

IMPACT REPORT 2025

THE BRITISH OMANI SOCIETY



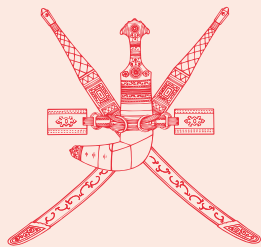
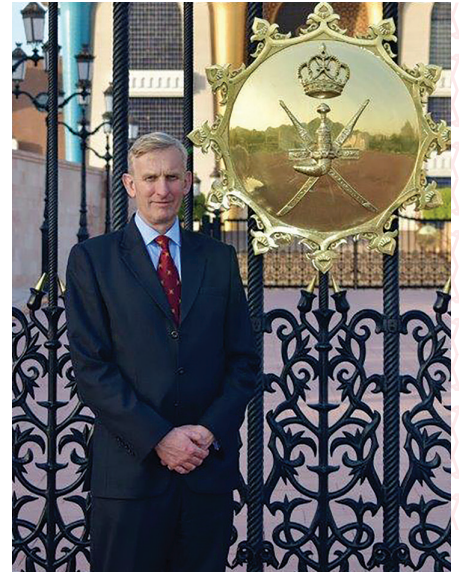
Connecting people, enriching understanding,
nurturing a vibrant shared future for Oman and the UK



CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Major General (Retd) Richard Stanford CB MBE

I am proud to present the Society's (British Omani Society) first annual Impact Report. Our work spans a **wide spectrum of activity, which includes Youth, Culture, Business** and the **Environment**. We create impact through: **Events and Resources** in person and online; **Financial Assistance** via grants, scholarships and other financial support. We provide a **Place to Connect** for youth, academics, government officials and private sectors of both countries, and a **Platform to Showcase Oman-UK Success Stories** through awards, media and speaking opportunities. We also support **Education and Skills Development** through training, knowledge exchange and connecting education and training establishments; and support **External/Partner Projects and Events** where activities align with our charitable objects. This Impact Report highlights how we have achieved our aims through key outputs over the financial year 2024/2025.



OUR MISSION

'The British Omani Society builds on deep roots of friendship, shared values and respect to create connections, inspire cross-cultural understanding and empower the next generation to shape a vibrant shared future between Oman and the UK.'



FUNDING OVERVIEW



Signing of an agreement between Espace Engineering Consultants (Oman) and Formation Architects (UK) at the Society's Summer Business Reception

The Society generates **100% of its own revenue**, mostly from letting out the property the Charity owns, with some additional support for particular programmes from corporate sponsorship, the Embassy, private individuals and various Ministries in Oman. The Society relies on this revenue to deliver our charitable objects, maintain our premises and employ four staff to plan, deliver and promote the work we do.

We use our revenue to make grants. The Society awarded **£173,869 in grants and sponsorship** in 2024/25 to deliver our charitable objects.

We have supported a wide range of people as well as organising **events, seminars and lectures** to strengthen the multi-generational relationship between Oman and the UK.



The Society's Annual Lunch 2024



GRANTS

During 2024/2025, we awarded **£173,869** in **grants and sponsorship** (this compares with £55,543 paid last year). The sponsorship has included some funds from our generous corporate members and other donors.

Approximately two-thirds of the 2024/25 grants, in both value and recipient numbers, went to Omanis and one-third to British Nationals.

49 Omanis and 23 British nationals benefitted from direct Society grants, including:



Young Omanis visiting the UK for Outward Bound instructor training



5 Omani student participants at the London Youth Science Forum

The FA

14 Omani Football Association (FA) coaches trained in Oman, by the UK FA



earthwatch

21 Omani scientists engaged with environmental science on Earthwatch courses



49

OMANI RECIPIENTS



23

BRITISH RECIPIENTS

The direct grants to British people were primarily for students to volunteer at the Sultan's School, Muscat and Arabic language students to study at the Institute in Al Manah.



