

**News release**

24 December 2012

**Shortlist for top Fundraising Shop of the Year Award as part of the National Fish & Chip Awards 2013 announced**

The finalists in the Top Fundraising Shop of the Year Award as part of The National Fish & Chip Awards 2013, sponsored by Seafish, the authority on seafood, have been announced.

Shortlisted shops are: The Quayside, Whitby, The Merchant Fish Bar, Bewdley and Burton Road Fish & Chips, Lincoln. Finalists will now be invited to the glitzy final award ceremony at the prestigious Lancaster London hotel in London on 24 January 2013, where the overall winner will be crowned. This year marks the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the awards, making the event even more special and each award title hotly contested.

The award recognises shops that raised significant funds for fishermen in need as part of the Seafarers UK Fish and Chip Feast event in October 2012. The week-long Fish & Chip Feast event supported by Seafish encouraged fish and chip shops and restaurants across the country to raise money for the welfare of fishermen and other seafarers in need, and their families who have fallen on hard times.

Seafarers UK's Director General Commodore Barry Bryant said: "We are delighted that fish and chip shops supported Seafarers UK by taking part in the Fish & Chip Feast. Fishing communities often face problems and rely on our charity to help them. Every penny raised will go towards helping fishermen and other seafarers who are struggling in very difficult times."

Paul Williams, CEO at competition organisers Seafish, commented: "it's great to see shops taking the time to support initiatives such as the Fish & Chip Feast as they are so important to the fishing industry. It's comforting for those involved in the fishing industry to know that there is support available to them should they encounter any financial difficulties so the work done by Seafarers really is crucial.

"Simply put, it is encouraging to see businesses that are so closely related willing to help and support each other in this way."

**-ENDS-**

**Notes to Editors**

- Interviews and photography with the competition judges or shortlisted shops can be arranged. Please contact Alana/Ewan at 3x1 Public Relations 0141 221 0707.
- This award category is sponsored by Seafarers UK.

- Confirmed sponsors of the National Fish & Chip Awards 2013 Independent Takeaway Fish and Chip Shop of the Year Award category includes – B D Signs, Friars Pride, Henry Colbeck, Norwegian Seafood Council, V A Whitley, AAK, Henry Jones, JFK, Kingfrost.
- Other award sponsors include: Marine Stewardship Council, Carisma Fish, James T Blakeman & Son, Drywite, Frymax, Q Partnership, Isle of Ely Produce, Middleton Food Products, Unique Seafood Ltd., Caterway, Goldensheaf, Amanda Seafoods.
- Supporters of the awards are FASFA, Highland Spring, National Federation of Fish Friers, NEODA, Triple F Chips, Seafarers UK, Vandemoortele, KFE School of Frying, Easy Liners, Russums, Larrys Fishcakes, Sepamatic, Abex and the Responsible Fishing Scheme.
- Seafish, the authority on seafood, was founded in 1981 by an act of parliament and supports the UK seafood industry for a sustainable, profitable future. Our services range from research and development, economic consulting, market research and training and accreditation through to account management and legislative advice for the seafood industry. [www.seafish.org](http://www.seafish.org)