



BritishSpanishSociety

IMPACT
REPORT
2023

www.britishspanishsociety.org

About the BritishSpanish Society

The BritishSpanish Society's history dates back to 1916 when it was formed as the Anglo-Spanish Society. Founded by a group of British academics, students and businessmen, the aim of the Society in its early days was to forge social, cultural and trade friendships with Spain. Whilst the world (and the name of the Society) may have changed significantly in the 100+ years of the Society its core values remain consistent.

In 2008 a new dimension, building on the academic foundations of the Society, was introduced and the Society started a scholarship programme to support talented post-graduates with their research projects. In its 16-year history the scholarship programme has awarded over 100 scholarships and provided over £825,000 in financial support. The programme has also provided networking opportunities for business leaders and scholarship winners leading to exciting partnerships and events.

The Society funds its charitable mission through its cultural and social programme of events, providing a varied calendar of 'puntos de encuentro' for its members and business opportunities for its supporters.



info@britishspanishsociety.org

Message from the Chair



Jimmy Burns Marañón OBE

Our events programme creates 'puntos de encuentro', or meeting points where we learn about the best of each other's cultures and build friendships.

Dear members, partners and patrons,

I am delighted to share with you the BritishSpanish Society's annual Impact Report, which details our activity for 2023.

Your continuing support allows us to develop our charity's mission of building bridges of cultural and educational dialogue and understanding between the peoples of the UK and Spain. It enables us to continue and augment investment in our scholarship programme, now in its 17th year, which identifies and encourages talented young British and Spanish post-graduate researchers.

The programme, the 'beating heart' of our charity's mission, strengthens institutional links between the UK and Spain, and sponsors research in leading UK and Spanish universities. To date we have supported over 100 postgraduates from both countries, sponsoring research in fields as diverse as medicine, urban planning, engineering, linguistics, literature, law, physics, environment protection, and music.

The sustainability of the programme depends on the continuing support of our corporate sponsors, but also critically on donations from members and patrons.

Message from the Chair cont...

We continue to pursue tirelessly our strategy of engagement and enlightenment through a diverse events programme in both countries, creating 'puntos de encuentro', or meeting points where we learn about the best of each other's cultures and build friendships.

Our events calendar includes talks, arts tours, wine tastings, and social gatherings including those at the Spanish embassy in London, and the British embassy in Madrid, courtesy of the ambassadors, our honorary president and honorary vice-president.

Another area of our activity is the publication of our flagship magazine La Revista, published three times per year, and distributed to our members, and partners in the UK and Spain. With informative news about our activities, the magazine offers a varied selection of interviews and articles with editorial content ranging from arts, literature and sport to music, food and travel, all written by our expert contributors in both English and Spanish.

We continue to develop our communications, via our website, social media, and emailed newsletter and announcements, keeping our members and friends

informed of our activities and providing platforms for our sponsors.

Our membership in both continues to grow through word of mouth and introduction at our events, helping to develop a diverse and vibrant multi-cultural community. We would encourage you to keep introducing your friends, colleagues and acquaintances to the Society and assist us in growing your Society.

As we look back on another successful year we note that none of this would be possible without you. So, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, and our scholars, a huge GRACIAS for your commitment, and continued support for our work and mission.

With my very best wishes,
un abrazo

**Jimmy Burns Marañón OBE
(Chairman)**

Our Trustees

Our Trustees provide invaluable support, knowledge and expertise to ensure the smooth running of the charity and keep its charitable mission and vision at the forefront of all of our activities.



Jimmy Burns-Marañon

Chairman



Dame Mary Marsh

Vice Chair



Michael Morley

Vice Chair



Juan Reid Mascarell
Treasurer



Cristina Álvarez-Campana



Amy Bell



Dr Marina Pérez de Arcos



Andrew Clark



Brian Douglas



Justin Ellis



Roger Golland OBE



Dr Mike Short CBE



Anna Swinfield

Our 2023 scholarship programme

The 2023 Scholarship ceremony took place at the Spanish Embassy in Belgrave Square, London, hosted by Spanish ambassador José Pascual Marco Martínez.

