



# PERFORMERS **WITHOUT** BORDERS



## IMPACT REPORT

1ST JULY 2023 - 30TH JUNE 2024



WWW.PWB.NGO

ESTABLISHED: JULY 2007

CHARITY NUMBER CIO - 1182403

PREVIOUS CHARITY NUMBER: 1121236



TRUSTEES

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NAME	Office	Comments
Claire Bader	Chair	Appointed at AGM 6th Oct 2019
George Massey	Treasurer	Appointed at AGM 6th Oct 2019
Emily Ball	Secretary	
Jonathan Forbes	Founder	
Mathew Morris	Founder	
Liz Stones	MEARL Adviser	
Andy Hodkin	Safeguarding Lead	Appointed at AGM 6th Nov 2022

PRINCIPAL ADDRESS:  
52 OLD HOSPITAL LAWN,  
STROUD, UK GL54GA

CONTACT ADDRESS:  
72 PETERBOROUGH DRIVE,  
NETHERTON, LIVERPOOL  
L305QP





# 2. HEADLINE FIGURES – INTERNATIONAL

In operation since 2007 Performers Without Borders (PWB) has completed **42 International Tours** over **17 years** in at least **10 different countries**.

**PWB-International:** With the doors reopening after the pandemic, in **2023-2024** we were able to revisit and solidify our old and new international projects. Starting off with our new partnership with the **United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network (UN SDSN)** with a successful first tour in the **Philippines**. Here we delivered **13 workshops** to **1432 participants** and **14 shows** to **10,443 audience members!**

We then collaborated with another social circus partner in **Thailand**, where we worked with **Spoon Circus**, a social circus project that developed out of the **2019 PWB India tour**. During this time we mentored their trainers and helped to support their winter programming in Pai, delivering **9 workshops** to **249 participants** and **1 show** with an **audience of 89**.

After this, the **India 2024 tour** had a big impactful influence, where we took some of our **legacy students** from the **Kashi Fire Warriors (KFW)** on their first tour. We brought in expert tutors and gave them a taste of touring professionally, with dedicated tailored training on a longer bootcamp before introducing, handing over and delivering with our longstanding project partners; the tour totalled **39 workshops** with **1544 participants** and **26 shows** to **7661 audience members**.

That's a whopping **total of 61 workshops, 3225 participants, 41 shows, 18,193 audience members!** PWB's International touring is back in full force.





# HEADLINE FIGURES — PWB-UK


**PWB-UK:** Pandemic restrictions in the UK were lifted around July 2021, which meant we were able to focus on our outreach in the UK. In regard to bigger grant applications, new projects happened with **Care4Calais**, the **Isle of Man Douglas Council**, **Shropshire Supports Refugees** and **Blackburn Young Peoples Services**; new funded projects in 2022-2023 were with **Manor Academy** and **New College Worcester**. Please see our revamped **YouTube channel** for more project videos!

[www.youtube.com/@PWB\\_charity](https://www.youtube.com/@PWB_charity)

Since conception in 2018 we have successfully delivered **106 UK workshops** using the same **4 workshop leaders** involving **82 funded hours**, reaching **1377 participants\*** and doing **24 shows** to an audience of **over 1702**

In **2021** we launched our '**PWB Produces**' project with a first successful partnership with **Circus Central** in Newcastle. Funding was achieved through **Sports England** and with support in kind from the **Percy Hedley Foundation**. We are currently looking to expand this project to new partner organisations.

