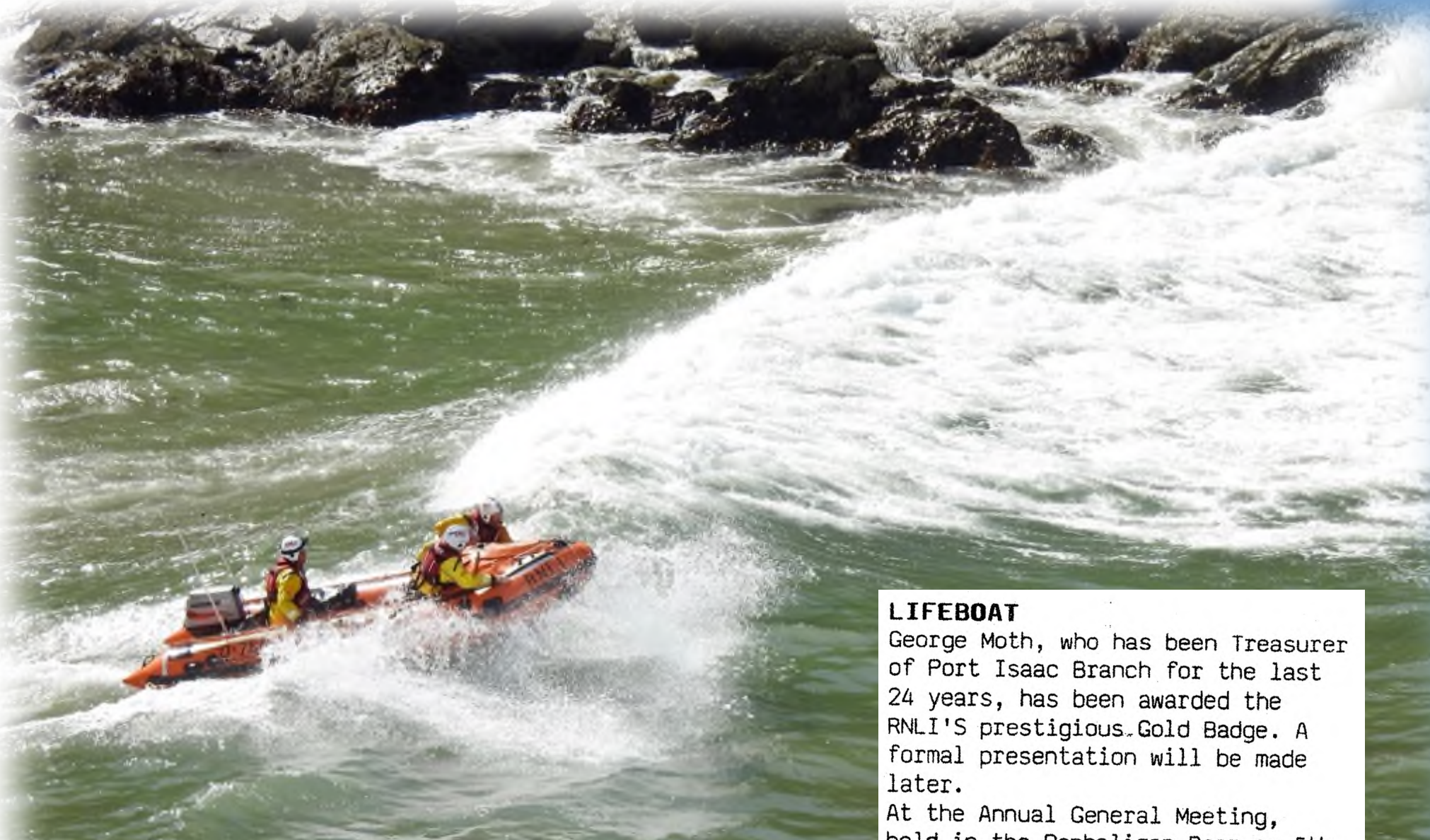


THE RNLI & THE COASTGUARD

THE PISCES WRECK & RESCUE EXHIBITION
IS A COMPREHENSIVE RECORD OF
LOCAL RESCUES



RNLI GALLANTRY MEDALS FOR NICKI, MATT & DAMIEN



Nicki, Matt and Damien with HRH The Duke of Kent
June 2013

LIFEBOAT

Two call-outs
Since my last report, our Lifeboat has had two 'end of season' services - one a minor incident, the other could have been very serious.

Cliff Climber
On Wednesday 25th. October, as dusk was falling fast, a man was reported to be overdue after climbing cliffs at Port Quin. A man of considerable experience, he failed to return at his anticipated time and his wife, in concern, called the Coastguard. The ILB launched, to search the area from seaward, and to support our local coastguard team. After searching for some ten minutes, the man was located safe and well. The ILB returned to Port Isaac Harbour on the day. Crew: Andy Walton, John Collins, Steve Taylor, and Mike Edkins - an extra pair of eyes!

