



BALLOON CIRCUS

ANNUAL REPORT
2020-2021



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Unforgettable play days and workshops



Balloon Circus brings uplifting entertainment to disadvantaged children encouraging creative play in a nurturing yet stimulating environment

Our workshops provide the children we visit with opportunities to learn new skills through balloons and interactive circus sessions.

We want to awaken the inner performer and empower the children to sharpen their physical, mental and social skills. As experienced, conscientious and talented performers we want to share our knowledge and skills to affect social change.

Balloon Circus works directly with underprivileged children at a grassroots level. We reach as many children as possible to provide them with something important that can be forgotten in the face of adversity – a child's right to play.

We work alongside other charities, complementing the amazing work already taking place.

As always, a big thank you to our sponsors, donors, friends and family who support our work.





Hi everyone,

As always, I want to thank you for your continued support of Balloon Circus through the last year. COVID hit us hard and like you we were grounded and couldn't jump on a plane to take our workshops to those who enjoy the fun that we bring.

We have kept in close contact with many of the children's homes from our tours and they have been isolated with no visitors. We made some online Balloon Circus bedtime stories and crazy balloon videos to entertain them but it's not quite the same!

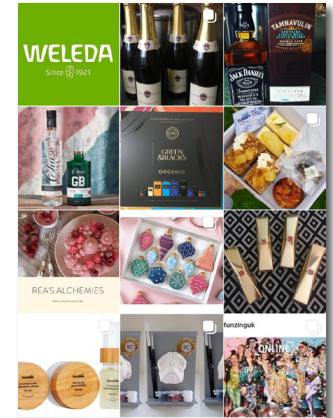
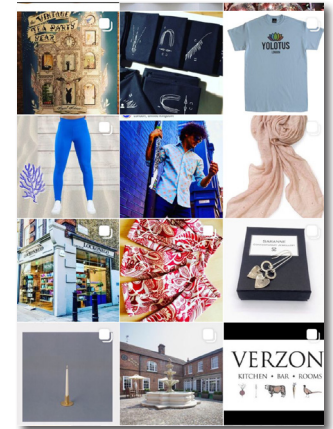
- [See the bedtime stories here](#)
- [Watch the balloon-making videos here](#)

On a positive note, the break from travelling gave us time to catch up on all the background work necessary to run the charity, like fundraising, planning our next tours and looking at how we can develop Balloon Circus to increase our impact in the future.

We've had some fantastic ideas and are looking forward to getting you all involved to achieve our goals!

COVID couldn't stop our raffle and with all your help we raised a massive £2,500 that will cover a month's tour in Asia teaching 1500 children.

Once again a HUGE thank you to the sponsors who donated amazing prizes and all you lovely lot who bought tickets and helped us reach our target.





Balloon Circus inspires smiles and laughter through a memorable and exciting experience



Balloon Circus news

More grant success

We are so proud that we were once again successful in receiving our second grant from the Great Britain Sasakawa Foundation, which promotes understanding between UK and Japan through support for the arts and culture.

This grant will fund another tour in Japan, which we are really excited about. We have teamed up again with YouMeWe Foundation (supporting children's homes) so that we can bring Balloon Circus fun to lots more children.

Back on tour!

When it is safe again and the restrictions have been lifted we already have two tours funded and in their planning stages

