The Rowes: a Port Isaac fishing family



Family records indicate that the Rowe family have fished out of Port Isaac harbour for at least five generations. Actual printed records go back to 1895 when brothers Jack and Peter Rowe's Grandfather, Richard Rowe, commissioned a fishing Lugger to be built at Padstow, partly funded by a local Doctor, William Blake.



CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRY

ANNIE before she went to Exeter Museum



Top left Jack Rowe, centre father Frank Rowe and right Peter Rowe



Built at Padstow in 1888 from mahogany for the grand sum of $\mathfrak{L}10$, this sturdy clinker hulled vessel displaced 1.01 tons, had a draft of 2 feet 6 inches, neam of 5 and 4 tenths and length of 16 feet. She proudly sported a fine 3.5 HP Kelvin engine - only the second boat in the port to have an engine fitted at that time up to 1911. In 1914, Richard Rowe became the sole owner of ANNIE and fished her throughout the First World War until 1928 when his son, Frank Rowe (Jack and Peter's father) took over sole ownership. He continued to fish her through to the late 1950s when she was laid up in the Port Gaverne Fish sheds. In 1989 the family donated ANNIE to Exeter Maritime Museum together with her documentation where she was put on exhibition to the public. Sadly after a number of years the Museum ran into financial problems and had to close and the historic collection of boats were split up. it is thought that ANNIE is now residing somewhere in Scotland.

However. Frank continued to keep his hand in. continuing to go out to sea fishing with his son Peter from his 13 foot open Del Quay Dory named FULMAR. This was the first fibreglass boats to join the fishing fleet at Port Isaac and started the movement away from traditional wooden built boats towards the higher powered fibreglass vessels in the harbour today.



Jack's boat, SERENE (1970-78)

Frank's other son, Jack, took up fishing full-time named SERENE, working her along the North Cornwall coast from Port Isaac up as far as

Eight years later Jack and his brother Peter decided to join together commissioning local boat builder, Rod Baker, founder of Port Isaac Bay Marine, to design and build a 38 foot fast Potting Dory to be named FRANCIS KATE.

See separate displays

AT 83 FISHERMAN FRANK IS STILL HAULING POTS

SAILED SCHOONTESS
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In addition to the families long association with fishing, father Frank Rowe served as an Auxillary Coastguard as did Jack and Peter for a number of years and both sons were also volunteer crew members of the original D Class lifeboat when the Lifeboat Station re-opened in 1967. Jack had the honour of helming the new boat out on demonstration at the RNLI Service of dedication on what proved to be a very lively day at sea ... but that's another story!



for mother.

The Certificate of Registry is not a Document of Title, and it is valueless to any person other than the Owner or Skipper of the beat.

The original Certificate of Rregistry for Fishing Boat ANNIE, when first registered in 1928