معهد السلطان قابوس
لتعليم اللغة العربية للناطقين بغيرها
Sultan Qaboos Institute
for Teaching Arabic to Non-Native Speakers

People reached in the past year

1000+

Our work has reached many more people through lectures, seminars, workshops, Omani National Day celebrations and Iftars.

Read more about our activities at:
www.britishomani.org/news



ITP Training Programme at Waddesdon Manor



Earthwatch Science Camp



BOS Art Group



London International Young Science Forum (LIYSF) 2025 © LIYSF



Omani Hackathon team members, Edinburgh



IMPACT SUMMARY

Green Hydrogen Production – New UK-Led Consortia

Oman has positioned itself as a global leader in green hydrogen production. Over the past year, British companies have signed significant concession agreements to lead **5 international consortia**, each expected to invest **£4 billion by 2040**. Of these UK companies, **Actis** and **Yamna** were first introduced to Oman by The Society during our 2022 New Energy Oman Conference, and **BP** and **Shell** are Society members.



Smart Industries Workshop, May 2025, Muscat, Oman

UK Innovation Drives Oman's Industrial Transformation

The British Omani Society's **Smart Industry Initiative** partners with **BSG International**, **Oxford Science Enterprises** and **IP Group** to integrate advanced UK university technologies into Oman's industrial sectors. This strategic collaboration enhances productivity, energy security and net-zero progress, whilst expanding manufacturing capabilities for Vision 2040. Current trials involve energy, utilities and telecommunications leaders. High-level governmental support includes presentations to ministers and key stakeholders, demonstrating strong commitment to transformative industrial evolution.



14
OMANI COACHES

Sports – Football Association Project

Sport has emerged as a key pillar in advancing Oman's Vision 2040, with a focus on youth development, gender inclusion and fostering global partnerships. In alignment with these national priorities, The Society proudly set up and ran a flagship football coaching initiative uniting the English FA and the Oman FA in a groundbreaking collaboration between the two countries.

With generous sponsorship from Oman LNG, **14 Omani coaches** completed an intensive 8-day training course in Muscat led by UK FA Coach Developers Amanda Greenslade and Danny Fenner. The programme equipped participants with UK FA certification and the skills needed to elevate football coaching standards across Oman. The Society set up and ran this whole project gaining widespread support in Oman and the UK.

Education – Building Bridges Through Learning

Education has become a key area of collaboration between the UK and Oman. The Society continues to work with the **Sultan's School, Muscat**, sending our 100th British Student Volunteer Oman (SVO) there last year, and we are now in the 13th year of our Arabic Language Scheme at the **Sultan Qaboos College for Teaching Arabic** to Non-Native Speakers in Manah. Students form part of our Society Alumni, with whom we remain engaged.



LIYSF 2025 Participant – Dima Al Maawali © LIYSF

This year, The Society was delighted to welcome **five outstanding young Omani researchers** to London as part of the London International Youth Science Forum (LIYSF). Selected from over 340 national submissions, these students represented Oman with innovative projects tackling environmental and technological challenges, from AI-powered water management to green hydrogen production. Their participation reflects Oman's commitment to nurturing scientific talent and promoting global dialogue in research and innovation.

The 10th annual **New Generation Group Delegation (NGG)** was held in London on "*Future Skills: AI's Role in Transforming Education and Workforce Development*" (Nov 2024), with BP as the primary and long-standing sponsor of this series.

We continue to welcome new schools into our membership and are now working to **link UK universities with Omani Arabic language institutes** to make Oman a favoured 'year abroad' destination for language learning placements. Our aim is to make Oman as popular for these placements as Amman and Cairo.



