

Nelson 42Mk2

by Steve & Grietje Brenner - March 2005

Having owned a Nelson 34 (MK I), followed by a Nelson 45, (which the RNLI bought from us for use as a training vessel), we were in a quandary as to what type of Nelson to replace it with. As usual the Nelson 'compromise' was one of internal space verses length, a Nelson 70 giving adequate internal volume but presenting a few other problems such as where to moor it, how to pay for such a mooring and or course how to find the odd £1 - 2 million to finance its initial purchase, not to mention fuelling and maintaining it.

We had already decided that given a choice, we wanted something shorter than a 45, but still with berths for 4-6 people plus two heads and an outside steering position. The Dale 38 (which on later boats, is moulded at 40 feet) was originally dismissed due to its lack of headroom for me (I'm 6' 4") and the fact that no suitable examples were available on the market at the time we were looking. Later boats with Yanmar engines can now have more headroom in the wheelhouse if required - more on 38's though in a later article.

The only vessel seemingly in the running was therefore the good old 40, sometimes called a 42 for reasons unclear. A number of 40s were looked at of varying ages from 1969 to 1989, most of which required considerable work to bring them up to a good standard, although the best one at £185,00 was very good. I believe the last 40/42 (MK I) with a gentlemans GRP superstructure was built by Seaward in 1991 and now resides near us in Bucklers Hard.

The original 40 hull of which in excess of 350 have been built, many as pilot boats of course, is still produced by VT Halmatic. It even has a new hull mould tool because of a recent fire at Halmatic. However the GRP gentlemans motor yacht superstructure was cut up a couple of years ago as it was never expected to be required again due to the advent of the new Nelson 42 MK II which TT boat's Arthur Mursell designed in 1990. In 1991 Bucklers Hard Boat Builders produced the hull and superstructure plug tools for the new Nelson 42 MK II and Halmatic produced the female mould tools from these, plus mouldings, as well as completed vessels.

The first Nelson 42 MK II was fitted out by Bucklers Hard Boat Builders in 1992 and was originally called Flight Line II. Being the first 42 MK II it was fitted out to a very high standard, originally for Mr & Mrs Anderson, and this is the boat we purchased (her second owner had named her Double Vision in 1997). We have renamed her TRALAW, which stands for Tristan And Lawrence, our two sons. We are absolutely delighted with our new Nelson 42 MK II and apart from the usual Nelson teething troubles, she has performed in excess of our expectations.

Since the report the wheelhouse layout has been recently updated by Bucklers and there is now a feeling of much more space, which other 42 MK II with alternative layouts do not appear to have. One of the reasons for writing this article about the Nelson 42 MK II is to make NBOC members (and others) more aware of the newer Nelson vessels and what else has been produced to date.

Nelson 42 MKII - TRALAW (Previously Flight Line II / Double Vision)

- Halmatic GRP Hull and Superstructure - fitted out by Bucklers Hard Boat Builders 1992
- Twin caterpillar 350 HP 6- Cylinder turbo intercooled diesels, model 3116TA. 24 Volt

- Twin disk 5050A / 2:1 gearboxes
- 2 inch shafts with Aqua drive couplings and Deep Sea Seals
- Four bladed 25" x 24" equipoise propellers
- Underwater and side exhausts
- Speed 21 Knots Max
- Kobelt mechanical controls inside and outside (v. smooth)
- Bow and Stern Thrusters (virtually unused of course)
- Gebo windows (The Dutch like to keep the water out)
- Parallel Wynn wipers (3)
- Electrically heated wheelhouse windows, with water wash
- Eberspacher heating system
- 8KVA HFL diesel Generator
- Updated wheelhouse layout with new upholstery
- Corian Kitchen and table worktops
- Superb Ash, Elm and Teak woodwork throughout - Bucklers craftsmanship from new
- Watertight bulkhead door from aft cabin into engine room - the only 42 MK II with this
- Automatic fire extinguisher system with shut off flaps on elephant ear air intakes
- Engine driven bilge pump
- Trim tabs
- Spurs - rope cutters
- Avon dingy and outboard on davits, bathing platform and canister life raft.
- Electronics: Radar, chart plotter, forward sonar, VHF, Autopilot, log and sounder etc.

List of Nelson 42 MK II boats built to date as at 31/03/05

Year of Build	Name	Builder	Current Owner / Info
	5 x Part assemblies	VT Halmatic	Del Golfo, Italy
	24 x Part assemblies	VT Halmatic	Tencara, Venice, Italian Carabinieri/Coastguard
	2 x Vessels	VT Halmatic	Greek Coastguard
	Unknown	VT Halmatic	Gibraltar Police
	HUNTER	VT Halmatic	Customs and Excise, Now MCA, East coast
	SOUTHERN TRIDENT	VT Halmatic	Southern Sea Fisheries (Poole)
	MUSTANG	Atlantic Yacht Bouw	Resides in Harlingen where she was built
	SEA CLOUD OF SCILLY	Yacht Bouw Zeven Huizen	UK owned and in the Scilly Isles
1992	TRALAW	Bucklers Hard	Steve and Grietje Brenner
1996	KIM TOO (Originally SLENK)	Yacht Bouw Zeven Huizen	The only open aft cockpit MKII, now fitted with 440HP Yanmars
1996	POLLY J (Originally Boffer)	Bucklers Hard	Derekand Mary Beason
1998	CARNA G	The Bridgend Boat Comp	Went to the British Virgin Isles, now back in UK
1999	INISHNEE (Originally Sound Logic)	Bucklers Hard	Bill Whelan (of Riverdance fame) and moved to Ireland
1999	MOONFLEET	The Bridgend Boat Comp	Built for Paul Watson, Storm damaged, total loss Mallorca 2003
2000	FLYER	Royal Huisman	Owned by the late Wolter Huisman
2000	JOMARA	The Bridgend Boat Comp	In the UK
2000	SAINT MALO	Royal Huisman	Built for a friend of the Huismans
2002	LADY HAMILTON	Bucklers Hard	Recently sold to Clive Jacob
2002	ZULU	The Bridgend Boat Comp	Originally build for Dick Hickton, Recently sold and now on the East coast

List of Current Nelson 42 Mk II Builders

- **Seaward Marine** (Cowes, Isle of Wight)
Tel: +44 (0) 1983 280333 (Barry Kimbler)
Email: info@seawardboat.com
Website: www.seawardboat.com

- **Bucklers Hard Boat Builders**
Tel: +44 (0) 1590 616214 (Chris Clayton)
Email: info@bucklers.co.uk
Website: www.bucklers.co.uk
- **The Bridgend Boat Company** (Plymouth)
Tel: +44 (0) 1752 404082 (Richard Checkley)
Email:
Website: www.bridgendboatcompany.com
- **VT Halmatic**
Tel: +44 (0) 2392 539600 (Seb Freeman / Will Rhys Jones)
Email: vtgroup@vtplc.com
Website: www.vtplc.com
- **Royal Huisman** (Holland)
Tel: +31 527 24 3131 (Alice Huisman)
Email: yachts@royalhuisman.com
Website: www.royalhuisman.com
- **The Nelson Brokerage** (Bembridge / Holland)
Tel: +44 (0) 1983 872306 (Simon Mayes)
Email: nelsonyachts@btopenworld.com
Website: www.nelsonyachts.co.uk