[www.pwb.ngo/blackburn](http://www.pwb.ngo/blackburn)



**'PWB Produces' Delivered  
10 circus intervention  
workshops with \*41 SEN  
students and their 36  
support staff using 2 paid  
facilitators and 3  
volunteers**

*\* These are the total number of participants in each workshop, not the number of different children reached because some children would have attended multiple workshops.*



# HEADLINE FIGURES – FINANCIAL

## TURNOVER:

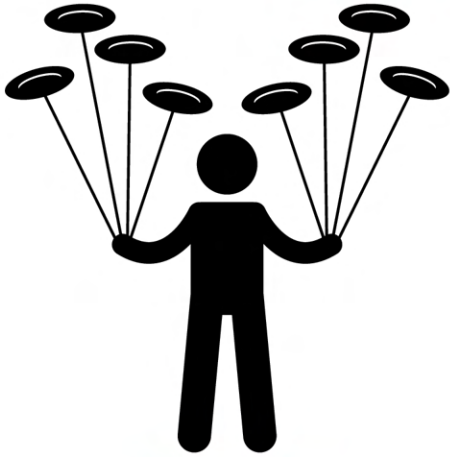
July 2022-2023 = £17,498 (restricted £10,385, unrestricted £7113)

July 2023-2024 = £5130 (unrestricted £5130, project spending £17,041)

## Project Spending:

Awards for All - New College Worcester = £9050

PWB Philippines and India Tours = £7991



[www.pwb.ngo/pwb-uk/pwb-produces](http://www.pwb.ngo/pwb-uk/pwb-produces)



[www.pwb.ngo/category/pwb-central](http://www.pwb.ngo/category/pwb-central)



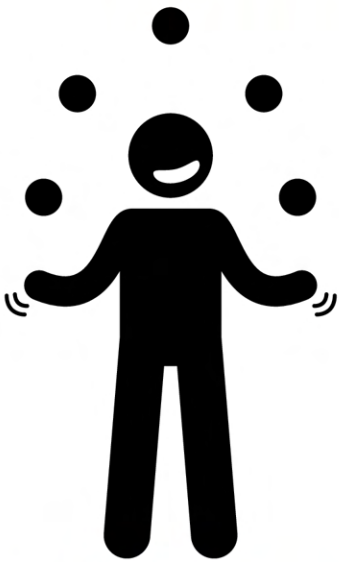


# 3. CHARITY OBJECTS & VISION

**Vision:** To teach performance arts and circus skills to young people who lack access to the artform, in the UK and Internationally in order to contribute to improving their physical, social and mental wellbeing.

**Charity Objectives:** To advance in life and relieve the needs of children and young people in such parts of the world as the trustees shall determine, and in particular those who are socially and/or economically disadvantaged, including by physical or mental disabilities through:

- (a) **The provision of recreational and leisure time activities in the performing arts and circus skills provided in the interest of social welfare, designed to improve their conditions of life.**
- (b) **Providing support and activities which develop their skills, capacities and capabilities to enable them to participate in society as mature and responsible individuals.**
- (c) **Raising awareness of the positive psychological and physical impact of training in, and experience of, performance arts and circus skills for children and young adults.**





