**National Award for Bryher Based Fisherman**

Mark Pender from Bryher based ‘Island Fish’ received the award of ‘Shellfish Fisherman of the Year 2016’ at this Year’s Annual Fishing News Awards which took place on the 25th May in Aberdeen. The industry led award ceremony took place at the Tree Top Hilton and was hosted amongst others by Rory Bremner.

Along with 4 other fisherman from around the country Mark had been shortlisted for the Award which was then decided upon by a public vote. Mark, who is Chair of the Isles of Scilly Fisherman’s Association said of this success ‘I am absolutely delighted to have won, I have been fishing for over 30 year and believe strongly in the need to protect the fishery for the next generation, to have been recognised for the work that I and other fisherman in Scilly are doing to achieve this is incredibly satisfying, so a very big thank you to everyone who voted for me, it means a lot.

Leaving the glamour of the awards ceremony behind him Mark was back at work 36 hours later at the first of the two low tide events of the year held on Saturday 27th May between Tresco and Bryher.