



Thank you for your support



ASF Journal: Spring 2026

andrewsimpsonfoundation.org

Building on a legacy, shaping the future

Dear friends and supporters,

On behalf of the Trustees and team, I want to thank you for the belief and energy you bring to the Andrew Simpson Foundation. Your support turns ambition into action and makes real change possible.

For me, ASF is deeply personal. Iain and I knew Andrew not just as a teammate but as someone whose courage, curiosity, and drive continue to inspire everything we do. His vision was simple but powerful: open the water to those who might never otherwise experience it and use sailing and watersports to build a sense of community, wellbeing and employment opportunity.

2025 was another year where that vision came alive. Thousands of young people took part in our programmes, and together, we witnessed the quiet transformations that happen when opportunity meets support, confidence growing, horizons widening, and futures reshaped.

What this reminds me every day is that success is never a solo journey. Just as Andrew, Iain and I achieved more together on the water, the impact we create through ASF is only possible because of friends, supporters, and partners like you.

Thank you for standing alongside us.



Sir Ben Ainslie CBE
Co-Founder & Trustee, Andrew Simpson Foundation

The impact we're making thanks to your support

Thank you

Your commitment makes all of this possible.

Every hour, every donation, and every partnership brings our vision closer to reality, creating **brighter futures, stronger communities**, and a **deeper connection** to our environment.

Since the ASF was founded in 2013...

250,000
young people
supported

£20 million
invested in charitable
activity

£87 million
generated in social
value

We are delivering impact across our four core pillars...

Enabling active
participation

Developing
skills & personal
pathways

Building
connected
communities

Championing
environmental
engagement

See our impact across our pillars on page 8

We support individuals in a wide range of communities including:

- Individuals from lower socio-economic backgrounds
- People living with disabilities
- Neurodivergent adults and young people
- Faith groups
- Naval communities
- Women and girls
- Older adults
- Those with hidden barriers to access

Read stories of incredible impact on page 10

2025: Deepening impact in our communities

At the Andrew Simpson Foundation, we create life-changing journeys, shaping young lives, strengthening communities and transforming futures.

Our objective is to advance the education, development and improvement of young people through programmes that build skills, confidence and capability, enabling them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible citizens.

Underpinned by our ethos of **access for all**, our work is guided by four impact pillars: **Enabling Active Participation, Developing Skills and Personal Pathways, Building Connected Communities**, and **Championing Environmental Engagement**. Together, these pillars ensure more young people can participate, progress, connect and take positive action for their communities and environments.

2025 was a year of strong delivery, learning and strategic focus for ASF. We concentrated on deepening impact in priority communities while piloting new approaches that respond to evolving needs particularly around wellbeing, sustainability, and early engagement with skills and careers. Our focus has been on **growing reach, stronger inclusion and meaningful change**, while maintaining the warmth and inspiration at the heart of everything we do in our communities.

We have also strengthened collaboration across the wider ASF group, working closely with Sail Training Trust and Horizons Plymouth to share expertise, volunteers and pathways for young people, helping move from one-off experiences to long-term positive change.

Our approach

We don't just deliver programmes, we design inclusive pathways to learning, opportunity, and long-term impact.

Led by evidence

We deliver evidence-led community action, rooted in youth development, health, and employability outcomes.

In partnership

Our collaborative programmes are partnership-driven, with schools, youth services, and other community organisations.

Across the UK

We have a national network of delivery centres and trusted collaborators to provide national, regional and hyper-local support.

Through every stage

We're here to support the whole journey, with long-term commitment to participants, from first sail to first job and beyond.

We are proud to work as one united family



6 not-for-profit centres

16 partner centres

Extensive partnership network

Funding for long-term impact

As a registered charity operating entirely without government funding, the Andrew Simpson Foundation depends on the generosity, expertise, and passion of our supporters.

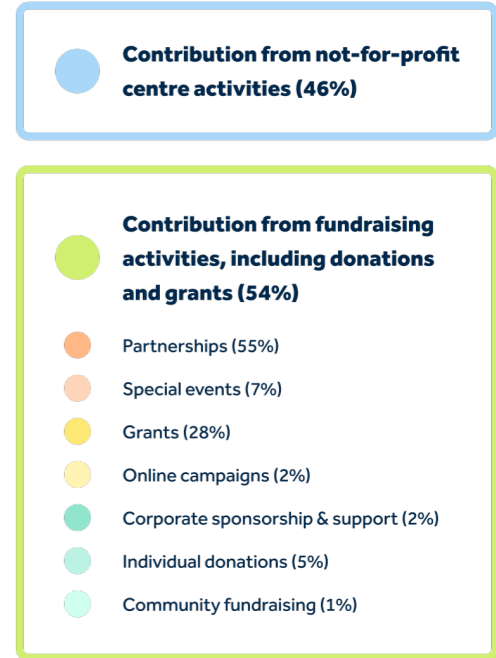
Every grant, donation, partnership, and act of engagement contributed, fuels our work, opening doors, creating opportunities, and transforming lives for young people across the UK.

