

# A self sufficient village

At one time the main greengrocery business was owned and run by Mr & Mrs Saundry and their son Tom from a shop in Middle Street. Mr Saundry and Tom grew much of the produce they sold.

*"Mrs Saundry was the last person, that we know, who sold potatoes by the gallon (10lbs)"*

Alistair Bunt owned and ran a fruit shop in what was in more recent years the *Piskey Gift Shop* and is now a home.

John Neale's shop, now better known as the chemist's in *Doc Martin*, specialised in earthenware but also sold paraffin. The shop then became Sylvia McCrohan's *Pride of Place*.

A Sweet Shop, run by Miss Penrose from her Middle Street home, now called *Cor Anglais*, also sold matches and candles.

Just across the road and in 1928, Alby May had a drapers store. This later became Bill Steer's Fish Shop and later still an antiques shop. It is now a cottage called *Little Dolphins*.

Round the corner in a cottage called *The Bethel*, now *Creel Cottage*, lived fishmonger, John May.

Linwood and Hilda Cowling owned the *Drug Store* in what is now the *Ice Cream Parlour* on the corner of Back Hill and Fore Street.

Between the chemist and the top of the hill was the Haberdashery Shop, run by two sisters, Mabel and Muriel Phillips. They sold haberdashery from a room in their house.

*"Most ladies went there to buy their corsets or stays when their figures matured"*



Jack Hicks ran his butchers shop from the premises that are now *Wavehunters* (see photo above). He ran it with his son Jack and daughter Nell. They then moved the business up to the top of the village on the New Road (see photo below). Over the years the shop has been Georgy Dawe's Antique Shop and from the 1970s Sandy & Jim May's Crab and Lobster Shop.



*"Jack and his wife Daisy made the best sausages I have ever tasted ... they would make 150 pounds of sausages on a Friday night and they would all be sold out before lunch on Saturday."*

## The Butchers

At one time here were two butchers in the village. Wordens was at the bottom of Church Hill raised their beef up at Homer Park.

*"Mr Ewart Worden was the farmer and the rest of the family ran the shop. Two sisters and mother made sausage, hog's pudding and prepared tripe."*



*The late lovely Mark Provis when he ran his Butcher's Shop at the bottom of Church Hill*

## The Singing Butchers



Pictured above are the 'Singing Butchers', John (Boss John) Hicks and son Jack regaling customers Elsie Richards, Dorothy Oliver and Lilian Rosevear in August 1948.

Meat was still on ration (you can see the Ration Book) at this time and John and Jack felt it was important to cheer up their customers with a song.

They were featured in the *Daily Mirror* - Boss John would not go up to London so the newspaper came to Port Isaac!

