

It's always been the fishing ... even today with the predominant local industry being tourism we have a small but thriving fishing fleet that works out of the harbour catching mainly crab and lobster to be sold in the village and further afield.

Records going back to the early 1600s detail fishermen in the parish of St Endellion ... some whose descendants still fish here today.



**The Brown Family**

Harold Brown's three sons ... the photos show Tom Brown with his dad Jeremy and son Archie (who now has a brother Harold), Sam Brown and Uncle John, the late Harold Brown pulling in a pot and Julian Brown

"Today we catch mainly Crab, Lobster and Spider Crab ... Now I am a father myself I need a secure future for my sons and so I imagine that fishing out of Port Isaac is the life for me for the foreseeable future. The fishing restrictions that are constantly being brought in might change this but I am optimistic about the future. As for my two sons following me into the family business when they are old enough - I'd be more than happy to welcome them on board."

Tom Brown

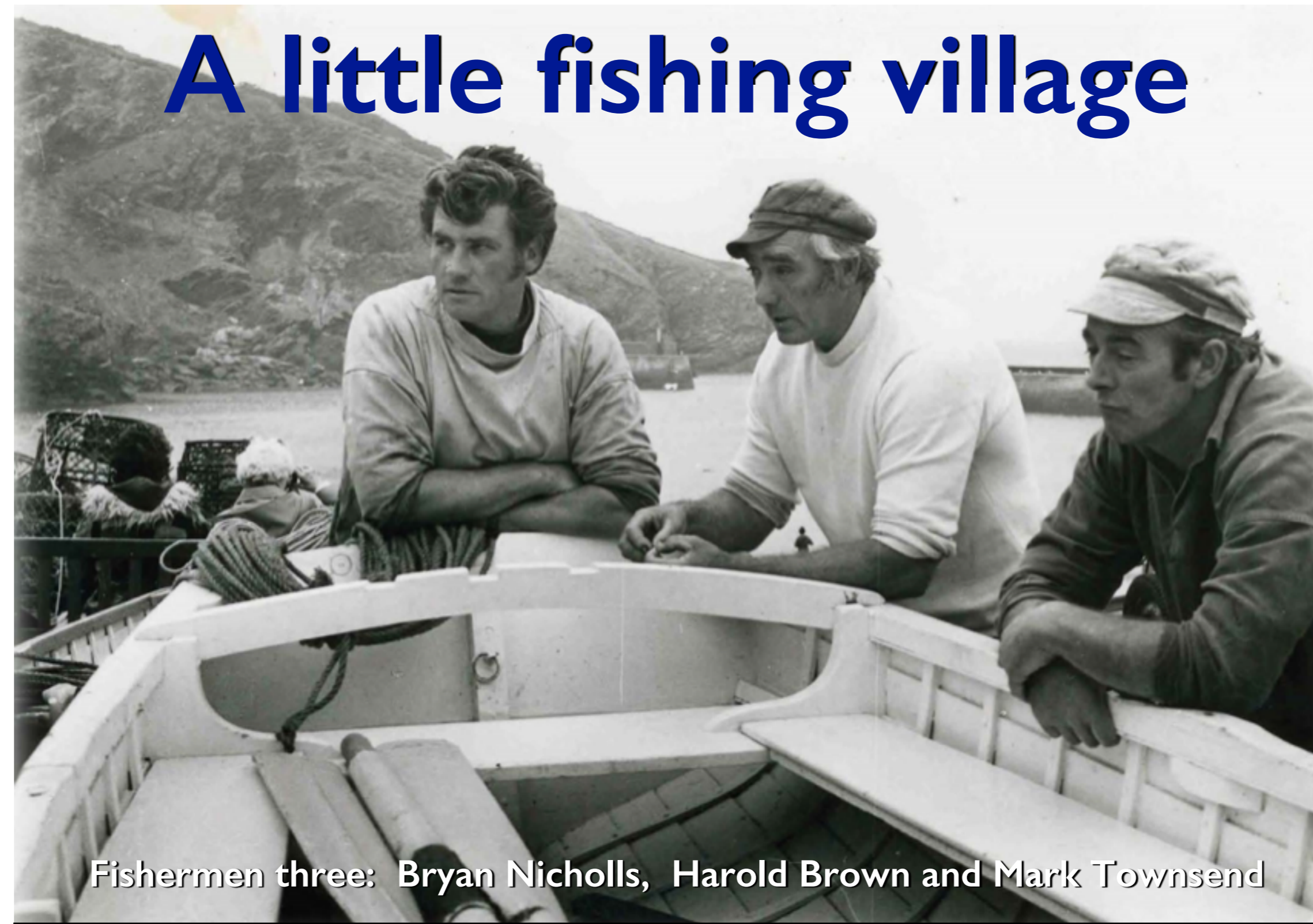


Tom Brown Snr making lobster pots from withies, c1955



"I remember cutting withies in the withy garden in Port Isaac valley with my father (Harold) and Raymond Provis and Nibs and then watching my father making withy pots. And I used to sell around the village, small plaice and dabs that my father had caught - 3d each!"

Julian Brown



Fishermen three: Bryan Nicholls, Harold Brown and Mark Townsend

**Lobsters:**  
This is by no means an unprofitable fishing, several boats are employed in this occupation in the summer season, manned generally by the old invalid seamen. They not infrequently make forty shillings a week. The country all around are supplied besides the towns of Camelford, Bodmin, Wadebridge, Saint Columb and Padstow from Port Isaac.

John Watts Trevan, 1834



Bruce Rowe and his brother Charlie carried on the fishing tradition of their father, mother and great grandfather.