We are proud to work as one united family; the Foundation, our six not-for-profit delivery centres, sixteen partner centres, and our network of corporate, community and charity partners, all connected by a shared mission. Your support makes this collaboration possible. Whether you provide funding, guidance, mentorship, or simply champion our work, you are helping to turn ambition into achievement, and potential into impact.

Thank you for being part of our journey. Thanks to you, communities are strengthened as young people and adults gain access to new experiences, skills development, and future opportunities.

The vision of the Andrew Simpson Foundation continues to grow; together, we are creating a legacy that lasts.

How we raised money during 2025:



Our sustainable funding model:



Andrew Simpson Centres
Surplus profit from our not-for-profit centres is reinvested directly into charitable programmes, youth education, and support for local communities.

Andrew Simpson Foundation
Through donations and grants, funds are reinvested to deliver life-changing programmes for young people and communities.

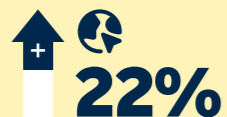
Enabling active participation

Creating sustainable patterns of activity by increasing physical participation, active wellbeing and regular engagement through schools, groups and community partners.

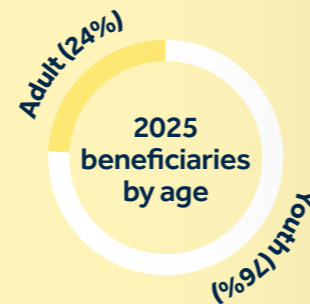
Your support is transforming lives through sailing and watersports, enabling young people and adults to thrive.

2025 impact:


57,222
beneficiaries engaged


22%
growth in reach, year on year

300+
schools, youth organisations and community partners engaged



Your funding helps to provide equipment, and resources to ensure accessibility and wellbeing for all.

Developing skills & personal pathways

Expanding skills development, training routes and recognised qualifications, from SEND and alternative provision to instructor training, performance pathways and maritime careers.


Programmes help participants gain life skills, qualifications, and real career opportunities.

2025 impact:


5,000+
qualifications awarded during 2025

110
weeks of work experience delivered across our Centres




of young people experienced increased **confidence, resilience and aspiration**

Your funding helps to deliver **structured learning, mentorship, and accredited training** to open educational and career pathways to thrive.

Building connected communities

Ensuring access for all by deepening inclusion, bringing groups together and strengthening community identity through safe, shared experiences in green and blue spaces.

We create inclusive, safe spaces where participants feel they can belong and progress.

2025 impact:

300+
community partners engaged

70+
volunteers supporting delivery

Support enables programmes that **strengthen social connections, community wellbeing, and long-term impact**



Your funding could help provide **more accessible opportunities** to the wider community.


Championing environmental engagement


Championing programmes that support environmental learning, conservation, citizen science and the creation of sustainable, climate-aware coastal places.

Participants learn to respect and care for natural environments.

2025 impact:

350
young participants engaged in sustainability sessions


Environmental sustainability embedded across all programmes


Aligned with **national curriculum** frameworks

Your funding could provide opportunities for **subsidised education and resources**.

Why this matters

Your support helps us to create **equity of access, evolve long-term youth development outcomes, create place-based community programmes and enable successful employment pathways**, all whilst fostering a lasting love for the **water** and their **environment**.

Stories of change

Behind every statistic is a young person with a story.

Organisations, teachers, youth workers, parents, and programme participants themselves tell us about changes they see beyond the water; improved attendance, confidence in communication, and a greater willingness to try new challenges.

These stories remind us that our impact supports progression into sailing or maritime careers, but also equips young people with a wider skillset and belief in themselves so they can take positive action for their communities and environments.

“

These sessions allow our students to leave their anxieties behind for a while. Their **confidence, communication** and **resilience** grows every week.

Dorchester Learning Centre



“

Students now talk seriously about **maritime careers, instructing** and **STEM pathways**. they've found something they're good at and passionate about..

Teacher

“

They come alive when they are down here... Their **confidence soars** and it transfers straight back into the classroom.

Headteacher



“

Before starting here, his mental health was at breaking point. Now he is **confident, independent** and **proud** of what he can do.

Parent, Portsmouth



“

My daughter is profoundly deaf, and the staff made her feel really comfortable - this is the most **inclusive programme** we've ever experienced.

