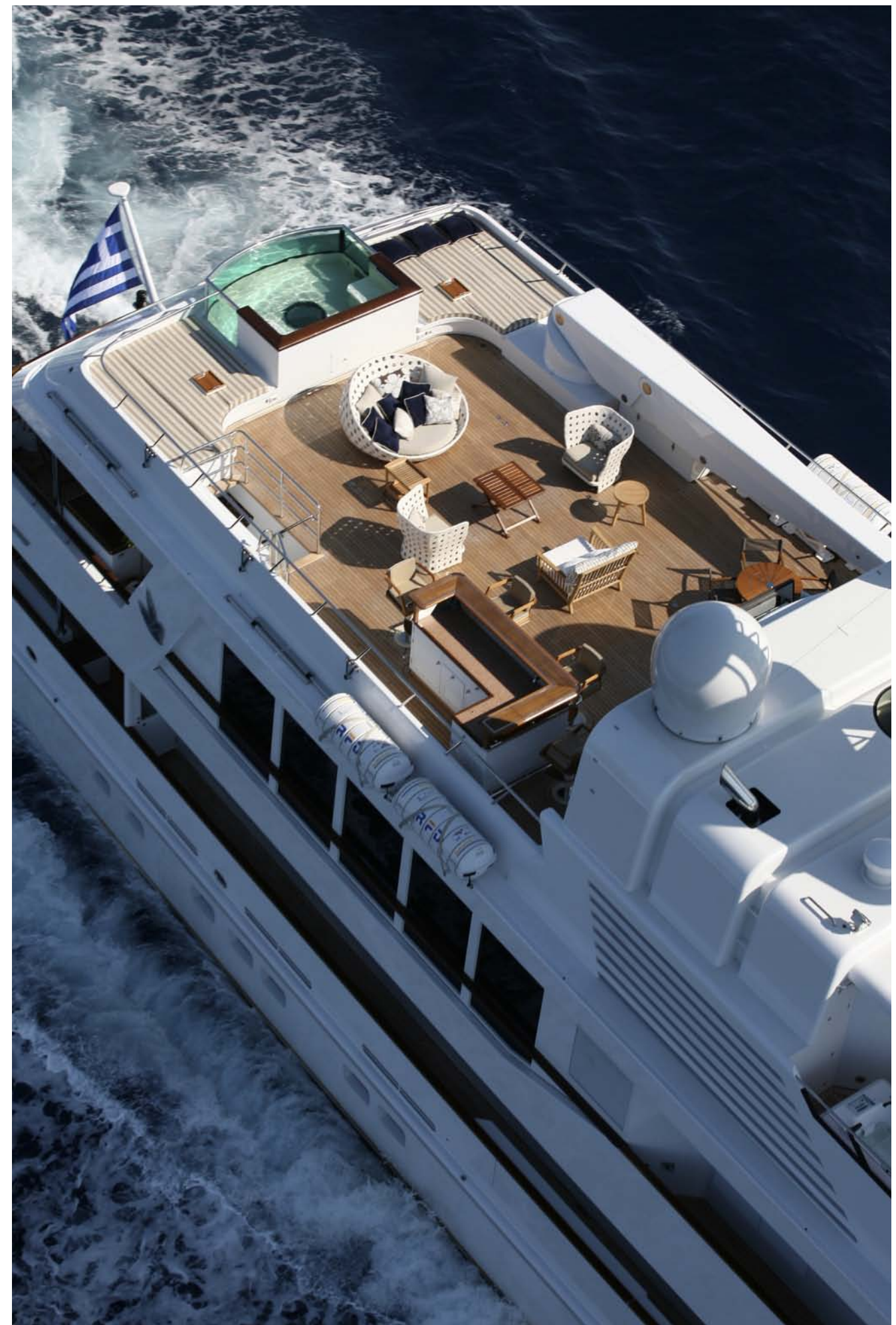
At the heart of this project was a desire for a displacement yacht with the best possible facilities for exterior lounging and entertainment. The owner already has a small fleet of speed boats, day cruisers and a semi-displacement yacht, none of which he has the heart to sell. For this new acquisition it therefore felt more appropriate to embark on a refit of an existing vessel rather than add another new yacht to the collection.

That said, the amount of research that went into deciding the type of

yacht in terms of brand and country of origin was perhaps more than most folk spend on a new build. The owner visited all the leading yachtbuilding lands and became a regular visitor at boat shows, inspecting many well-known yachts. After concluding that original build quality was the best foundation for a successful refit, and carefully calculating the value-to-age ratio of all the top yards' vessels, he settled on Feadship.