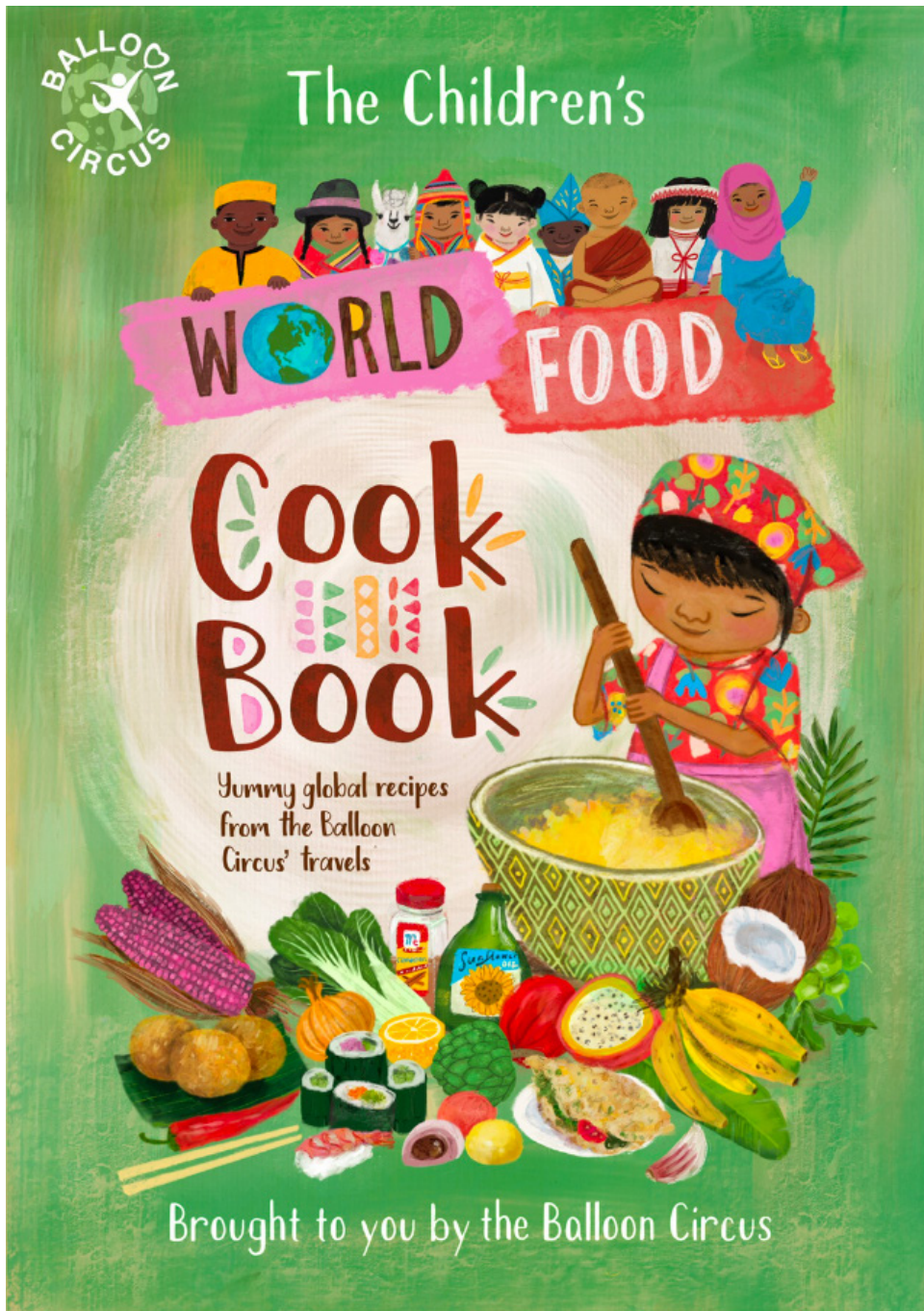
New adventures

Our next exciting bit of news is that we have been exploring visiting more of Africa. We have joined a group of small charities working in the International Development sector and through our collaboration have been invited to bring Balloon Circus fun to Ghana. We will be working closely with eight other charities already delivering projects on the ground.



**THIS CHARITY
IS PROUD TO BE**

**#SMALLBUT
MIGHTY**



Future plans

Balloon Circus World Food Cook Book

We are thrilled to be creating a children's cookbook of some of our favourite recipes from our tours around the world.

The profits from the book go to funding our tours. Your children can globetrot through the rich and cultural tastes of the tour locations whilst learning about the children that Balloon Circus supports.

Balloon Circus Director

Jenny Alexander

Members of the board

Michelle Harrison

Neil Harrison - New trustee

Kate Walmsley

Miranda Wilkinson

Chris Wright - New trustee

Why circus skills?

“Try things you never imagined trying, achieve things you didn’t expect to achieve, and learn things that you will never forget.”

Taking part in circus activities is a highly enjoyable way to develop important skills that apply to all walks of life, in an atmosphere of fun.

Circus talent requires concentration and confidence. The workshops offer genuine learning experiences that really help to develop individuals.

Balloon Circus workshops have reached over 12,000 children in 155 orphanages

The benefits of the workshops

- Circus skills build confidence and self-esteem and are inclusive of all abilities.
- Circus skills develop teamwork.
- Circus skills involve both the left and right side of the body and the brain to greatly improve learning abilities.
- Circus skills help people to deal with fear, react to the unexpected and plunge into the next challenge with confidence.

Short term objectives

- Bring the children together through circus.
- To bring laughter and joy to the children.
- Provide an opportunity for children to work with and learn from an international performer.

Long term objectives

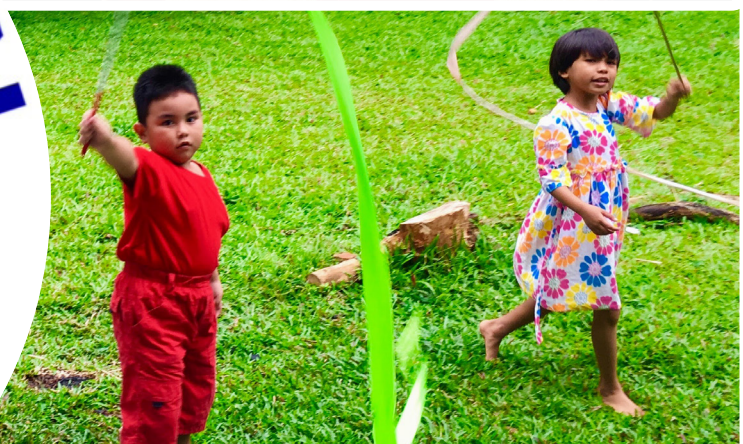
- Extend workshops to other areas.
- Develop a sustainable circus/physical theatre culture.
- Play a role in promoting the value of alternative entertainment in the community.

Circus skills workshop

- Balloon modelling
- Diablo
- Hula hoop
- Juggling balls & rings
- Plate Spinning
- Poi spinning
- Flower sticks
- Gymnastic ribbons & scarves



BALLOON CIRCUS

The logo for 'Balloon Circus' is a circular emblem. It features a stylized blue figure of a person jumping or dancing, surrounded by various colorful shapes including a green heart, a blue circle, and a green circle. The words 'BALLOON' and 'CIRCUS' are written in large, bold, blue letters around the perimeter of the circle.

Balloon Circus tour map