## Fish & Chips for tea

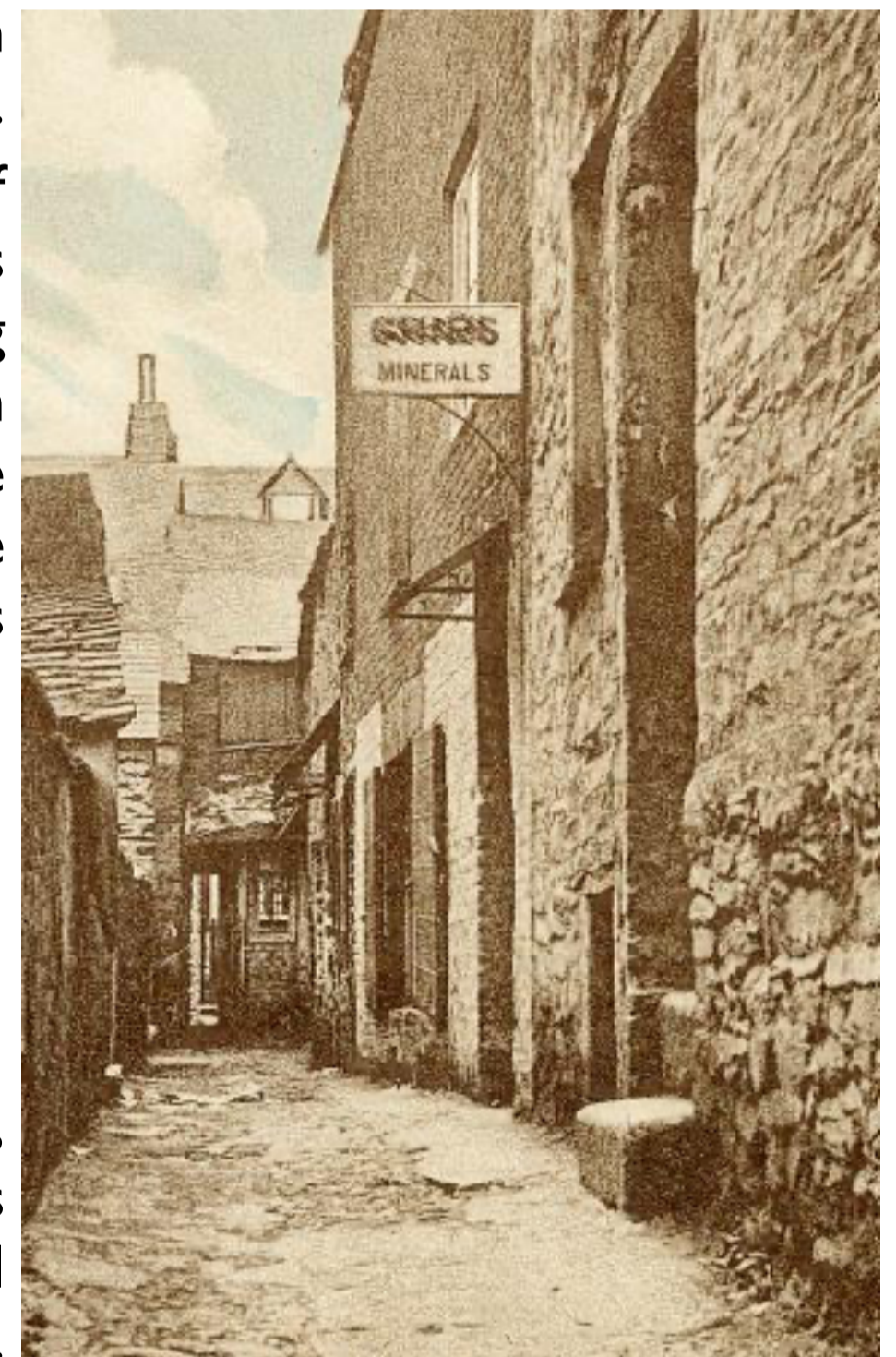
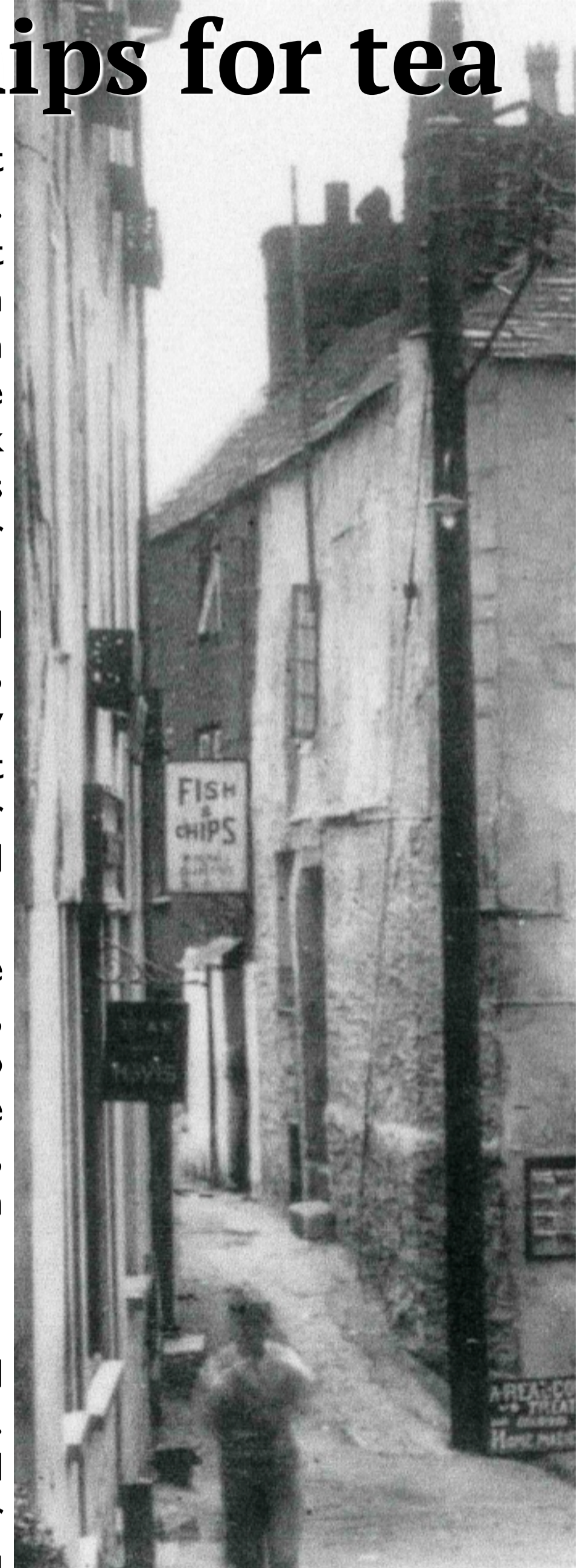
On nights when you didn't want to cook there was fish and chips. The first fast food establishment that anyone around today can remember in the village was run by Fred Mortimer in 2 Temple Bar, although he actually took over from Gran Keat, who was apparently renowned for her lovely battered sausages.