All well and good, but Feadships are not exactly in abundant supply on the pre-owned market as many tend to stay in the same satisfied hands for long periods. Moreover, the yacht had to be around the 50 metre mark, not be too old, have lots of guest accommodation, and be relatively fast. The need for speed is a typical requirement of Greek owners, who like to use their yachts from April to September on weekend island-hopping trips.

words: Andrew Rogers





Gaining an additional 36 square metres, the sun deck has become a superb area for lounging and relaxing, complete bar, aft pool and giant tarp tent. The main deck aft (opposite, bottom right) can be made more private with drop-down screens port and starboard and aft shuttered screens that pull up from the seatbacks, while the aft seating can be easily converted into a comfortable day bed. The extended bridge deck aft (opposite, top) allows for outside dining for 22, and serves also as a spacious cocktail and party area



And so the global hunt for a Feadship began. The owner flew to the States to tour various boats with Feadship America president Francois van Well and the Feadship refit department also became involved. As the owner and his family pondered their options they spent an evening surfing the web to see what else was out there. And that was when they pulled a rabbit out of the hat...

At the time of her launch in 1995, the 49.38 metre *White Rabbit* was a trailblazer in the way she combined facilities for both family cruising and corporate entertainment. The emphasis was on maximum use of interior space, and Andrew Winch designed a versatile layout that allowed her Asian owners to welcome VIPs in a classic ambience, while having the most comprehensive range of toys seen on a superyacht at the time. To enable her to cover long distances in the Pacific Rim, Feadship designed a displacement hull with a bulbous bow that synthesised comfort with a top speed of 18 knots.

Renamed *Pegasus* in 2005, the yacht had been kept in excellent condition. Within hours of his discovery, the owner was calling Feadship

from her aft deck in the Bahamas to book a meeting in London the next day. Thankfully, De Voogt Yacht Services has an exhaustive database of original Feadship designs and within 24 hours was able to start assessing the feasibility of extending the decks. Given the green light for his proposed practical and aesthetic modifications, the owner acquired the vessel in early 2008 and the coming months saw many meetings as a new arrangement plan was fine tuned. Some of the Feadship refit team even donned swim trunks to spend a weekend in Greece playing the role of guests to see how the proposed change might pan out in practice.

All these meticulous preparations paid off once the refit got under way in the autumn of 2008. The sound of slicing metal reverberated through the giant Royal De Vries yard in Makkum, The Netherlands, as a 1.75 metre section of the aft hull was cut away to remove the traditional negative transom. A new hull section measuring 5.25 metres with a sloping transom gave *Pegasus* an extra 3.5 metres on the waterline, a new flowing look and, most importantly, the platform for creating a great deal more exterior deck space.



White Rabbit already had a wealth of open-air real estate, but this had been primarily used to stow a plane, an amphibious car and various tenders. With alfresco lounging and entertainment the new priority, the 88 square metres of additional space spread across four decks (bringing the overall scope for outdoor pleasures to an impressive 265 square metres) has been used to great effect in four distinctive areas: the pool deck with full bar and grill; the lounge deck, seating up to 22 guests for dinner; the main deck for various dining options; and the beach club.

The lower deck beach club reflects the owner's love for water-based recreation. As part of the reconfiguration of the transom lines, a large folding bathing platform has been added. This doubles as a submersible ramp to launch the guest tender housed in the lazarette via a smart slipway arrangement. The lazarette itself is a great dining and lounging spot, featuring a teak deck, lacquered walls and ceiling, a comprehensive range of bar and service facilities, plus a new day head and shower. Other features of the beach club include a side platform that makes it easy to board and moor the guest tenders or hop on a jet-ski, plus a new telescopic passerelle. Every entertainment base is covered here, with advanced deck lighting and underwater LEDs allowing the entire stern area to be used round the clock.

A reconfigured staircase creates a convenient connection with the main deck aft, which has grown by some 30 square metres. Here the emphasis has been on optimising comfort and privacy with a range of new features. Lightweight panels hinge down from a ceiling recess on

both sides of the relaxation zone, extending to the cap rails and providing complete protection from the wind. Three lacquered teak shutter blinds are integrated within the U-shaped seating unit: At the push of a button they pop up from the back rests to create a private booth when moored stern to. Those fancying an afternoon snooze will be thrilled to find that the table lowers electrically and can be swiftly converted into a comfy bed. Further horizontal pleasures are available in a hammock suspended in the port passageway.

A Nautica crew tender and two large jet skis are housed on the main deck fore, from where they can be launched by a 1,200kg SWL boat-handling crane. Here we also find a MOB crane which also serves as a night sailing foremast.

Stepping up a level, the brief for the expansive new bridge deck aft was to make it more suitable for entertainment. Unlike *White Rabbit*, *Pegasus*' main tender is stowed on the sun deck, so the cranes previously integrated in the aft and side bulwarks and fashion plate have been removed.

Combined with the extra 20 square metres of space provided by the yacht's extension, the renamed 'lounge deck' has extensive seating and table options, all integrated with the new aft bulwark. In addition to offering up to 22 guests an alfresco dining experience, the arrangements are so flexible that the area is equally suitable for a cocktail party or pre-dinner reception, all serviced by the circular bar. Daytime pleasures are equally well catered for with lots of loose deck furniture and the option to create shade using an ingenious tarp tent set-up.



