

The Sacrifice of the Remick Family of Port Isaac

Our War Memorial records several Port Isaac families who lost family members in both World Wars. Perhaps the greatest sacrifice was by the Remick family. Our 2014 First World War Exhibition gave the stories of the sons of Isaac Broad Remick and Ann Amelia Remick, two of whom were killed in WW1, as was their cousin Jonathan Remick. These were the grandsons of Jonathan Remick Senior (c1800-1876) and his wife Eliza, nee Nichols (1806-1892).

In the Second World War, Jonathan Remick's brother, Thomas Remick and his wife Ethel Williams Remick, lost their son Tom in the Battle of the River Plate in December 1939. Seven months later their daughter Kate May lost her husband, William Johnson Townsend, in the Atlantic convoys. In 1941 they lost their eldest daughter Dorothy in enemy bombing of Devonport Dockyards. Jonathan and Eliza Remick thus lost three grandchildren and three great grandchildren in the two world wars.



Tom Remick 1927



Kate, Dorothy and Marjorie Remick 1919



*Kate and William Johnson Townsend
aboard SS Scottish Minstrel*

William and Kate's son, Mark Townsend (1925-2006), was the great great grandson of Jonathan and Eliza. He was a well-respected fisherman of Port Isaac with a quiet manner that hid a great intellect and quick wit. When he died in 2006, St Endellion Church was packed with his many friends. His widow Janet still lives in the village. The Christian name Remick lives on in Janet and Mark's children and continues through the grandchildren, but the surname Remick is now only found outside Port Isaac.



*Four generations of the Remicks on the steps of The Sibbys in 1954
Jonathan Remick Richards, Patricia Remick Richards, Ethel
Williams Remick and Kate Townsend.*