



# 55th Annual Conference

Shellfish Association of Great Britain

#SAGB55



# Young Aquaculture Society

Cultivating success together

*SAGB 2025*







# The 'whos' and 'whats'

A collaborative free to join network which connects young people with an interest in the UK aquaculture industry.

Its purpose is to facilitate communication and offer a **support** and **social network**.

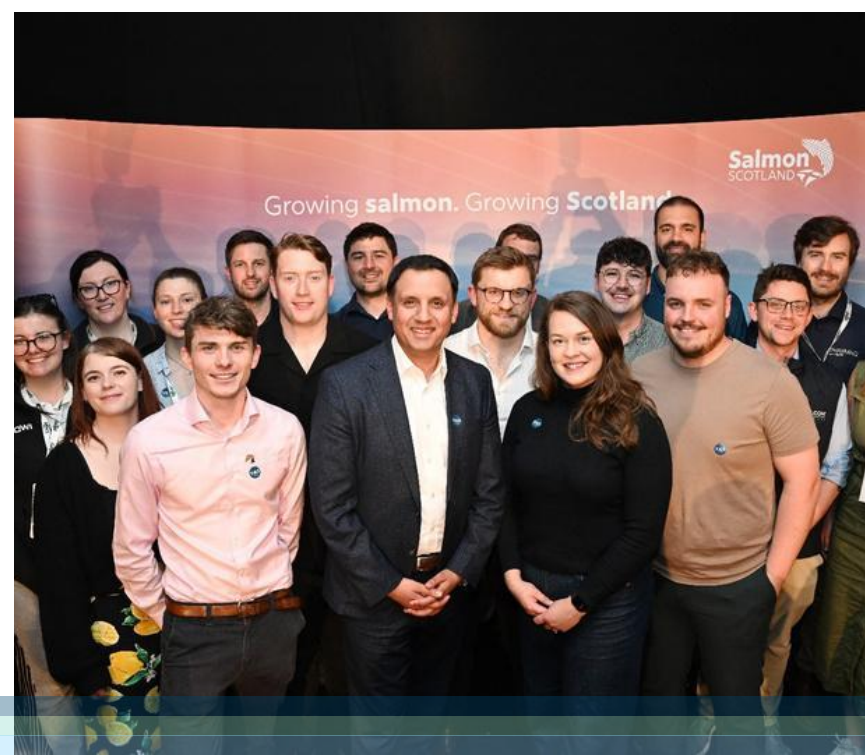
We provide a platform for young people to **display their potential** or to hear about opportunities for career or personal **development** within the industry.





