

Port Isaac's very own Fisherman's Friends



once upon a time ... before they were famous

"... and didn't they do well. Several standing ovations and applause that brought the house down ..."

Albert Hall Performance review, May 2001

Music and singing has always been popular in Port Isaac; villagers sang in Chapel and Church, in concerts, in choirs, in the pub - at the drop of a hat they would 'strike up'. It was probably in the early 1990s when the *Fisherman's Friends* began to sing together as a 'group'.

They quickly became popular locally and before they knew it they had started the tradition of singing on the Platt on a summer Friday night. Come the end of May Bank Holiday through to September they could be found entertaining locals and holidaymakers and raising thousands of pounds for various charities ... it was 'the place to be.'

But their popularity was far bigger than in Cornwall; they sang in Mystic Seaport in the USA and in France; they were invited to sing with *Show of Hands* in the Albert Hall; they made a couple of CDs; they were filmed for various programmes including the *Lonely Planet* series and a sea shanty programme with TV Choirmaster Gareth Malone.

... and then, one Friday night in the summer of 2009, they were 'discovered' by visiting record producer, Rupert Christie. Little did they know how their lives would change. A chance visit to Port Isaac by radio DJ Johnnie Walker resulted in his manager visiting the boys and before they knew it their future was sealed with a handshake over a beer (or two). The rollercoaster ride had begun.

Over a decade later they are more popular than ever. They have headlined at Glastonbury, the line-up has changed a bit, they've done the book and the t-shirt, *Fisherman's Friends, the movie*, hit the big screen to great acclaim, the second movie is in the pipeline and ... *Fisherman's Friends, the musical* is set to open in the autumn of 2021 ... and on many a summer Friday night they can still be found singing on the Platt and raising money for local causes ...



Recording in St Peter's Church, Autumn 2009



What goes on, on a summer Friday evening in Port Isaac?
The Fisherman's Friends sing on the Platt ...



Glastonbury 2010