Nearly Drowned Fishermen
Finally, at 3.45pm, on Sunday 27th. October, we launched to rescue two anglers who had been spotted cut off by the rising tide and rough sea. They were on a rock near the 'Gul' in Port Gaverne. The lifeboat arrived just in time, Mike Edkins landed on the rock and escorted the two fishermen into the boat. Just as the boat backed away, a large wave covered the rock where the two men had been - one was a non-swimmer and both were wearing heavy clothing. In carrying out his part, Mike Edkins suffered bruising to his thigh and leg. The two fortunate men were duly landed at Port Isaac none the worse for their lucky escape. The crew who carried out this very good service were: Andy Walton (helm), Mike Edkins, and John Collins.

Crew Wanted
The station is now closed for operation and will re-open for service on Saturday 22nd. March 1997. There will be winter training for the crew, starting in early - mid January. I am hoping some will volunteer to join us (female or male) - so far no-one has contacted us since my appeal in the last issue of Trio.
Ted Childs, Station Honorary Secretary (01208-880322)

December 1996

PORT ISAAC LIFEBOAT HOUSE
First of all, I do not agree with anyone altering the structure of the old village, let alone the R.N.L.I., which has bought a 'new' lifeboat house (what was wrong with the old one?). It is part of the oldest historic building in Port Isaac. Once the 'firm' has put its wedge in via new roof, what next? A new slipway on the beach? or will they dig up and alter part of the flat? the centre of Port Isaac. Already the people of the village have given up part of the beach for car parking, will the lifeboat now have the right to the other half? I have and always will support the lifeboat. Port Isaac is known as the 'gem' of Cornwall and if we let everyone and anyone (that means we who live in this lovely old village too) chip away at the gem, soon the brilliant and lovely structure will be gone, for us or any future generation. So, Port Isaac people, unite and keep your village as it is: beautiful and loved by all who come.
Oliver Strout.

THE NEW LIFEBOAT HOUSE
Controversy surrounds the proposed provision of the above. May I make a few observations regarding this matter. Since 1967 the lifeboat has been housed in rented sub-standard accommodation, unworthy of those who risk their lives and respond so willingly to the 'call of the maroons'. The RNLI, having purchased the proposed site, contrary to some reports, have conceded that the proposed building should blend as far as possible, with its surroundings, even to the extent of obtaining a second unbiased architect's opinion, and intending to utilise Delabole slate to 'blend'. The pitch of the roof has to be 35 degrees to ensure weather-proofing. Given a purpose built 'station', this can only enhance the efficiency of the dedicated crew members, and after a winter or two of storms, the new building will weather into its surroundings, and improve the appearance of the harbour, replacing the present ugly building. I am certain that the support given to the RNLI locally will be maintained. None of the local supporters is so petty-minded as to allow this issue to affect their generous support. I believe that the first time the inshore boat rendered assistance, was to Charlie Rowe, who was drifting out to sea, having suffered engine failure, added to broken rowlocks, in his punt. Since then, unstintingly, the crew and supporters have rendered sterling service. They deserve a purpose built 'house' and continued support.
Arthur Jordan.

July 1991

LIFEBOAT

Sunday 26th. June marked a further chapter in the history of the Port Isaac Lifeboat Station when, following a Service of Dedication by the station Chaplain Revd. Michael Bartlett, the new Lifeboat House was officially opened by Group Captain Simon Coy, OBE., Commanding Officer of RAF St. Margan.

Presentations were made to Group Captain Coy and Mrs. Coy by Amy Rowe and Jessica Walton. As well as R.N.L.I. and HM Coastguard officials, the occasion was attended by Paul Tyler MP, Peter Cocks - Chairman of Cornwall County Council, Kenneth White - Chairman of North Cornwall District Council and David Bolton - Chairman of St. Endellion Parish Council. Crewmembers and Station Secretaries

September 1991

Nearly a hundred women packed the Village Hall for Port Isaac RNLI's Girls Night Out on May 15th.

The noise level was immense - to say the least - as we chatted, had our hair done, chatted, had our nails done, chatted, drank, chatted, got some make-up advice, chatted, watched fashion shows, chatted, were massaged, chatted, had reflexology, chatted, shopped and, did I say, chatted!

And we managed to raise nearly £400 for the RNLI.

It was a good night out, something a little bit different, and the feedback has been really good. So yes, it might become an annual event.

Footnote: Some men did feel a bit left out and there have been murmurings of a Mens Night Out. I'm not sure what the format would be. Perhaps Roy Speakman could talk (even more) about his George Forman Grill, Bob Monk entertain with tales of the delights of his Breadmaker and Ian Fuller give a talk on the history of the basque - Dee

Girls night out!



