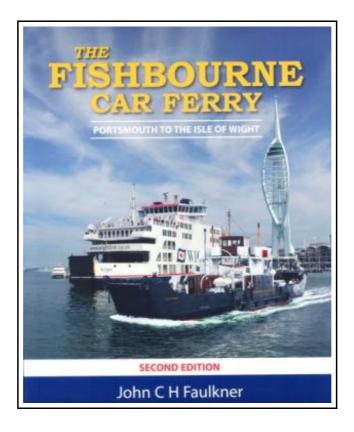
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Colourpoint Books. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Fishbourne Car Ferry: Portsmouth to the Isle of Wight (2nd edition), John Faulkner, Introduction - 15 March 1926 saw the opening of a new six-mile car ferry service between Portsmouth and the Isle of Wight. The Island terminal was situated at the mouth of Wootton Creek, in the tiny village of Fishbourne. Remote from the main Ryde to Newport road, the community comprised little more than a cluster of houses and an inn surrounding a pleasant circular green with a large oak tree at its centre. Today, Fishbourne is the principal gateway to the Isle of Wight; the village, however, is still bereft of a shop and has no other public transport links. The ferry service, which became popularly known as the Fishbourne car ferry by Island residents, remained a secondary route for the first thirty-five years of its life, but since the early 1960s it has grown at a phenomenal rate. As more and more people became car owners so they abandoned the traditional passenger ferries, instead taking their cars with them across the Solent. In the twenty-nine years between 1961 and 1990 the vehicular capacity of the Fishbourne ferry fleet grew by 1000% whilst the capacity of the nearby Portsmouth to Ryde passenger ferry decreased by a corresponding proportion. All of the car ferry routes to the Island have prospered but none more so than the Fishbourne car ferry. This is largely due to the convenience of its location and heavy investment in new tonnage at a time when it was really needed. The Fishbourne ferry's history can be split into three distinct phases. The first began when the Southern Railway transferred the Island terminal of a primitive towboat service from a tidally restrictive berth next to Ryde Pier....

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