Above: Jordan Honey, Skipper of the Benmicree

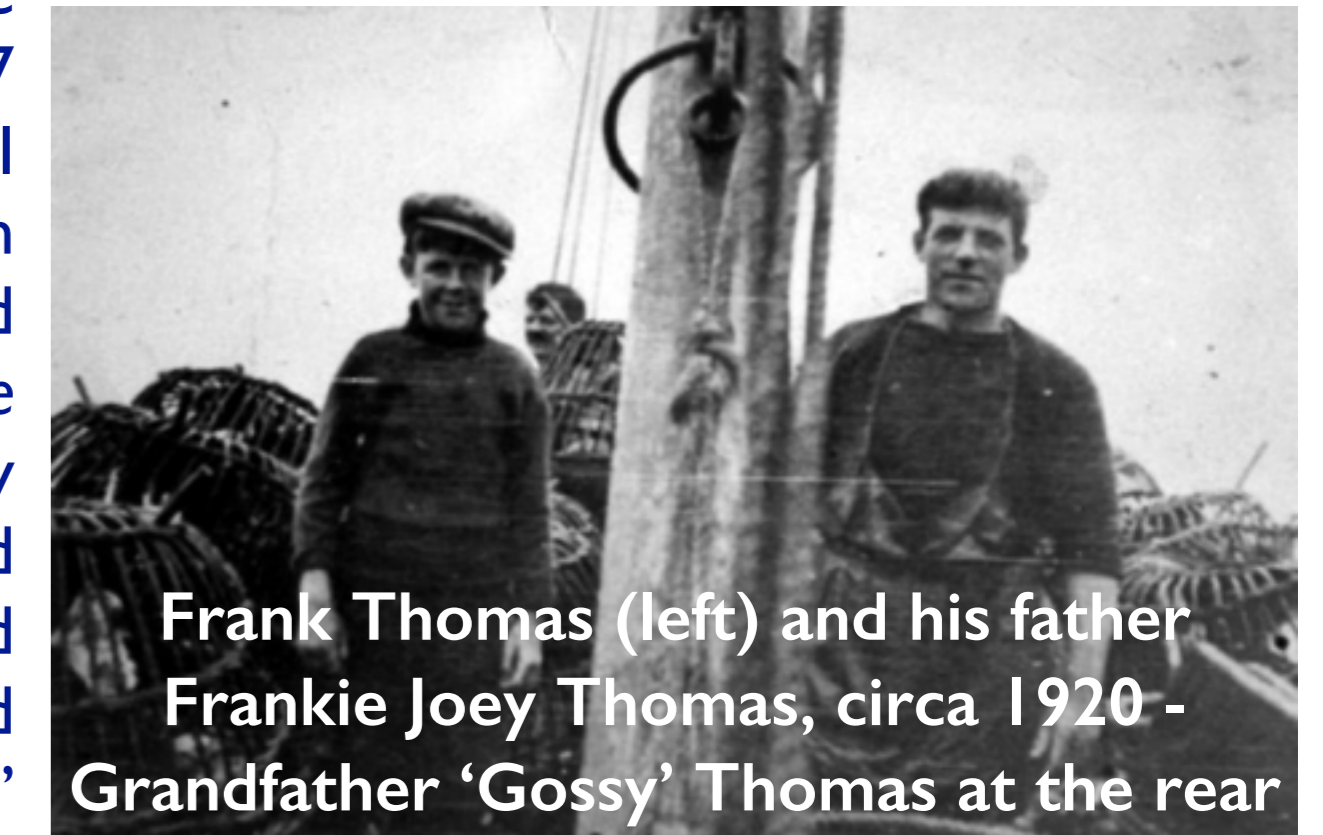


Right: Captain Frank Lobb on the Olive

Father and son team, Joey and Richard Thomas, fished from their boat *Sharicmar*. Joey passed away during lockdown 2019 and made a last journey through our village streets, lined with locals paying their respects, and down to the Platt before his funeral. A