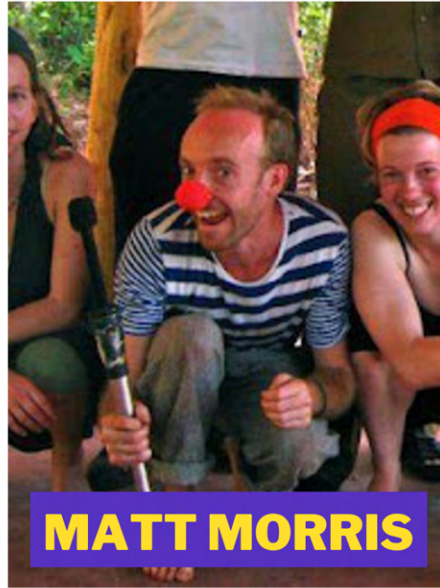
# 4. YEAR-YEAR



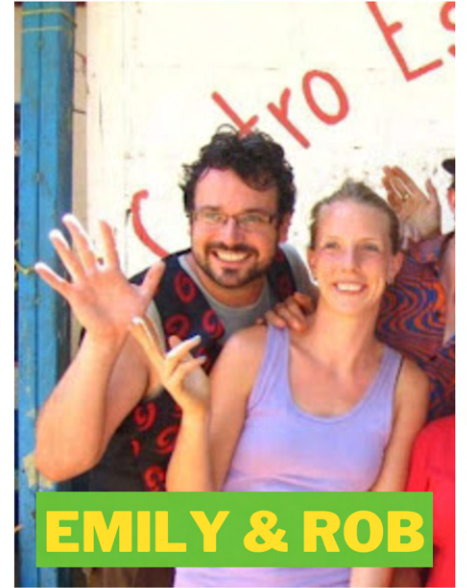
In 2007 Matt Morris and Jonny Forbes launched Performers Without Borders (PWB) with the first tour of India in 2008 with **8 volunteers** and we have returned every year since then. In 2013 Rob Thorburn led the first PWB Nicaragua Tour, followed by Sierra Leone's only tour in 2014 led by Peter King. Kenya was added to the regular tour list in 2016 led by Abi Cooper. In the meantime Francesca Dunford and Jess Herman, did short tours to Calais and Dunkirk bi-annually for **4 years**. All these International Tours were Managed by long time PWBer Emily Ball, who is now a Trustee (Secretary).



**JONNY FORBES**

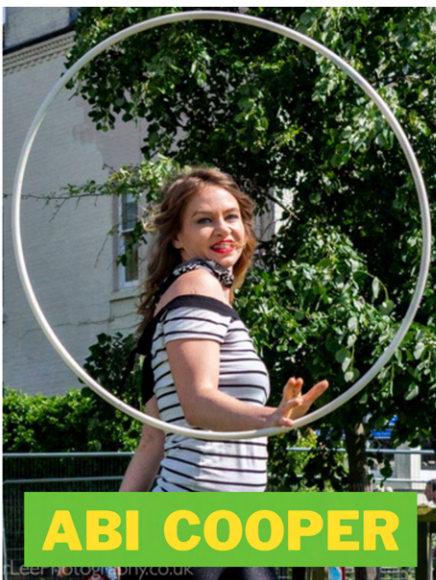


**MATT MORRIS**



**EMILY & ROB**

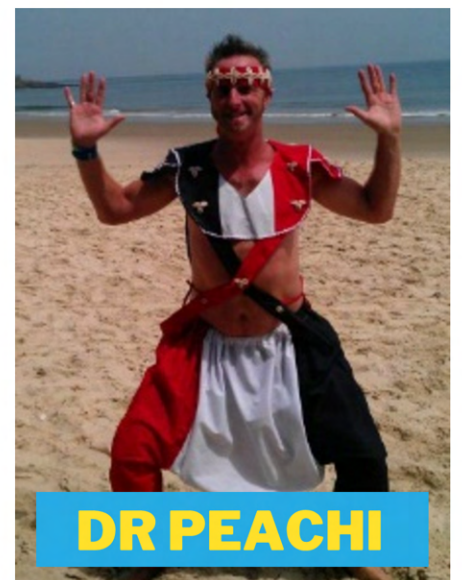
In January 2018 PWB-UK was launched with Peter King contracted to manage its development. The idea being that it would allow us to recruit a different variety of volunteers and access different funding streams, especially UK Trust Funds. In the summer of 2018, **3 taster** workshops were delivered to new UK partners dealing with visually and aurally impaired young people. In 2019 we delivered **8 workshops** to a special needs school under the NSC grant (see: [www.pwb.ngo/our-impact](http://www.pwb.ngo/our-impact)) In 2019/2020 PWB transformed to a CIO with a refreshed board of Trustees. We received our first grant from Awards for All in January 2020 to teach Looked After Children in the Blackburn area circus skill but because of the arrival of Covid19 restrictions in March 2020 we had to delay delivering that programme until Autumn 2021, as well as suspending our 2021 - 2023 International Tours.