Parent, Portland

Celebrating our innovative programmes

As we reflect on the past year, we are incredibly grateful to our donors, funders, partners, volunteers and supporters for helping us to ensure we can deliver subsidised programmes to enable access for all and focus our support where it is needed the most.

Your generosity has helped young people, families, and communities across the UK to experience the transformative power of green and blue spaces.

Together, the Andrew Simpson Foundation, Sail Training Trust, Horizons Plymouth and significant partners including Greenwich Hospital and RNSA, have created and delivered programmes that build confidence, improve skills, encourage leadership, and ensure wellbeing, all whilst inspiring a lifelong love of sailing, adventure, and environmental stewardship.



Youth Crew

RNSA Youth Crew; Supporting children aged 10-17 from Royal Navy, Royal Marines and Royal Fleet Auxiliary families across the UK.



Go Sailing

Providing partners of serving personnel with accessible entry-level sail training to help reduce social isolation, and support community cohesion among naval families.



Swim Free

Enabling children from Royal Navy, Royal Marines and Royal Fleet Auxiliary families to gain essential water confidence and swimming skills.

These programmes are delivered in partnership with **Greenwich Hospital** and the **Royal Naval Sailing Association**



Sea Change

Supporting trauma experienced women, through time on the water, yoga and breathwork, to improve wellbeing, personal development and skills for employment pathways.



Discover Sailing

Providing barrier free access to sailing for all, inspiring young people to become more active, develop skills and connect with their local community.



Aiming High

Creating an environment for young people living with a learning and/or physical disability, to boost their sense of self-worth, manage their emotions and progress their personal development.



Sustainability & Ocean Education

Combining environmental awareness with practical maritime learning in line with the national curriculum, to help young people play an active role in protecting our green and blue spaces.



Multi Activity Leadership Programme

Working with local employers to equip young adults with practical and personal skills, real life experience and qualifications, to create long term employment prospects and career opportunities.



Mariners Club

Delivering year-round support and training for STT programme participants past and present, to retain connection and continue developing their skillsets in a safe environment.

Looking Ahead to 2026

Thanks to your support, we are **expanding our reach and impact in 2026** with new initiatives, enhanced education modules, and more opportunities for underrepresented communities to experience the transformative power of sailing, watersports and the environment.

Responding to ever increasing need, we will be working hard to include more beneficiaries on our programmes, whilst continuing our mission to **inspire, challenge and empower** the next generation.

Thank you for your engagement

Our supporters are at the heart of everything we do.

In 2025, your generosity, expertise, and enthusiasm helped us reach more young people, expand our programmes, and create unforgettable experiences both on and off the water.

Every donation, every hour of your time, and every connection you make with our community directly fuels our mission. From mentoring young sailors to championing performance pathways, your involvement has transformed lives and strengthened the Foundation's impact.

We hosted and participated in many events throughout the year, giving you the chance to see the difference you make first-hand. These moments are more than just experiences, they are opportunities to inspire, share knowledge, and build lasting partnerships that empower the next generation.

We invite you to continue this journey with us in 2026, whether on the water, at events, or by sharing your expertise and networks. Your engagement is what turns our vision into reality.



Key dates for your diary

We would be delighted to welcome you at the following events:

- 11 MAR** Sail Training Trust Careers Fair
ASC Portsmouth
- 15-17 MAY** ProAm Palma Regatta hosted by Merrick Rayner & Nick Lykiardopulo
Palma, Mallorca
- 6 JUN** Portsmouth Centenary event
ASC Portsmouth
- 10 JUL** Sail Training Trust End of Season Regatta
Portsmouth
- 24-27 JUL** Portsmouth SailGP Engagement Events
Portsmouth
- 3 AUG** Trinity House Cowes Week Engagement Event
Cowes, Isle of Wight
- 7-9 AUG** Cowes 200 Regatta with Herbosch-Kiere
Cowes, Isle of Wight
- 12-13 SEP** Bart's Bash
UK & Global Locations
- 15-16 SEP** Silicon Cup
Cowes, Isle of Wight
- 19-20 OCT** Port 2 Port Cycle Race with Herbosch-Kiere
Southampton to Dover, via ASC Portsmouth
- 10 DEC** Andrew Simpson Foundation Gala Dinner
London

Further details and invitations for these and other events will be shared in due course.

**From all of us at the
Andrew Simpson Foundation,**
thank you.

Your support not only drives our mission forward,
it inspires every young person we reach, every volunteer
we engage, and every partner we collaborate with.
We look forward to sharing another extraordinary
year of impact with you in 2026.



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