

# The Richard and Sarah II

The Richard and Sarah was replaced by the Richard and Sarah II in 1887. She was the same pattern as her predecessor but two feet longer and rowed the same number of oars.

She performed several notable services but none more arduous than her first one on November 7<sup>th</sup> 1890 - *see exhibit 9*

On October 1<sup>st</sup> 1899, the small steamship Lynx of Cardiff began experiencing engine trouble off Hartland. In the strong prevailing ENE wind, and with her engines running intermittently, she tried to make for Padstow. A change of wind put paid to that plan and she was forced to anchor and signal for assistance. The Richard and Sarah II was launched and took off her crew of seven, hoping the boat would be able to ride out the storm. The Lifeboat was left on the beach ready to return the crew later but during the night the Lynx parted her cable and was driven on to the rocks where she became a total wreck.

On November 24<sup>th</sup> 1902 the Port Isaac Lifeboat was launched to help some local fishing boats unable to make shore in a SW gale and heavy ground sea with a low tide. Soon after 10pm the Richard and Sarah went out and stood by while the tide was made. At high water she towed four of the boats in and then helped another two to safe moorings.

During a NNW gale with heavy ground sea on September 11<sup>th</sup> 1903, the French brig L'Union of Auray, bound for Port Talbot with a cargo of pit wood, became waterlogged off Port Isaac and hoisted a distress signal. The Lifeboat was launched and stood by the anchored vessel for some time. However, the weather showed no sign of improving and it was decided to land the crew of six ashore. Two days later the brig was seen to be still riding to her anchors and the weather had moderated and the Captain decided he wanted to try and save his boat. The Lifeboat agreed to take some of the crew back and some of the Lifeboat crew accompanied them on board, helping them to pump and weigh anchor. It was successful and later the vessel, kept afloat by her cargo, was successfully taken into Padstow.

Tragedy struck the Port Isaac fishing fleet on December 9<sup>th</sup> 1904. At 7pm they were returning to harbour heavily laden with their catches when a heavy ground sea overwhelmed one boat and sank her, drowning her crew. The Richard and Sarah II was launched to help bring in the remaining boats.