

The Brown family, five generations of Port Isaac fishermen



Carveth Brown, b1872



Tom Brown, b1900



Harold Resuggan Brown, b1825 ... and out at sea on his boat Winifred



Tom Brown's boat, Maverick, that he fishes from today, bringing in crab and lobster for the family fish shop, Just Shellfish. Tom is also the Harbourmaster.

Julian remembers ...

Cutting withies in the withy garden in Port Isaac valley with my father, Harold Brown, Raymond Provis and Nibs.

Watching my father making withy pots.

Selling small plaice and dabs around the village for 3d each which my father had caught by trawling.

Helping to gut whiting in the fish cellars caught by trawl

Going to sea on the *Winifred* with my father and Nibs and working pots made from telegraph pole stay wire. Pots were hauled using a winch made from a back axle and a gear box.

Today's wheelhouse has become very sophisticated with equipment that tells you exactly where you are and whether the bottom is hard or soft. We have radar, vhf radios, echo sounders, chart plotters and gps sets. A far cry from my father's early days when he went to sea with a watch and a compass to navigate with!



Julian Brown



and his son Sam



and Sam and John Brown

Tom Brown recalls ...

I was eight years old when I first went out to sea with my Dad. It was on his boat *Nimrod* and I had to listen to him singing all day! I never imagined that this was going to be the life for me. We have had a few family boats and I remember *Lisa Maria* and *Free Spirit*.

It was my dream to be a Moto X Rider so I never thought about becoming a fisherman. But that was not to be (when you have children of your own you suddenly become sensible!) and my Dad persuaded me to try fishing. Actually, the seed must have already been set because I remember when I was younger sneaking onto the boat and catching loads of mackerel.

Being the son of a Fisherman's Friend I am often asked if I sing with my Dad – and yes, we sometimes sing shanties when we're out at sea – but only for a laugh.



Tom and his dad, Jeremy, when they used to fish together from *Free Spirit II*

