

Undine – further details

1. War time

Undine had the distinction of being one of the very few leisure boats to be permitted to sail at Burry Port during World War II.

Society member Barry Burgess sailed on her when he was a boy. He recalls the story: “*One fine summers evening as the sun was setting on her red sails, when a squadron of fighters aircraft returning to RAF PEMBREY flew overhead. Several Polish Pilots who had a reputation for daredevil escapades, found the temptation too much and had swooped in for the ‘kill’*”.

David Paton was enjoying a quiet sail: “*he raised a languid eyebrow over the cockpit to see 3 Hawker Hurricanes coming straight at him, screaming overhead, it is said they cleared the mast by a couple of feet*”.

2. Acting career!

In 1989 *Undine* was hired as a ‘prop’ in the BBC film “Prince Caspian and the Voyage of the Dawn Treader”. Her starring role lasted about one second. The boat was taken by road to Porthclais where the scenes were shot, with one of the Society members playing a part as an extra. The harbour was called ‘Narrow Haven’ in the film and the BBC fee paid of £150 contributed to the cost of a new mainsail for *Undine*.

3. Maintenance

- 1950s: fitted with Austin 7 car engine
- 1996: reported as being well-used by members that summer; in the autumn she was reported as needing a complete rebuild if she was ever to sail again
- 1996: centreboard case rebuilt
- 1998: lost rudder at sea
- 1999: sunk to her gunwales overnight on a mooring after the Pembroke River Rally
- 1999: fitted with Stuart Turner engine but not a great success