

Captain's Dinghy - details

Description:	The <i>Captain's Dinghy</i> is a 16-foot fast runabout used at RAF Pembroke Dock to ferry crew & supplies (and sometimes bombs and depth charges) to/from the flying boats (such as the Sunderland) in Milford Haven in WWII. It was imperative to reach the planes quickly as they landed as any accident could lead to rapid sinking of the plane and loss of crew. Anecdotally, 2 such craft, 1 on either side of a sinking flying boat supporting its wings, managed to ferry the stricken plane back to land. After the flying boats left the haven she was sold to a private buyer. Later, it was used for holidaymaker trips around Thorne Island in the Haven at 2 shillings per head.		
Usage/status:	Static (dry) exhibit in Museum #V001	Year built: Acquired:	1945 pre 1998
Engine:	Originally thought to have a V8 inboard petrol engine, capable of almost 20 knots. Later a Meadows Kingfisher petrol engine was installed.		
Construction:	LOA: 16'. Beam: ?'. Height: ?'. Draft: ?" Hard chine with double-diagonal from keel to chine and clinker up to gunwale. Steering was via a motorcar-type wheel up forward in a cockpit shielded by a windscreen; amidships she had a canvas cuddy to give protection. One of 100 fast dinghies built by Falconer Marine Industries of Victoria, Vancouver Island, Canada, #2746.		
Condition:	Good. Not intended for use on the water.		
Work done:	Acquired by WWMHS around 30 years ago & restored.		