few years ago he reflected, "I was 7 years old when I went out fishing with my Grandfather, Old Man Joey, in *The Hope* ... Once my boys, Richard and Martin, were old enough, they helped me with the fishing."



Richard and Joey Thomas



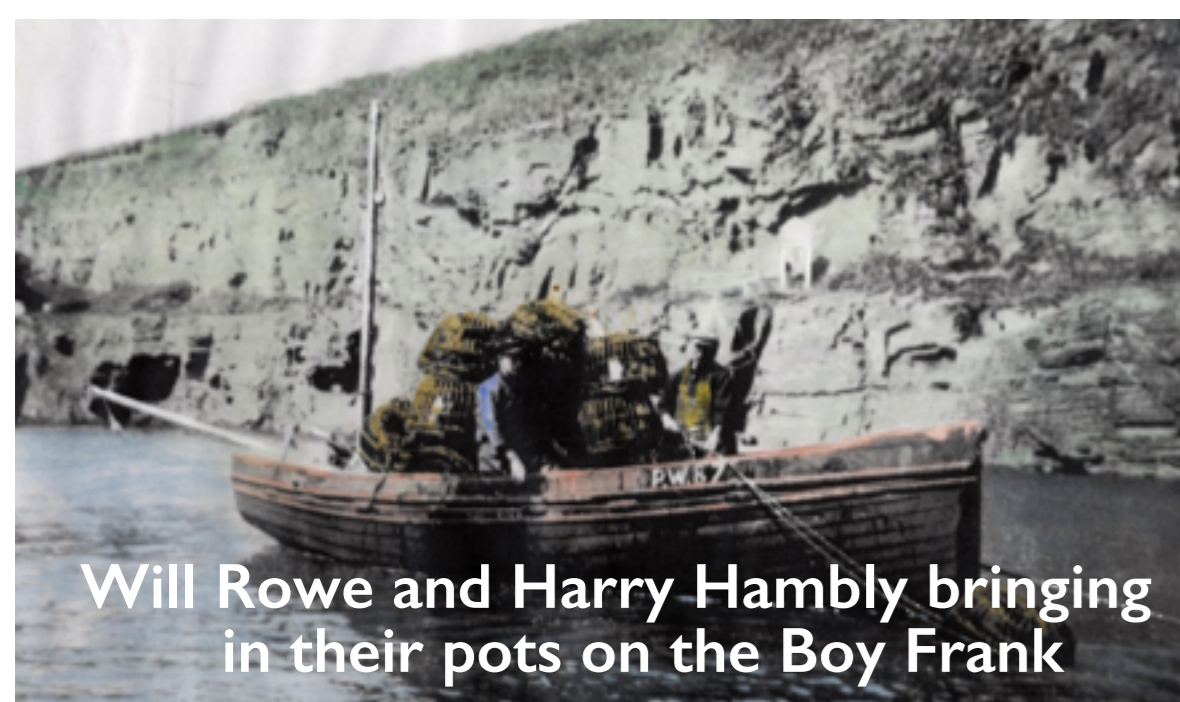
Frank Thomas (left) and his father Frankie Joey Thomas, circa 1920 - Grandfather 'Gossy' Thomas at the rear



