



2026 - Thailand Tour Review

About Balloon Circus

At its heart, Balloon Circus believes in the power of play and imagination. Our skilled performers use colourful balloons to create light-hearted shows that bring moments of happiness—particularly for children facing hardship or social isolation.

We also run workshops and training sessions, helping young people build confidence, learn creative skills, and express themselves in a positive way.



Unforgettable play days and workshops



Director's report

We are delighted to share that our 'Balloon Circus Raffle' was a great success, raising an incredible £1,500 towards our recent tour. This support made a meaningful contribution to bringing circus workshops to children who need them most.

A huge thank you goes to our generous donors who provided exciting prizes.

We are also deeply grateful to everyone who purchased raffle tickets or made donations. Your support has directly helped us bring joy, creativity, and confidence-building experiences to so many children.

On behalf of all the children we worked with,
thank you for helping us share the magic of the
circus



Soar Candles

Weleda

Emily Catherine

Franco Manca

Kev Munday

Saranne

Rosie Reiter

Ruth Collett

Miss Nang

DJ Yoda

Yo Lotus

Sofrito

Troy's Kitchen

Hayden Watt

Circus workshop tour report – Northern Thailand

We embarked on our Circus Workshop Tour of Northern Thailand to revisit children's homes we first visited ten years ago. It was an emotional and rewarding journey - at several locations, children we had previously worked with are now teaching others. Seeing this full-circle impact made the experience truly special.



Chiang Mai – Grace Foundation

Our first stop was the Grace Foundation, supporting Burmese migrant children without access to formal education.

Working with 64 children aged six to 17, this was their first circus experience. Initial shyness quickly transformed into confidence, culminating in a joyful performance where every child showcased their new skills.

Baan Agape

Next, we visited Baan Agape, home to 64 orphaned children aged three to 12.

While many were too young to fully learn the skills, the weekend was filled with joy, movement, and laughter. The children embraced the colourful equipment, creating a vibrant and playful atmosphere.

Chiang Dao – Baan Mitratorn

In the mountains of Chiang Dao, we worked with 28 children aged three to 16.

Two former participants from our earlier visit are now working there and helped lead the workshops. Seeing their growth and contribution was deeply meaningful.

Mae Mae Jungle School

At this remote jungle school, **180 children** gathered for after-school activities. Their energy and enthusiasm were incredible, and they proudly performed what they had learned for visitors and staff.

Doi Tung – Wiang Pa Pao

This home has grown significantly—from 25 girls ten years ago to 612 children today.

We spent two days here, focusing on training older children to perform for their peers. The final performances were a great success.



Mae Lao, Chiang Rai

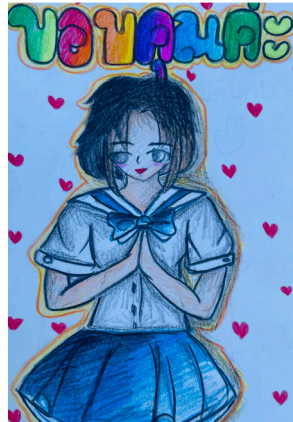
We visited a family home that has grown from 15 to 27 children.

None had experienced circus before, and their excitement, curiosity, and engagement made this a particularly special visit.

Mae Sai - Baan Nana

Home to 80 children from the Akha tribe, this centre provides care and education.

The children quickly developed skills and confidence, performing with teamwork and enthusiasm.



Return to Chiang Mai - Baan Vieng Ping

Our final stop was a large orphanage for Thai girls.

Despite being a surprise visit, the girls embraced the activities, and even the shyest participants found the confidence to perform; making it a perfect end to the tour.

Conclusion

This tour was both inspiring and humbling. We worked with hundreds of children from diverse and challenging backgrounds, and once again, circus proved to be a powerful tool for:

- Building confidence
- Encouraging creativity
- Creating joy and connection

Reconnecting with past participants—now grown and giving back—highlighted the lasting impact of this work.



Impact statement for funders

We measured impact through feedback and creative reflection, inviting children to draw their experiences.

The results show a highly positive outcome:

- Increased confidence among participants
- Strong engagement across all sessions
- A supportive and joyful environment for learning

We are confident this tour made a meaningful difference in the lives of both children and carers.



THIS TOUR

- 500 miles travelled
- 700 children reached
- 9 children's homes visited
- Approximately £5 per child to experience the joy of circus