White Rabbit's transformation



The original *White Rabbit* carried an impressive array of toys, but was significantly reconfigured during the refit. A 1.75m section of her stern was cut off and a new 5.25m stern section was added, extending the LOA by nearly three metres. More impressive, though, is the resulting increase in deck space with all decks being extended. *Pegasus* now features 265 square metres of outdoor entertaining areas





A key aim of the stern extension was to enlarge the lazarette to create a full tender garage. When the 5.6m custom Nautica Express tender is launched, the garage converts to a well-appointed beach club complete with bar, day head and shower



PEGASUS

LOA	LWL
52.25m	47.86m
BEAM	DRAUGHT
9.3m	3.5m

ENGINES
2 x Cat 3516 DI-TA, 2,800hp

SPEED (MAX/CRUISE)
18.3 knots / 12 knots

RANGE AT 12 KNOTS
5,000nm

THRUSTERS
Holland Roer Propeller 90kW

GENERATORS
Caterpillar 3306 DI-T, 156kVA

FUEL CAPACITY
82,150 litres

STABILISERS
Koopnautic with at-anchor
stabilising

OWNER AND GUESTS
12

CREW
13

TENDERS
Nautic Generation custom,
2 x Nautica RIB

CONSTRUCTION
Steel/aluminum

CLASSIFICATION
Hellenic Lloyd's, LY2

NAVAL ARCHITECT
De Voogt Naval Architects

EXTERIOR STYLING
De Voogt Naval Architects

INTERIOR DESIGNER
Andrew Winch Designs (original);
Chester Jones / Koninklijke De
Vries Makkum (refit)

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Ico Vergouwe, Koninklijke De
Vries Makkum

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The owner drew on his interest in world cultures to create a contemporary interior featuring Burmese teak floors, black American walnut furniture, shagreen and polished steel. Pan-European contributions include work from Italy's Romeo Sozzi, France's Christian Liaigre, and Spain's Tresserra, while Richard Aldridge has developed a lighting system that can change the yacht's moods at the touch of a button



Part of the owner's extensive collection of post-cubist sculptures, bas reliefs and photographs is on display, while a four-metre high statue by Greek sculptor Sophia Vari, commissioned for the yacht, sits in the atrium



A window fitted in the base of the new swimming pool makes a cool visual union with the sun deck above. It is one of many innovations on the 'pool deck', which grew the most in size during the refit as the former helipad function was removed. One of the key reasons for this growth was the owner's insistence that it housed the largest possible luxury tender. After Feadship calculated a maximum size and weight of eight metres and three tonnes respectively (to ensure stability and handling safety), minds were engaged in finding a tender that could match both the physical limitations and owner's expectations.

The solution came during METS 2008 in a manner that proves the power of exhibition networking. Dutch entrepreneurial couple Vincent and Danielle Faay approached Feadship with their design for custom tenders based on an eight metre production model called Nautic Generation. As the lines looked promising, Feadship set up a meeting with the owner and within a month the main tender to *Pegasus* was under development. The sleek and luxurious result, christened *Pegasaki*, is capable of at least 35 knots and launched by a new 3,500kg single knuckle boom crane. Meanwhile, the rest of the sun deck has undergone a major metamorphosis, including a glass-wall enclosed gymnasium/

massage room, a saltwater swimming pool offering a range of hydrotherapies, a ceramic grill, a freshwater shower and another delightful bar.

Despite being so involved in creating all these invigorating new options outside, the owner still had ambitious plans for the refurbishment of *Pegasus'* interior. A lover of world cultures, he brought in a multinational team of style gurus to fashion a contemporary palette of fabrics, furniture, decoration and art, including Romeo Sozzi (Italy), Christian Liaigre (France), Jaume Tresserra (Spain) and Chester Jones (UK).

Chic designer pieces abound, offset by Sandy Jones' lovely Konya-made carpets, Burmese teak wood floors plus an exceptional mood-reflecting light system by Richard Aldridge, famed for his work in the Louvre and the British Museum. Another undoubted highlight is a dramatic four-metre abstract statue by Greek sculptor Sophia Vari in the atrium. No slouch himself when it comes to art, the owner's collection of post-cubist sculptures, bas reliefs, photographs, china, crystal and silver add further kudos to a warm, modern and, above all, elegant environment.

One feature that did not need changing was the yacht's large windows, which bathe the interior in natural light as well as offering marvellous

PEGASUS

views. The Feadship craftsmen have also done a magnificent job in installing new ceilings, wall panels and fabrics in an interior that sees style consistently meet functionality within an overall theme of polished stainless steel and shagreen. Flat screen televisions are found throughout, offering access to the 450 movies stored on a new Kaleidescape system, operated via Creston panels.

Technically speaking *Pegasus* has also enjoyed a thorough overhaul, covering everything from Wi-Fi and wireless telephones to a new satellite system, radars, GPS, night vision, security cameras and navigation systems. The engine room has been upgraded to boost the performance of the engines, generators and auxiliary equipment. At the owner's request, all of *Pegasus'* systems have been optimised with respect to their environmental impact.

The result is a truly successful refit. Structurally, technically, aesthetically, comfort-wise, the new *Pegasus* is a true thoroughbred of her time – and a long time to come.



The bathing platform is the perfect extension to the beach club for the yacht's watersports-loving owner. The aft part also doubles as a tender launch ramp

