
CLOWNS WITHOUT BORDERS UK

Annual Report

2018



www.clownswithoutborders.org.uk / hello@clownswithoutborders.org.uk



Performance, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

WHO ARE WE & WHAT WE DO

We share laughter, joy and hope with the children living through disaster.

OUR VISION

is a world where every child has a childhood filled with laughter and joy.

OUR MISSION

is to use laughter to alleviate the suffering of children living through adversity in areas of crisis including refugee camps, conflict zones and situations of emergency.

Guided by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, we recognise laughter, play and relaxation as a stabilising force for children experiencing crisis and we are dedicated to sharing highly visual, non-verbal performances that create joyful experiences with children when they need it the most.

We also support children by creating and delivering child-centered workshops that enable children to connect with each other and that encourage play, make-believe, singing, self-expression, general silliness, and more laughing.

Sustainability is important to us so we develop the capacity of local volunteers and NGO workers to deliver joyful, child-centered activities with children in crisis. We achieve this through our practical Train-the-Trainer programme.

CHARITABLE OBJECTS

The relief of need and suffering of people, particularly children, who live in areas of crisis across the world. We achieve this by:

Providing national and international programmes designed to improve the social welfare and conditions of life for children suffering from the effects of living in areas of crisis which result in poverty, trauma, dislocation, marginalisation and social or economic upheaval.

Providing playful performances as a means of psychological support to those affected by crisis and promoting and raising awareness of humanitarian issues.



UNHCR/Iffath Yasemine — at Jamtoli Rohingya Refugee Camp, Cox Bazar, Bangladesh

“Today was a happy day.”

Rohingya boy, 9 yrs, Balukhali Refugee Camp

“The children are grateful that someone gives them attention. Normally the adults are too busy.”

NGO worker, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh



“I really loved it. I am happy.”

Girl, 7 yrs, Elionas Refugee Camp, Greece

“The women want to tell you that they haven't laughed since they've been here. Today they have.”

Halina, UNHCR interpreter, on behalf of a group of 6 women at Röszke Transit Zone, Hungary



Post show workshop, Athens, Greece

RATIONALE & APPROACH

Often for the traumatised child, reality has become too serious. By sharing performances and workshops designed to encourage children to laugh and play we directly acknowledge their need for emotional support, respite and reassurance at the very worst of times. It is a way to say to children; "we see you, we care about what happens to you and you are not alone". Experts in Humanitarian Aid describe our work as "psycho-social first-aid".

We simply believe the need for joy, connection and hope is an essential part of what it means to be human.

Our performance methodology is highly inclusive and participatory. We encourage high levels of interaction that puts the children in control. Often they become the heroes of a scene. Given the levels of powerlessness all children in crisis experience creating opportunities for them to be in charge is very important to us.

Through our workshops, we create safe spaces for imaginative play. Children can sing, dance, connect with each other and most importantly of all, simply be children.

WORKING WITH VOLUNTEERS

The professional artists we work with donate their time and expertise for free. They are key to our continued success and enable us to achieve our objective of improving children's lives.

Our artists' wellbeing is extremely important to us and we have designed specific pre, during and post-project protocols to emotionally support all those who volunteer for us.

Selecting artists onto our tours is via application and interview where their experience and aptitude for managing the complexities of this work is taken into consideration.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

Strategic and effective partnerships working with other NGO's continues to support our growth as a charity and our ability to share laughter and lightness with children living in some of the most challenging scenarios in the world. These relationships enable us to:

- mitigate risk for our artists
- expand our geographical reach
- maximise our resources
- received up to the minute information on specific crisis and security issues



Performance, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

COXS BAZAR - BANGLADESH



19,800

Children who saw our performances



106

Children engaged in workshops



45

Number of performances



29

Adults engaged in workshops

Escaping persecution in Myanmar, an estimated 700,000 Rohingya people fled to Bangladesh and now live in refugee camps near Cox's Bazar. 49% of this community are under 18.

We supported the wellbeing of thousands of Rohingya children and their families in Cox's Bazar through our performances and workshop.

Completing five separate tours, we also shared vital safety and/or health messages through our performances. We know the best way for children (and adults) to remember anything is to make it fun, so that's what we did.

We also piloted interactive feedback games after our performances to explore how we can improve our approach to including playful messaging in shows.

106 adults working with Rohingya Children in Child-Friendly Spaces took part in our three-day training programme focusing on facilitating child-centred games and activities.

We were invited to create a resource and capacity within the WASH Sector in Cox Bazar so children can engage more effectively (playfully) with key issues relating to hygiene and health. Our approach was to ask the Rohingya children the best way to do this. Their response; share songs, make games and pretend you're a germ. So that's what we'll be doing in 2019.



Train the Trainer Workshop, Dhaka, Bangladesh

DHAKA - BANGLADESH



366

Children who saw our performances



125

Children engaged in workshops



4

Number of performances



23

Adults engaged in workshops

"I realise now I can be like a small child in the Play Lab. I can be just like them and play with them. I no longer feel so shy."