As in previous years we received applications from a large number of exceptional candidates with wide ranging projects. Our winning scholars presented a brief overview of their projects and their anticipated impact, taking questions from Trustee Mike Short. Seven Scholarships totalling £63,000, and supported by BBVA, Fundación Cañada Blanch, Cuatrecasas, Plastic Energy and Santander Universities, were awarded to the winning scholars.

We were delighted to welcome back 2022 scholarship winner Rebeca Nuez Suarez who performed a short recital to end the ceremony.

2023's year's winning scholars were:



Winner: Carlos Menéndez Vicente

Project: Effects of Scour on the Foundation of Offshore Wind Turbines.

Award presented by the BritishSpanish Society and Plastic Energy.



Winner: Tobias Fernández Borkel

Project: Dystonia in Pianists.

Award presented by the BritishSpanish Society and Fundación Cañada Blanch.



Winner: Elena García-Guerrero

Project: The influence of L2 instructed exposure in bilinguals' L1: Relative clause attachment preferences in L1 Spanish-L2 English bilinguals

Award presented by the BritishSpanish Society and Santander Universities.



Winner: Ángel Martín Bastida

Project: Learning the technique of in Vitro culture of human embryos up to post-implantation stages and development of new techniques for the study of aneuploidy

Award presented by the BritishSpanish Society and Santander Universities.



Winner: María Magdalena Sánchez Moreno

Project: A Cultural Citizen is Born: Equity, Inclusion and Access to Public Cultural Programming

Award presented by the BritishSpanish Society and BBVA.



Winner: Virginia Ballesteros Kisielewska

Project: Comparative Study of Education and Labor Market Policies and their Impact on Youth Unemployment in the United Kingdom and Spain

Award presented by the BritishSpanish Society and Cuatrecasas.



Winner: Laura Casas Cambra

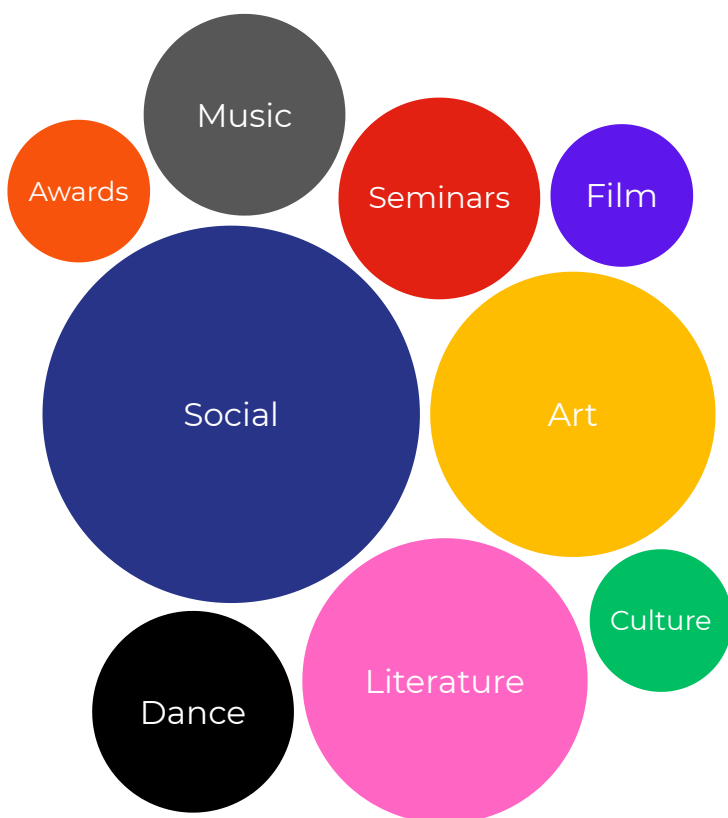
Project: Interwar Women Composers: Sound Connections between Britain and Spain

Award presented by the BritishSpanish Society

Our Events

Throughout 2023 the events team created and delivered an exciting calendar of events in Britain and Spain.

