

# FISHING NEWS

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## THREAT OF MPA FISHING BAN

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### NI crew initiative

**P**ICTURED IN KILKEEL harbour last week, before unseasonal wind and rain swept in, are Sahaya Subash and Redemer 'Chapper' Torres, both employed on the prawn trawler Northern Osprey, Sahaya since 2022 and Chapper since 2018.

Talking to FN, both confirmed the positivity in the picture. Chapper, who has been a fisherman since he was 17, said: "I've been on Northern Osprey for six years, my only UK vessel. I am very happy here – the boat is safe, the job's good, and we have no complaint."

Sahaya added: "I am going home to my family in India for three months over the winter, but hope to return with my brother to work on the Osprey as well – I have told him what a great job I have here."

This picture is one of a number of photos of smiling international crew posted by Leslie Campbell, who has documented the Kilkeel fishing fleet for a number of years, in response to last week's BBC Scotland programme on alleged abuse of foreign crew in



▲ Fishermen Sahaya Subash (left) and Redemer 'Chapper' Torres in Kilkeel. (Photo: Leslie Campbell)

the TN Trawlers fleet. In the same week, two Northern Irish POs unveiled a

new initiative to enhance the welfare of foreign crew. Continues on page 5

### Skipjack reaches North Sea



▲ Whitstable fisherman Chris Attenborough caught these two skipjack tuna when netting for mullet last week. They are not his first skipjack – the first turned up in his catches last summer. The fish were caught in the same area that last year saw a UK record seawater temperature of 21°C. The latest fish were sold by Chapman's Fish to local restaurant Rye Sushi, which had already started serving the prepared tuna by the time FN tracked them down! The unprecedented spread of warm-water species such as tuna, bass, black bream and red mullet continues, and last week Seafish issued an updated report on the impacts of climate change on the UK industry. Turn to page 7 for more details, as well as a call from Cornish skipper David Stevens for managers to factor in warming seas and changing fish distribution when developing quota management rules and renegotiating the TCA.



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