MENA Students Taster Day



Arabic Language Scheme Participants 2025



LIYSF 2025 Participant – Saif Al Hashr

5
OMANI
RESEARCHERS





HIGHLIGHTS AND FEEDBACK

The Society's Arabic Language Scheme sends 10 student 'future leaders' to study Arabic in Oman each year. Participants: Maria Pinder, Joseph Hearn, Thomas Buckley and Alexander Giannos report back:

'Studying Arabic at the **Sultan Qaboos College** for Teaching Arabic to Non-Native Speakers in Manah, Oman, was invaluable on an educational and personal level. The experience provided a **unique insight into the beautiful Omani culture** and its people'

The Society's long-running **Student Volunteers Oman Scheme** sends 8 students to Oman each year. Participant Bo Wakely reported:

'This scheme has helped me become more **open-minded** and attuned to new cultures, especially after experiencing Omani national holidays, celebrations and new ways of eating and living. I have also had the privilege to share my culture and experiences with others due to the inclusivity of this wonderful country... **I will always be grateful for this incredible opportunity** because it has allowed me to meet some of the most inspiring and welcoming people.'



130+
STUDENT
'FUTURE LEADERS'

100+
SVO
STUDENTS

(Totals to date)

Arabic Language Scheme Participants 2025



Inaugural **British Omani Society Art Group** artist training and The Society hosted an art exhibition for 3 emerging Omani artists. Artist Almuntasir Nasser commented:

'It's a really great feeling to share our art with others... And we certainly need to support the artistic culture in Oman.'

The artists have since delivered workshops in Oman to share their training.



British Omani Society Art Group, Training in Wales with Lucy Corbett

3

MASTERS STUDENTS
FUNDED



University of Oxford Diplomatic Studies Programme

University of Oxford Diplomatic Studies Programme The Society funded 3 Masters students from the Diplomatic Studies Programme at the University of Oxford to attend a study trip in Oman – Adeel Hussain, Michael Whitehead and Harry Gartside. They reported:

'The visit concluded with a memorable evening hosted by Ambassador Abdullah Saleh Al Saadi, who shared his insights into Oman's diplomatic approach and its role in promoting regional peace. His hospitality and our engaging conversations about Oman's diplomatic priorities deepened our appreciation for the country's values and its unique contributions to regional stability.'

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OMANI FIELD STAFF
TRAINED

The Society grant funded 5 Omani field staff to attend **Outward Bound training** in the UK. Participant Mohammed Al Amri says:

'The training has significantly improved my outdoor activity skills and enhanced my instruction and coaching strategies. Additionally, the opportunity to interact with individuals from diverse cultures was amazing. Sharing the Omani culture with people from other countries was a wonderful experience for us. I would like to express my sincere thanks and gratitude to the British Omani Society for giving me this unforgettable experience.'



Outward Bound Training



CONFLUENCE

In addition to hosting our own events, we also hosted and **supported Omani delegations** visiting the UK, external meetings and networking **events that contributed to our mission**, including:



2024 New Generation Group (NGG) Delegate HH Sayyid Taimur Al Said with BOS Chairman Richard Stanford

Assisting with the **Jewel of Arabia Expedition UK launch** at the Royal Geographical Society, which brought together His Highness **Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said** and His Royal Highness, **The Prince of Wales**; hosting an Education Delegation of the **UK's Independent School Inspectorate** and the **Oman Authority for Academic Accreditation and Quality Assurance of Education (OAAAQA)**; an **Omani Female Entrepreneurs Delegation**; representatives of the **Takatuf Scholars Programme** and **British private schools**; the **Sultan's Armed Forces Association**; the **Royal College of Defence Studies** for their graduation reception; three scholars from the **British Embassy Muscat UK Scholarship Scheme**; **ASYAD** representatives and **Omani students**; an **Omani Military Delegation** for Brig Saif Hamad Al Yousefi; a number of **Royal Academy of Management** meetings; meetings for the **Sultan's School**; students from the **Oman Student Society London** for their National Day celebrations as well as private hire meetings to support an **Omani tourism initiative**.



Launch of Jewel of Arabia Expedition, His Highness Sayyid Theyazin bin Haitham Al Said, Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth of the Sultanate of Oman and His Royal Highness, Prince William, Prince of Wales, with Mark Evans, Expedition Leader © Kensington Palace



Premier Screening of the Award Winning Film 'A House of Wonders'



Omani Student Iftar at the Society



NGG Delegation

These confluence activities convened high-level discussions around education and youth engagement, Omani entrepreneurship, military, business and tourism issues and raised awareness about the work of The Society at the highest levels in the UK and Oman. Many of these events supported the work of the **Embassy of Oman in London** and the **British Embassy in Muscat**.