Train the Trainer Participant, BRAC

Dhaka is the world's fastest growing mega-city, home to more than 17 million people. 2000 new residents move to the capital every day. Life in the city can be challenging with tens of thousands of children and their families live in informal settlements with limited access to basic amenities and education.

We shared performances and workshops with vulnerable children who attend 'Play Labs' (Children's centres) in some of the most challenging areas of Dhaka.

Staff, Play Leaders and Community Caregivers took part in our four-day training programme which explored:

- The Playful and Reflective Facilitator
- Non-Violent Communication
- Leading Large Scale Activities
- Early Year Games and Activities

The clowns were also invited to take part in a national conference on Children's Mental Health where we shared a performance and presentation about our role and contribution to the wellbeing of children in the Humanitarian Sector.



Performance, Exarcheia, Athens

PROJECT WIGGLES - GREECE



659

Children who saw our performances



659

Children engaged in workshops



11

Number of performances



0

Adults engaged in workshops

"I loved it. I am happy".

Boy, 7 yrs, Elionas Refugee Camp

Since 2016 we have delivered 60 performances with refugee children in Northern Greece. The conditions in the camps are basic with families being housed in tents, temporary wooden structures or metal sea containers. The camps are difficult and sometimes frightening places for children to live in (we know because they have told us).

We shared laughter with hundreds of refugee children and their parents/carers as well as delivering pre-show activities,

performances and workshops in each camp.

Our workshop methodology specifically encouraged high levels of agency as we supported children to lead activities (ours or their own) as well as inviting them to teach us and everyone else songs, dances or skills that were important to them.

Repeated visits to this area means we can tailor our performances and workshops to engage both children and adolescents.



Staff Workshop, UNHCR, Hungary

PROJECT WONDER - HUNGARY



32

Children who saw our performances



32

Children engaged in workshops



2

Number of performances



20

Adults engaged in workshops

"Maybe for you this day is a small thing. For us, this is very very big. You have made my children very very happy".

Father, Tompa Refugee Camp

Described as "detention centers" by the UN High Commissioner, refugee children and their families live in containers in small locked compounds in Hungary's Transit Zones. It is extremely difficult to access these sites and there are no dedicated or regular activities for children. The monotony of day-to-day life is compounded in the Summer months when no school takes places.

Spending a day at both the Tompa and Roszke site, we shared laughter and play through performances and workshops with children and their families. We supported our activities with a clown-based Resource Pack to be used by NGO workers to help build up anticipation of the clowns' arrival. The Resource Pack also supported play-based activities that could be delivered after we had left.

We were also invited to deliver a play-led workshop to 20 UNHCR staff raising awareness about our child-centred approach to working with children.



Workshop participants at play, Za'atari Refugee Camp, Jordan

PROJECT ZIP ZAP - JORDAN



26

Children who saw our performances



26

Children engaged in workshops



1

Number of performances



10

Adults engaged in workshops

"When I hear the audience clapping, I can be free."

Mohammed, Workshop Participant

The Za'atari refugee camp hosts around 80,000 Syrians who were forced to flee conflict in Syria. More than half of these refugees are children. The camp is now Jordan's fourth biggest city.

The "International Syrian Circus" was set up by ten young adults from Syria to alleviate the boredom they felt whilst at Za'atari. They want clowns to be in their circus so they asked if we could help. Of course, we said yes.

We delivered 5 days of clown training to the "International Syrian Circus".

Children were invited to be part of the activities as well as watch mini-sharing and performances at the end each day.

There is an important cascade element to this project as the participants from the "International Syrian Circus" shared our games and activities, via regular workshops, with over 100 children living in the camp that year.



Pre-show warm up, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE & MANAGEMENT

Clowns Without Borders UK became a registered charitable trust on 8th May 2014. Our Trust Deeds are the founding governance document for the charity. We are governed by a voluntary Board of Trustees that meets at least three times a year.

The trustees seek to ensure all our activities are within UK law and the agreed charitable objectives. They are responsible for overseeing the management of all the affairs of Clowns Without Borders UK including setting our strategic direction and agreeing our financial plan.

The trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with UK law.

The trustees are appointed, elected or re-elected for a fixed term of two years, according to procedures set out in our Trust Deeds.

Trustees are recruited following an open application and interviews are held by the Director and Trustees. Induction of Trustees is via a one-to-one meeting with the Director and each Trustee receives a Board Pack with our Annual Report, Code of Conduct and Conflict of Interest Policy.

We are also members of Clowns Without Borders International (CWBI), an umbrella organisation formed of 15 international chapters with headquarters in Barcelona. We meet annually to discuss common objectives, our Ethical Charter, best practice and the Statutes of Association. These meetings are an important part of the learning and knowledge transfer and sharing of expertise, governance and management between all chapters.