The premises were called Doctor's Alley in the deeds, possibly because it came out by Doctor Trevan's Dolphin Street house. Fred is remembered for always talking about football and becoming the Mayor of Teignmouth.

By the Second World War there were two Fish and Chip shops, as Mrs Spry (Granny Spry), who lived in what is now Kittiwake Cottage/Kiln on Middle Street, opened up in competition with "the best meat-balls in the area"

(made from corned beef and parsley and dipped in batter). They were a halfpenny each and chips were either a penny or twopence depending on if you wanted to eat them on a plate in the café or take away.

There are other memories of Fish and Chip Shops. There was Mrs Ralph, who had two big alsation dogs, who apparently ran one during the war but we are not sure where. And Peter Rowe remembers back to the 1940s "on Fore Street in the shop that is now *Wavehunters*, Isabel Keat (Gran Keat's daughter-in-law) ran another Fish and Chip shop" ... allegedly, her son, Gordon, would get money from his mother to frequent the rival establishment.



## The Co-op

In February 2015, Port Isaac Co-op underwent a huge makeover, transforming it into a brilliant shop for the village. Port Isaac Co-op was built in the early 1930s.

*"The Co-op was solidly built of cement blocks coated on the outside with roughcast mortar. It was long, deep and chunky, adorned in front with two big plate glass windows and an entry door on either side. As you faced the front of the Co-op the left hand door opened into the grocery department, and the right hand door into the 'Cassie' run drapery department ..."* James Platt

One of the early managers was Mr Auger. He controlled the grocery side of the business ... He would not permit the girls to add up bills, take money or deliver change - only he did that!

But things were very different in the drapery department which was Cassie (Cassandra) Saundry's empire - and was actually known by locals as *Cassie's*.



*Cassie Saundry*

taken from *THE REAL VOICES OF PORT ISAAC*