



Fishing Boats

1.

The 'Nanson' was one of the last Zulu, large 80 foot sail fishing boats of her class in Lewis in the 1930s. 'Bàta na Bodaich', as she was known, came from Ranish, and she was crewed by a team of elderly pensioners known as 'Bodaich Ruadh nan Loch'.

As was customary at that time, a rural housewife came down to the quay and asked an acquaintance if she could have a codling, 'bodach ruadh'. 'No', said her friend, 'I am sorry but that boat', pointing his finger towards the 'Nanson' 'is full of bodaich ruadh'.

Unsuspectingly, the good lady went to the 'Nanson', and asked if she could have a bodach ruadh. The crewman responded at once saying, 'Yes of course, which one do you want?'

2.

The well-known skipper, Calum Macleod, Sandwick Park, Stornoway, 'Calum Dhomhnuill 'an Òg', originally from Cromore, met another skipper friend, Angus Nicolson, one day down by the quay, after the Second World War.

Both of them were well on in years and Angus was astonished when Calum said he was going to get a new purpose built modern fishing boat, and he was going to call it the 'Ivy Rose' after the two steam drifters he used to have, the 'Girl Ivy' and the 'Rose'.

'What!' said Angus in disbelief? 'The only boat you will ever get is one with a number on top'. 'Te leis a number air a mhullach'. He meant a coffin.

However, Calum meant what he saying and he got a new boat and called it 'Ivy Rose'. His son Murdo C. Macleod skippered the boat after him.

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