Clowns Without Borders International is also a Consultative Member of UNESCO in recognition of our commitment to peace, tolerance and cultural diversity. CWBI also has Memorandum of Understanding with Plan International to ensure the expedient employment of artists during/after a crisis. This marks a growing worldwide recognition of the impact and effectiveness of our work.

Charity Registration Details

No: 1156987 (England and Wales)

Registered Office

118 Sternhold Avenue, SW2 4PP

Bankers

HSBC, 95 Gloucester Rd, London, SW7 4SX



Performance, Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh

TRUSTEES

Marion Duggan	Artist & Producer, Murmuration Arts
Samantha Holdsworth	Producer, Nimble Fish Arts (resigned Dec 18)
Cathy Hayward	CEO, Magenta Associates PR
Annabel Morgan	Clown & Director, Creative Beans

NEWLY APPOINTED TRUSTEES

Richard Baskott	Director, Bean Counters of Lewes
Niki Charalampopoulou	Co-Founder and former CEO, Talk Back
Tanya Glanville-Wallis	Humanitarian Aid Worker, Oxfam
Dr Unni Krishnan	Director, Emergency Health Unit, Save the Children
Wendy Lanchin	Strategic Consultant, The Complete Brief

CLOWNS

Helen Duff
Neil Foster
Tanushka Gill
Amy Gwilliam
Halima Habil
Katharine James
Richard Kimberely
Dan Lees
Annabel Morgan
Jo Ross
Ivan Smith
Pippa Wildwood
Hanna Winter

STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

Samantha Holdsworth (part-time)
Director

Halima Habil (Volunteer)
Project Administration

Annabel Morgan
Artistic Leader
(Project Based)

Edward Morgan
Tour Logistical/Co-ordinator
(Project Based)

THANK YOU

Clowns Without Borders would like to offer sincere thanks to all the wonderful, big-hearted individuals who have donated to our work over the past year. We thank also the individuals who have generously volunteered their time, energy and expertise to support the organisation.

Thanks must also go to the following generous individuals and organisation for their vital support for our work:

Morgana Fulcheri
Gina Henderson
Magenta Associates
Media Zoo
Meeting Needs
The Paristamen CIO

Registered number
1156987

Clowns Without Borders UK

Unaudited Accounts

31 December 2018

Clowns Without Borders UK

Chartered Accountants' report to the board of trustees on the preparation of the unaudited statutory accounts of Clowns Without Borders UK for the year ended 31 December 2018

We have prepared for your approval the accounts of Clowns Without Borders UK for the year ended 31 December 2018 which comprise of the Profit and Loss Account and the Balance Sheet from the charity's accounting records and from information and explanations you have given us.

As a practising member firm of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, we are subject to its ethical and other professional requirements which are detailed at www.icaew.com/en/members/regulations-standards-and-guidance

Our work has been undertaken in accordance with ICAEW Technical Release 07/16 AAF.



BettsFinance
Chartered Accountants
73 Mackie Avenue
Brighton
BN1 8RD

30 September 2019

Clowns Without Borders UK
Profit and Loss Account
for the year ended 31 December 2018

	2018 £	2017 £
Turnover	40,214	19,485
Cost of raw materials and consumables	(29,298)	(12,324)
Gross profit	<hr/> 10,916	<hr/> 7,161
Staff costs	(704)	(88)
Other charges	(9,492)	(4,572)
Profit	<hr/> 720	<hr/> 2,501
Profit	<hr/> <hr/> 720	<hr/> <hr/> 2,501

Clowns Without Borders UK
Registered number:
Balance Sheet
as at 31 December 2018

1156987

	2018	2017
	£	£
Current assets	16,917	16,197
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(250)	(250)
Net current assets	16,667	15,947
Total assets less current liabilities	16,667	15,947
Net assets	16,667	15,947
 Total Equity	 16,667	 15,947

The charity is registered with the Charities Commission. Its registered office is 118 Sternhold Avenue, London, SW2 4PP.

The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit in accordance.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the micro entity provisions of the Companies Act 2006 and FRS 105



S Holdsworth

Director

Approved by the board on 30 September 2019

Clowns Without Borders UK
Detailed profit and loss account items
for the year ended 31 December 2018

This schedule does not form part of the statutory accounts

	2018	2017
	£	£
Sales		
Sales	40,214	19,485
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Cost of raw materials and consumables		
Purchases	29,298	12,324
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Staff costs		
Staff training and welfare	50	-
Travel and subsistence	654	88
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	704	88
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Other charges		
Premises costs:		
Rent	212	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	212	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
General administrative expenses:		
Stationery and printing	73	79
Storage	-	140
Subscriptions	388	385
Bank charges	176	71
Sundry expenses	38	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	675	675
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Legal and professional costs:		
Accountancy fees	139	250
Project Management	4,968	2,154
Fundraising Costs	3,258	1,445
Advertising and PR	240	48
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	8,605	3,897
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	9,492	4,572
	<hr/>	<hr/>