

Money available for South Devon Fishing Businesses

2 businesses have been awarded money by the new South Devon Fishing Industry Development Fund. There is still a large pot of money available and the DR Company, who runs it, is looking for other people hoping to invest in fishing activity to come forward. Money is available for people between Plymouth and Brixham wanting to start or develop a business to do with the fishing industry.

Mary Roberts, the first recipient of money from the fund, set up Everam Fish and Shellfish in East Prawle near Kingsbridge. Her business provides an important link between local fishermen and local restaurants and caterers. She only supplies sustainably caught fish, caught on the day of sale with few miles between sea and plate. Mary identified an opportunity to grow her business by offering fileted as well as whole fish to her customers. Mary was granted £2,500 towards the cost of £5,000 to create a new fish processing room. Mary Roberts said "The South Devon Fishing Industry Development grant has greatly aided the progression of my business, enabling me to provide the best quality products to businesses in our local area." To find out more about Mary's business go to www.everam.co.uk

Anthony Heinemann, another recipient, is retiring from the navy after 22 years to set up a new sustainable rod and line fishing business based in Plymouth. Anthony was granted 50% of the cost of a line hauler and other fishing equipment for his boat the Sally Rose. He catches a variety of fish which is auctioned by Plymouth trawler agents on a daily basis. The money has helped to create a new fishing business and a new job for Anthony. Anthony said "I found that any funding is very hard to come by, especially for the fishing industry. When I found out about the South Devon Fishing Industry Development Fund I jumped at the opportunity and was very pleased when I was successful in my application."

If you are looking to start or grow a business to do with the fishing industry in South Devon please contact Anne Sherman at the DR Company on 01837 658643 or sdfish@drcompany.co.uk Pots of money between £500 and £5,000 are available for up to 50% of the cost. Getting your hands on the money is straightforward and free business advice is available to help you to develop your business idea and apply.

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