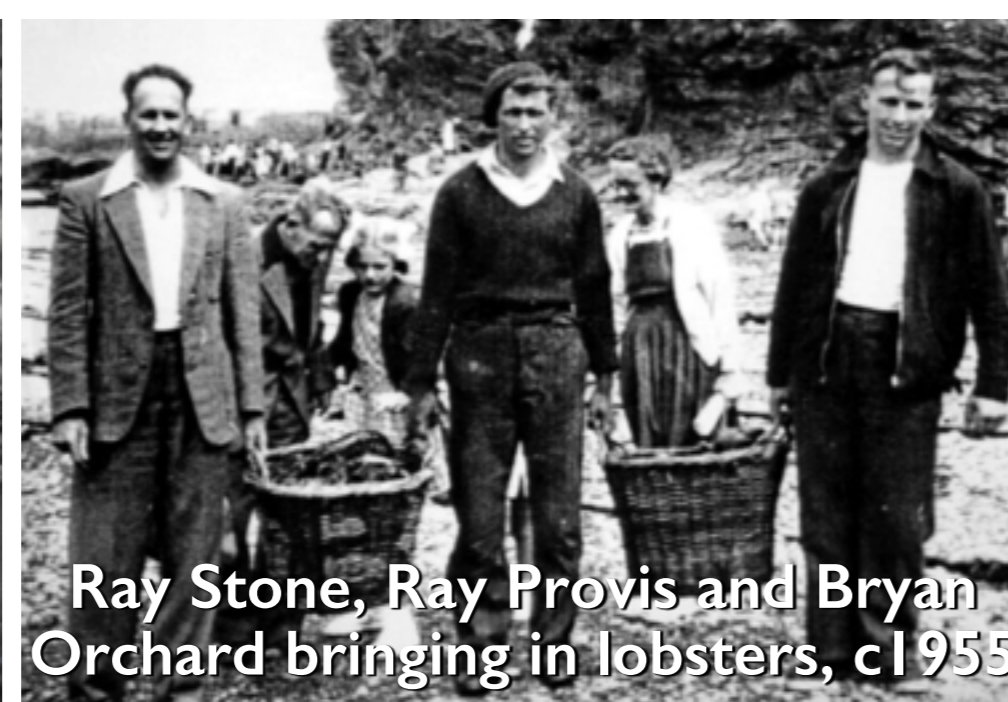
Neville Andrews potting



Calum Greenhalgh coming back from a day at sea



Will Rowe and Harry Hambly bringing in their pots on the Boy Frank



Ray Stone, Ray Provis and Bryan Orchard bringing in lobsters, c1955



Jack and Peter Rowe's 38ft fast potting dory



James May, 'Uncle Jim', "a fine fisherman and gardener" when he was a young man ( pre-1928 as there are no breakwaters) and in his later years



Orcades coming into Port Isaac harbour with young Jim May ( from a long line of fishermen) at the helm

taken from THE REAL VOICES OF PORT ISAAC