



BritishSpanishSociety

IMPACT **REPORT** **2024**

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 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, building on the academic foundations of the Society, the Scholarship Programme was launched to support talented post-graduates with their research projects. To date the scholarship programme has awarded over 100 scholarships and almost £1million in financial support. The programme has also created networking opportunities for business leaders and scholarship winners, leading to exciting partnerships and events.

The Society funds its charitable mission through sponsorships, memberships and its vibrant cultural and social programme of events.



info@britishspanishsociety.org

Message from our Chair



Welcome to our annual Impact Report, which describes and celebrates the activities of the BritishSpanish Society over the past year.

Our charitable mission is clear: to promote friendship and understanding between the peoples of Britain and Spain. Our members, partners, patrons, and the merely curious, reading about the BSS for the first time, are living examples of the affection, curiosity and passion with which this mission has been pursued throughout the year.

Whether you participate actively in the events described here, you support them financially, or simply enjoy reading about them in our regular magazine *La Revista*, your support is hugely appreciated by all involved and is absolutely vital.

The scholarship programme is our primary charitable activity, strengthening institutional links between the UK and Spain by sponsoring research at universities in both countries. Many talented postgraduates compete for these awards and they make truly inspiring presentations on their specialist subjects. Those who sponsor these scholarships know that every penny of their commitment goes straight to the scholarship, making this one of the most impactful ways to deploy precious funds.

We enjoy the kind support of the Spanish embassy to the UK and the British embassy to Spain. Their support enriches our vibrant social and cultural events calendar, where friendship, understanding and mutual respect flourish.

Our magazine *La Revista* does much more than catalogue these events; in each issue it explores a range of intellectual and cultural aspects of each of our two nations. Each issue is much treasured by our members and partners.

Our membership numbers are growing healthily in both countries, but we know that there are many others who would be keen to join if they heard about us. Please consider introducing your colleagues, family, friends and acquaintances, so that we can have even more impact in the coming year.

On behalf of our board of trustees, thank you, dear members, partners, patrons and friends, for your continued support and commitment.

With best wishes and abrazos.

Anthony

**Sir Anthony Cooke-Yarborough
Chair**

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.



Sir Anthony Cooke-Yarborough

Chair - from November 2024



Dame Mary Marsh

Vice Chair - UK



Michael Morley

Vice Chair - Spain



Jimmy Burns Marañón OBE

Chairman until November 2024



Amy Bell



Andrew Clark



Roger Golland OBE



José Olivares Paret



Dr Marina Pérez de Arcos



Cristina Álvarez-Campana



Brian Douglas



José Ivars López



Juan Reid Mascarell



Dr Mike Short CBE

Our 2024 scholarship programme

The 2024 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 Roger Golland. Six Scholarships totalling £54,000, and supported by BBVA, Fundación Cañada Blanch, Plastic Energy and Santander Universities, were awarded to the winning scholars.

Fundación Cañada Blanch scholarship winner Lidia Moscoso Bern and 'The Nuada Quintet' delighted attendees with a musical arrangement of 'I Feel Pretty' and 'Tonight' from West Side Story

Congratulations to our 2024 winning scholars:



Winner: Luke Lanskey

Project: A comparative study of the role of demographic change on the public finances of the UK and Spain

Award presented by the BritishSpanish Society and BBVA.



Winner: Lidia Moscoso Bernal

Project: Accessing Classical Music from a Young Age

Award presented by the BritishSpanish Society and Fundación Cañada Blanch.



Winner: Álvaro Doblado Onieva

Project: Environmental water detection and/or decontamination of pharmaceuticals, pesticides and heavy metals, Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CEC)

Award presented by the BritishSpanish Society and Plastic Energy.



Winner: Elliot Jordan

Project: Martial Culture and Military Service in Spanish and English Armies, c.1511-1604

Award presented by the BritishSpanish Society and Santander Universities.



Winner: Cristina Rodríguez-Osorio Puigdueta

Project: Understanding the developmental programming of stress-regulating neurons

Award presented by the BritishSpanish Society and Santander Universities.