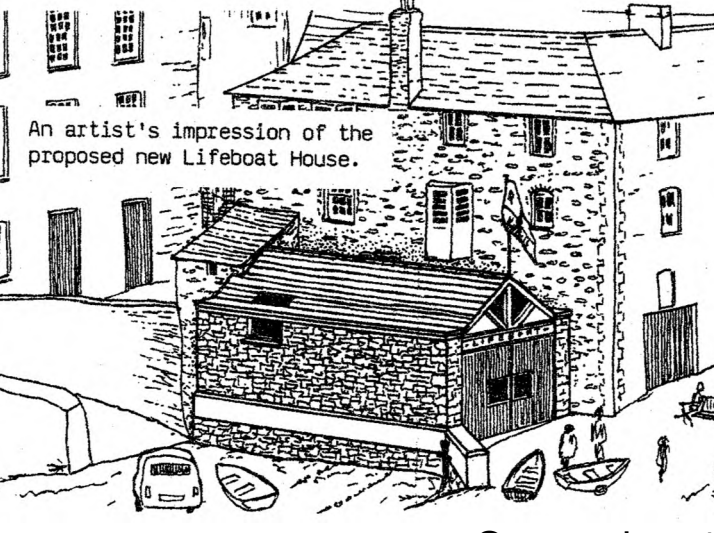
June 2003

LIFEBOAT
George Moth, who has been Treasurer of Port Isaac Branch for the last 24 years, has been awarded the RNLI'S prestigious Gold Badge. A formal presentation will be made later.
At the Annual General Meeting, held in the Penhaligon Room on 5th. December, it was announced that £16,686 had been raised during the year - another record. Guest speaker Lt. David Nicholson, a pilot with 771 Squadron at RNAS Culdrose, gave a talk on their search and rescue work.
John Scott.

January 1991



September 1985



September 1985

LIFEBOAT

The Port Isaac Branch collection for Flag Day on 15th. August reached £1107 - a Branch record. Splendid support came from the whole District, especially Tintagel (8th. Aug.), Boscastle, Delabole, St. Kew and Highway area, and the Port Isaac area. Sincere thanks to all helpers.
David Castle.

September 1992

4-Legged Race 1985

The sponsorship income so far totals approx. £700 with three teams still to declare. Mr. and Mrs. Ross of the Port Gaverne Hotel generously award a dinner for six to the team handing in the largest amount by 6th. September '85. This has been won by the Golden Lion's Ladies Team - Miles Tracy Andrews, Sharon Thomas, and Tania Richards. Their scanty fancy dress as Greek Goddesses on a chilly evening certainly deserved a prize.

As usual the Police and St. Johns Ambulance were in attendance.

Mrs. Soley's Coffee Morning on the 4th. September raised £71.80 at St. Kew; the souvenir stall sold £40 worth. *D. Finch.*

December 1992

The Lifeboat was launched on Saturday 24th. August to a windsurfer who was in trouble off Daymer Bay. The sea conditions were rough but the windsurfer managed to swim to the shore. The lifeboat was recalled. The crewmembers were Ted Childs, Andy Walton, and Paul Robinson.

On Sunday 25th. August the Lifeboat was called out to a capsized sailing dinghy that had overturned with two people on board, off Stepper Point. The sea conditions were very rough, but the crew - Andy Walton, John Coshall, and Paul Robinson - made the Mous before getting a recall to station. The two people had been picked up by a passing pleasure boat and landed in Hawkers Cove.

December 2001

The Jumble Sale in aid of the R.N.L.I. arranged for Saturday 5th. October has been postponed until Saturday 16th. November.

December 1992

THE CHILDREN'S ART COMPETITION AT LARKS



First prize went to Isabella Kent
Second prize went to Joshua
Third prize went to Seth Reeves
Fourth prize went to Maygan Reeves

Life-boat January 1983

Port Isaac Life-boat will be on station from 17th. March to 31st. October this year. Crew training commences on 24th. January. Extra training is to be given in first aid by the County Ambulance Training Officer, Station Officer Michael Wait

LOOKING BACK TO 1952

the new coastguard station officer

In 1952, Port Isaac Coastguard had a new Station Officer from Newbiggin, Northumberland - Albert Hyde and his wife Ada.

Albert had served in the Royal Navy for 28 years and was in both World Wars. During his naval career he served a number of years on the China Station and reached the rank of Chief Petty Officer.

When he took over the Port Isaac Station the other two Coastguards were George Collins and Ron Couch. Later Couch was succeeded by Aubrey Tucker and George Collins moved to Porthcawl on promotion to Station Officer and was succeeded by George Gates.

