

# The Rescue of the *Golden Light*



The first service of the *Richard and Sarah II* was carried out on November 7<sup>th</sup> 1890. The Penzance schooner, *Golden Light*, bound from Newport for Hayle with coal, was sighted in the rough sea about four miles off Port Isaac, apparently making for Port Quin Bay. A messenger later arrived from Port Quin saying she had anchored and lost her main mast. The Lifeboat was drawn to Port Quin cove on her carriage by a team of 14 horses. She arrived about noon and prepared for launching but this had to be delayed until 10pm that night because of the atrocious conditions. Eventually, after two hours of hard pulling, the crew reached the disabled schooner. Five of the crew had already been taken into Port Quin by a local fishing boat and the remaining five were rescued with great difficulty as the vessel was rolling heavily. They were eventually landed at Port Isaac at 2.30am the next morning.

Transporting the Lifeboat overland is not unknown today and in recent years the D Class Lifeboat has been loaded on to the back of the local fishmongers truck and taken to Wadebridge to help with the search for a boatman lost in the Camel Estuary.



In the early 1990s the Port Isaac Rowing Club re-enacted the pulling of a boat to Port Quin as a New Year's Day fundraiser. Instead of pulling a Lifeboat, members of the club pulled and pushed the Port Isaac Gig, *Corsair*.

*Striding out in front are Bert Easter and Chrissie Coshall.*