With visits to art galleries, theatres, cultural excursions, wine tasting, summer and autumn social receptions, lectures, seminars and 'in conversation' events from scholars and experts in the fields of art, sport and history, and the annual autumn concert there was something for everyone to enjoy.



Cultural

Our Annual Autumn concert, held in 2023 at St James's Piccadilly showcased the music of former scholars and friends.

The concert featured performances concert Director of Music Nicole Crespo O'Donogue, our 2013 BBVA/BritishSpanish Society Scholarship winner, 2016 winner Lucía Veintimilla Macian and 2020 Sabadell/BritishSpanish Society Scholarship winner Laura Peribañez Arturo.

Social

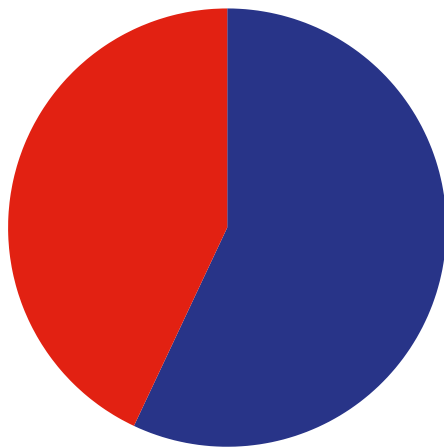
Our busy social calendar featured:

- a Burns night supper
- wine tasting
- summer reception at the Ambassador's residence in London
- autumn reception at the Ambassador's residence in Madrid
- Christmas party

Our members

Our members are the Society. Members share a common desire to promote and celebrate Spanish culture in the UK and British culture in Spain.

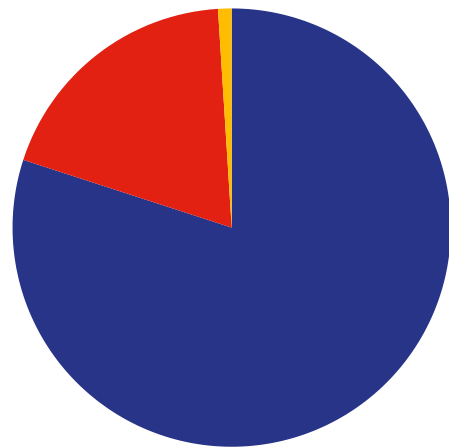
Member's nationality



UK

Spain

Where our members live



UK

Spain

Other



Growing our membership

2023

+131

2022

+143

2021

+83

2020

+78



Our finances

Our work is funded by corporate sponsorship, membership fees, income from events and donations. Other than our running costs all our funds are spent on our scholarship programme, running events and publishing La Revista.

Where our funds come from



Sponsorship

Scholarship grants

Events

Membership

Donations

Other

How we spend them



Events

Scholarships

Staffing

La Revista

Other



THANK YOU

Our aim each year is to build on the success of the previous year, providing 'puntos de encuentro' for our members in both Britain and Spain which explore and celebrate British and Spanish culture.

Each sponsorship, membership, donation and event attended contribute towards the funds required to deliver our scholarship programme.

Thank you to each and every one of you for supporting the Society and making it a warm and inviting place where new connections and friends are made.

Thank you also to the businesses who supported us in 2023. A special mention must go to the main supporters of our scholarship programme, our Principal Supporters:



Cañada Blanch
FUNDACIÓN



CUATRECASAS



PLASTIC[™]
ENERGY

World leader in chemical recycling



Santander
Universities

We also note our thanks to our patrons, corporate supporters and both our honorary presidents, British Ambassador Hugh Elliott and Spanish Ambassador José Pascual Marco Martínez. for their unwavering support and contribution to the success of the BritishSpanish Society.