Winner: Carmen Villa

Project: Public policy and youth development

Award presented by the BritishSpanish Society.

Our Events

The 2024 event calendar offered opportunities for our members to meet and share cultural experiences in both Britain and Spain. We enjoyed gastronomic exploration through a range of tastings and restaurant visits, alongside cultural visits to galleries and theatres, lectures, panels, and social occasions.

January

Burns Night supper
Cava Tasting

March

Cheese and wine tasting

April

Paco Peña
National Gallery visit

May

Whisky Tasting
Dinner Club

June

Ballet Nacional
Summer reception

July

Post election Britain panel
Dinner Club

September

Churchill's Spaniards book presentation
Pub social

October

Wine tasting
Annual Lecture with William Chislett
Autumn reception

November

Autumn Concert

December

Spain Business Diversity panel
Christmas party

Cultural

Our 2024 Autumn concert, held at Holy Trinity Sloane Square showcased the music and exceptional talents of members of our alumni and friends.

The concert, compiled by Director of Music Dr Nicole Crespo O'Donogue (2013 BBVA/BritishSpanish Society Scholarship winner), included performances from alumni members Laura Casas Cambra (2023) and Pablo Tejedor Gutiérrez (2021).

The concert again received generous support from the Embassy of Spain in London and its Office for Cultural and Scientific Affairs, and from law firm Pérez Llorca.

Sponsorships

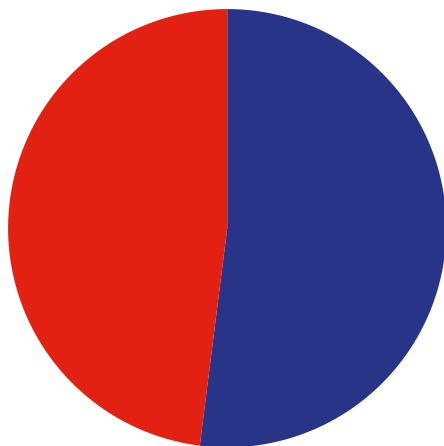
In 2024 we were thankful for the support of all our institutional and corporate partners, including our Gold, Silver and Bronze sponsors: Codorníu, MahouSanMiguel, A&O Shearman, GómezAcebo & Pombo, Fielden, Runnymede College, Stonyhurst, Hispania & FairValue Capital.

We were also grateful to the many businesses who supported our events and our raffles.

Our members

Many of our members lead or hold senior positions in British or Spanish institutions, businesses or cultural organisations. Most of our members have lived, worked or spent significant time in both Britain and Spain. The majority speak or are learning both languages. All share a desire to explore and experience British and Spanish culture together.

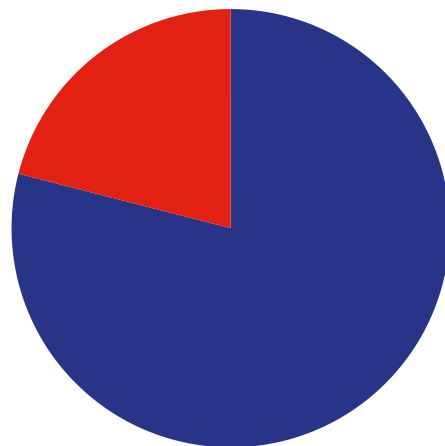
Member's nationality



UK

Spain

Where our members live



UK

Spain

Growing our membership

2024

+163

2023

+131

2022

+143



La Revista

Three editions of the Society's bi-lingual magazine La Revista were again published in 2024 under the stewardship of editor Jimmy Burns Marañón. Aside from Society news and event coverage the magazine carried incisive, engaging and illuminating articles on a wide variety of subjects of interest to our unique BritishSpanish community.

In 2024 we met more members through the 'punto de encuentro' section and enjoyed contributions from regular and guest writers on subjects as diverse as Bruce Springsteen to disconnecting and embracing the natural world, El Retiro to Greenland, and sustainable whisky to still wines.



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, hosting 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 contributes towards the funds required to successfully 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 to all the organisations which supported us in 2024. A special mention must go to the main supporters of our scholarship programme, our Principal Supporters:



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

