

BBF Quarterly Newsletter – Spring 2018

Welcome to our first quarterly newsletter, an occasion to sit back and discover everything the British Benevolent Fund (BBF) has been working on over the previous three months. We would be delighted to receive your feedback, comments and encouragement. Most of all, don't forget to share this bulletin with others. Thank you for caring!

New logo



We are delighted to present our new logo, designed by Victoria Silva Mora, a member of our Marketing team. This re-design, based upon the original, is called "evolution" and clearly indicates our message and vision. Containing the Union Jack, a Miró-style asterisk with a yellow shape evoking Spanish sunshine, it neatly brings to mind our British mission in a Spanish context.

News

The first quarter of 2018 has been a busy one for the British Benevolent Fund (BBF) with the dedicated team of volunteers who currently run the Charity, holding marketing and events committee meetings, travelling to Mallorca to build up working relationships with local charities, and launching a new sub-committee in Barcelona. Furthermore, our chairman, Stewart Cusden, has been interviewed by [Spain Buddy](#)



On Friday 9th February a charities meeting was hosted by the Mallorca Consulate convened with the aim of introducing the British Benevolent Fund to local charities who work helping British nationals on the island.

That was quickly followed by the inaugural gathering of the newly revamped **Marketing Committee** on Saturday 10th of February, whose main objective is to make more people aware of the BBF through a more active marketing programme.



From left to right: David Wolfe (Marketing Manager), Victoria Silva Mora (Designer), Susie Nixer (Copywriter) and Dominique White (Press relations)

Still in February, on Wednesday 14th, the **Events Committee** put aside thoughts of romance and love briefly to meet and amongst other topics discuss a new relationship with British Chambers of Commerce in Spain, with added workload anticipated and welcomed. The strengthening of the Events Committee should provide more resources to enable the BBF to be represented at more functions and events in the future.



From left to right Melissa Inzani, (Val Reid, Olaf Clayton, Marlene McOmish, and Stewart Cusden

Finally, the following day, Thursday 15th February, the **Barcelona Sub Committee** was formed with a Chairman, Steve Cahill, who sits on the Executive Committee, assisted by local representatives. It held its inaugural meeting at the Consulate under the watchful eye of the British Consul Lloyd Milen. The main objectives of this Sub Committee are to deal effectively with cases and events in Catalunya and create fundraising opportunities.



From left to right: HM Consul Lloyd Milen, Stewart Cusden, Patricia Ayodeji, Paul Turner, Kim Stollard, Kate Teesdale, Steve Cahill (Chairman) and George Karolemeas

This flurry of activity built on the extensive efforts made in 2017 to build relationships with additional partner charities from all over Spain, bringing the total to nearly 30 at the time of writing. This important activity will hopefully increase the awareness of the BBF in many of the Spanish coastal resorts as well as enabling referrals to be validated by volunteers from other charities on the spot.

Forthcoming Events

Make sure you save the following dates in your diaries:

- ✚ Thursday 13th September 2018 - English Speaking Community Fair at St. George's Church
- ✚ Thursday 4th October 2018 - Annual BBF Fundraising Concert at HM Ambassador's Residence.

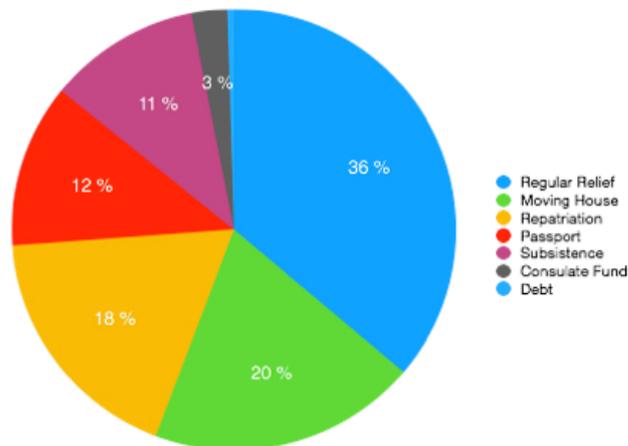
Top Testimonial

The British Benevolent Fund was able to help Glenn, a British citizen residing in Northern Spain, with a stipend to cover his basic needs pending a review of his entitlement to disability allowance. Glenn required our assistance after cancer struck and left him unable to work. He depleted his savings whilst the long process of claiming Spanish benefits was completed. In his thank you message he shared his sense of relief at being able to turn to the BBF for assistance:

"Thank you from the bottom of my heart for the help you have offered me. After having fallen ill with cancer I was in a very dark place and had no idea how I was going to pay for my living. I have been promised help from the Spanish social security system but they take an age to process the paperwork. I have received your first payment and it has enabled me to buy badly needed essentials. A heavy weight has been lifted from my shoulders"

Grants by Category and Area 2017

Area	Grant
Regular Relief	€ 5550,00
Moving House	€ 3000,00
Repatriation	€ 2778,02
Passport	€ 1840,25
Subsistence	€ 1700,00
Consulate Fund	€ 400,00
Debt	€ 74,00
	€ 15342,27



Area	Grant
Madrid	€ 6118,88
Almeria	€ 3000,00
Alicante	€ 1199,24
Malaga	€ 1198,16
Lanzarote	€ 1144,00
Zaragoza	€ 1074,00
Barcelona	€ 751,48
Tenerife	€ 336,51
Galicia	€ 200,00
Mallorca	€ 200,00
Albacete	€ 120,00
Coin	€ 0,00
	€ 15342,27