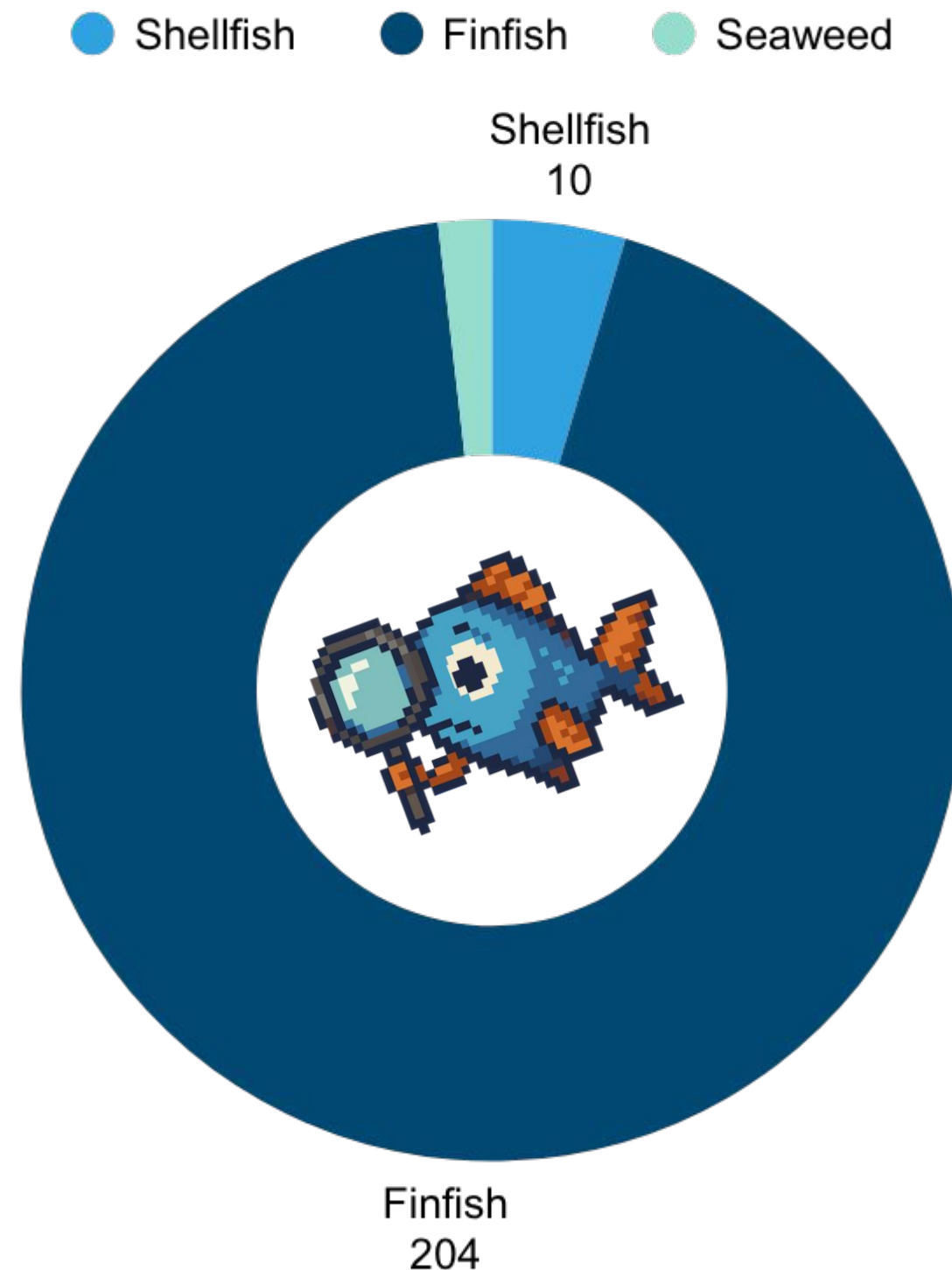


# Cultivating Success Together





# Where are the shellfish people?



Number of UK-based YAS members  
across the sectors (May 2025)

- 218 UK-based members (321 total)
- A handful of MSc students considering shellfish or currently working on shellfish-focused projects
- Most are in academia, working on time-limited research projects

Feedback from the members:

- Shellfish roles are out there — but the pathways in are blurry
- Many join by chance, not by design





# Early-Career Challenges

## **The path in isn't always visible**

*"I took aquaculture modules — not once was bivalve farming even mentioned."*

## **Disconnect between research and real-world relevance**

*"I want my research to matter to farmers — but I don't always know if it does."*

## **Mismatch between what's taught and what's needed**

*"I left uni with a degree, but still wasn't equipped for entry-level hatchery or production roles."*

## **Practical barriers matter too**

*"Places to stay is definitely the main factor deterring young people."*





# What Comes Next?

18 successful events to date; majority lean toward the finfish side. *But it doesn't have to stay that way.*

**We want to grow our shellfish engagement — but we need your help.**

What does that look like?

- Site visits.
- Webinars and workshops.
- Creating chances to shadow, ask questions, and just see what the work looks like.
- Opportunities to connect — not just with one another, but with those already in the industry.



**We're not just the future of the shellfish sector — we're already here. Let's grow it together.**







# Cultivating Success — Together

Young people want to work in shellfish — let's make it easier for them to find their way in.

Representation matters. So does visibility, mentorship, and access.

YAS is here to support the next generation. But we can't do it alone.

**Want to help? Let's talk.**









Let's make waves

**YAS**



Website



LinkedIn



Connect with us:

 [young.aqua.soc@gmail.com](mailto:young.aqua.soc@gmail.com)

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