

Maite Clausell

In this issue, we caught up with LRG member Maite Clausell about her experiences as a translator

Tell us a little bit about your background.

I grew up in Spain, in the Valencian Region. As I have been bilingual from a young age, I am passionate about languages and translation and that is why after finishing my BA in English Philology, I came to London to study for an MA in Audiovisual Translation.

Since early 2018, I have been working as a freelance translator specialising in audiovisual translation, localisation, and IT translation. Previously, I worked as an English teacher for young children, a translation project manager, and a videogame QA Tester.

When did you first become interested in languages?

I first became interested in languages at primary school, when we started studying English. I was six years old, and the teacher always brought her guitar with her to class, making lessons fun as we learned the language while singing.

During those lessons, I realised that some of my classmates already knew some English words but I didn't. For this reason, I told my parents that I wanted to learn English outside of school and they enrolled me at the local language centre. Who would have thought at the time that English would become such an important part of my life and future?

When did you decide to pursue a career in translation or interpreting?

As a language lover, I had wanted to study translation from a young age. However, when I was at high school, one of my teachers suggested studying English Philology first. She suggested that it would give me a deeper understanding of the language in all senses, including grammar, literature, history, culture, dialects and much more, while also including some elements of translation.

After finishing my BA, I did not want to spend another four years studying a BA in Translation, and that's when I decided to move to London to study for an MA in Audiovisual Translation.

Have you been to any interesting translation events recently?

As a member of the LRG, I try to attend as many events as possible. This not only offers you the opportunity of learning something new, but also of meeting with colleagues and exchanging ideas, which I find very important as freelancing tends to be isolating.

I recently attended the LRG Spring Meet-Up, where some fellow translators and interpreters enjoyed a meal together at a riverside pub in Putney (see [page 9](#) for photos). I also enjoyed the Spring Workshop organised by the Spanish Network last March, where we faced the challenge of translating some tricky texts and worked in small groups to find the best solutions for difficult terms.

What kind of projects have you been working on recently?

My latest projects include the translation of user interfaces for some of the products of an American multinational technology company; the localization of an Artificial Intelligence Assistant App; and some TV advertisements.

What are your plans for the future?

I aim to keep developing professionally as a freelance translator by attending courses and webinars. I also intend to find new clients – hopefully some direct clients, too. I may also start studying Chinese again, a language that I love but which I had to put on hold due to lack of time.

Maite is a translator, subtitler and localiser working from English into Spanish and Catalan. For more information, visit her website <http://maiteclausell.com>. You can also find her on Twitter (@mcm_tradu) and LinkedIn (<https://www.linkedin.com/in/maiteclausell>)