Albert was a strict disciplinarian and workaholic. Through his efforts and that of his staff, the Station was recognised to be the best kept Station and equipment in the country for all his years in Port Isaac. The LSA equipment was Albert's pride and joy, but fully operational despite of the pristine condition.

Albert retired in 1967 after 50 years in uniform and moved to Exeter.

Our man in Fuerteventura, David Castle
November 2001

Backalong.....

Looking back, looking out

Kellan Head Look Out was first established by HM Coastguard in the late 1800s and was in use until the mid 1970s. Situated on top of a 245ft cliff, it was manned by Port Isaac Coastguards when there were gale force winds or foggy conditions. The facilities were minimal - a telescope, a pair of binoculars, a bearing board, a telephone, a manual fog horn, an oil heater and a chart light operated from a 6volt car battery. The stone building had a water butt which provided the water for cleaning the salt from the windows.

Watch keeping was based on the six-hour watch routine: 0600-1200, 1200-1800, 1800-2400, 0000-6000. Up until 1965, the Coastguards used to walk from Port Isaac to Kellan Head, allowing themselves one and a half hours each way. The route taken was the inland path to Port Quin (Postman's Walk) but on occasion the Coastguards had to crawl across the open ground near the foot of Kellan Head as it was impossible to stand against the storm. The path from the Pine Awn stile up to the Roscarrock field was often overgrown and the Coastguards used to cut it back to make their walk easier. One time, while working on the path, Station Officer Bill Pink and Coastguard Aubrey Tucker heard a man shouting for help after he had fallen into a deep hole in the valley. It was lucky for

him that they Coastguards were passing by on that day.

In the late 1940s, the Royal Navy placed a target buoy for aircraft to bomb in the middle of Port Quin Bay and installed two look-outs for the plotting staff - one at Carnweather Point and the other one 20ft below the Kellan Head Look Out. When the Royal Navy ceased using the range in the mid 1950s, HM Coastguard took over the Kellan Head one as it was a better structure. The one at Carnweather Point remained unused until the National Trust demolished it in 1975.

In 1958, Auxiliary Coastguard Atkins was on watch at Kellan Head and due to a medical condition became unconscious and knocked over the oil heater. The whole building was gutted by fire and Mr Atkins lost his life. The old Look Out was quickly refurbished and was in use until the mid 1970s. In 1985 the building was pulled down and the site cleared.

I joined the Coastguard Service in 1963, serving until 1987, and spent very many hours on duty at Kellan Head. Fortunately, I was able to drive to Port Quin and only had to walk from the cottages to the Head. Even so, it was a hard 15-minute climb, especially in the dark. When I started watch keeping the rate of pay was 3/6d an hour (1 7/8p).

From our Man in Fuerteventura, David Castle
April 2001

Deer's lucky day!

Jane Byfield could hardly believe her eyes. It was just after 7.00am on Monday April 22nd when she looked out of her window and saw a deer running along the Main at Port Gaverne and keeping off the edge into the sea. She got on the phone to Coastguard Station Officer Ken Richards who in turn got on the phone to RNLI Station Hon Sec Bob Monk and asked him if he could send the Lifeboat round to Port Gaverne to have a look. Falmouth Coastguard Station were alerted to the situation and began co-ordinating a major rescue attempt.

By some miracle the deer had survived the fall from the Main and had started to swim out to sea. The Lifeboat reached the terrified animal and the crew encouraged it to return to shore where it reached safety through the surf and the rocks and into a cave at Cartway Cove.

The only access to Cartway is by sea or down the cliff face and the Port Isaac Coastguard Cliff Rescue team were soon in situ as were RSPCA officers and very shortly members of the press, radio and TV. The Lifeboat ferried Newquay vet Michael King to the scene and eventually he managed to score a successful tranquilliser shot. The immobilised deer was securely wrapped up and then taken up the long cliff face haul by a member of the Coastguard. An RSPCA ambulance then took the deer off to the RSPCA centre at St Columb. In the meantime RSPCA Officer Felicity Cross and vet, Michael King were both brought up the cliff by the Coastguard team.

Time for the Lifeboat to go back to the Station but with the rising tide and heavy surf breaking into Cartway Cove the crew had a tricky exit route to negotiate.

Later in the day the RSPCA confirmed that the deer had been fully checked over and had no major injuries. He has since been released back into the wild in a suitable countryside area.

There has been a lot of speculation as to where the deer came from. John Wiseman, Port Gaverne Harbourmaster, told Trio that a drowned deer was washed up on Port Gaverne beach about seven weeks ago. It was taken away by the National Trust who arranged for a post mortem on the animal and Courtesy Trio.

But at the time of going to press, the favourite theory is that there are deer living in the valley.

From our Man in Fuerteventura, David Castle
May 2002