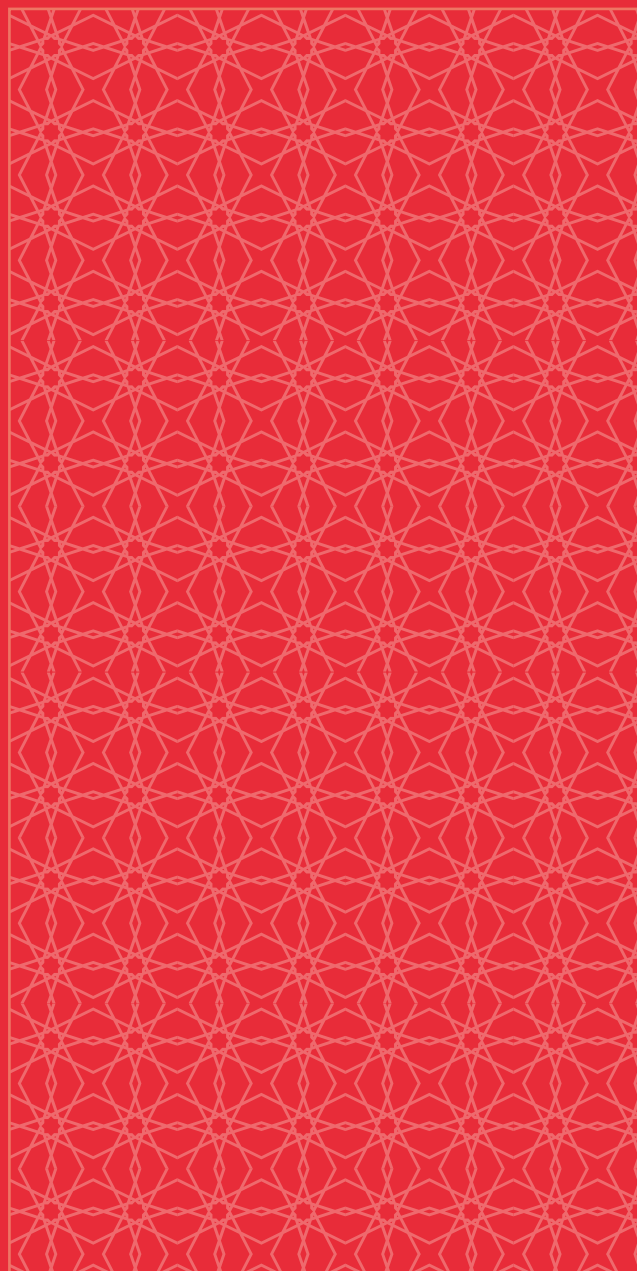
OUTLOOK

We will continue our work to **inspire the next generation of Omanis and British people** to develop the relationship. We will aim to leverage more funding, including from corporate sponsors, to bring the **benefits to more people**.

We are deeply saddened by the passing of Dr Roderic Dutton and Colonel Peter Walton WKHM, whose contributions to the British Omani Society were both significant and enduring. Their dedication and service left a lasting impact on our community and they will be remembered with great respect and gratitude.

THANKS

- **Supporters:** The Embassy of the Sultanate of Oman in London; the British Embassy in Muscat; and the Omani British Society (OBS), our Oman-based counterpart.
- **Sponsors, Members, Staff, Interns and Volunteers**
- **Trustees and Vice Presidents**



JOIN AS A MEMBER

If you or your organisation would like to sponsor a Society event or activity, do get in touch with The Society.

Email us at: rsvp@britishomani.org

For more information and further details on our projects, visit:
www.britishomani.org/news

Support our work through
sponsorship, donations
and membership