**ABI COOPER**



**CHEZ & JESS**



**DR PEACHI**

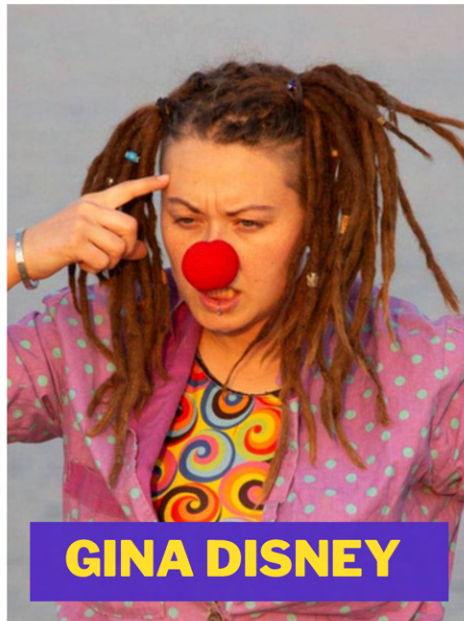


# 4.1 YEAR-YEAR

During 2021 PWB appointed Jamie Moore as the new General Manager and Gina Disney as the new Tour Manager, Fundraiser and Volunteer Coordinator, this saw a renewal of energy to PWB with some big ideas of where to go in the future! We also saw Julia Cooke and Iain McDonald appointed to UK regional manager status with intentions of achieving more grant funded work up north and in Scotland. In 2023 we restarted our international tours with launching our Philippines project working with the UN SDSN.



**JAMIE MOORE**



**GINA DISNEY**



**JULES COOKE**

[www.pwb.ngo/case-studies](http://www.pwb.ngo/case-studies)



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[www.pwb.ngo](http://www.pwb.ngo)



# 5. OPERATIONS SUMMARY

PWB delivers high-quality circus skills and performance arts workshops and shows in the UK and internationally. We have 3 part-time contracted managers, and everyone else is a volunteer. We advertise for volunteers for our international tours every year online between March and August and the rest of the year in person at events. Our UK operations only operate with funding where we pay our workshop leaders an average industry rate for their work. We successfully introduced our Partner Organisations (POs) on our longstanding tour in India to our legacy students in 2024, the future of this tour is under consideration. We are continuing to explore new locations and partnerships globally.

## 5.1 - PWB-International (P-Int)

Historically we have supported around 20 volunteers to go on tours to India, Nicaragua, Kenya, the Philippines and Calais from around January to March. We work with local POs to deliver a series of circus skills workshops and performances to vulnerable children and communities in their care. On some projects we help them create their own performance, which is delivered to the local community at the end project. We have now started new projects with sustainability in mind with the intention of delivery to be handed over to local youth leaders to continue the work amongst their communities.

Due to Covid19 uncertainties we decided to cancel our 2021-2023 Tours and focus on fundraising and PWB-UK work instead. Please see below for a list of Tours from previous years and their impact. For more details (photos, videos and blogs) of the tours please see:

[www.pwb.ngo/our-tours/](http://www.pwb.ngo/our-tours/)







# 5.1 PWB-INTERNATIONAL (P-INT)

We had to stop our international tours from **2020-2023** due to the pandemic, including being unable to revisit our **Calais and Dunkirk** project because, due to the increasing cost of living crisis, we want to restart our projects here but will have to wait until it can become fundable or affordable, as after the covid crisis and then subsequent relief funding ending, it has become increasingly difficult to fundraise.

However, we have managed to make a comeback between **2023 and 2024** with our new project starting in the **Philippines**, our managers travelling to **Thailand** to work with **Spoon Circus**, and delivering the 4-year gap-planned handover **legacy tour** in India.

We are now looking forward to the next 5 years in the **Philippines** working with the **United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network Youth Philippines Division. (UN SDSN)**

TOUR	# Workshops	# Hours	# Participants	# Shows	# Audience	# PWBers
INDIA 2020	39	84	3182	13	2380	6
KENYA 2020	32	75	458	4	180	6
GREECE NOV 2019	15	18	1500	4	610	4
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>5140</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3170</b>	<b>16</b>
PHILIPPINES 2023	13	40	1432	14	10,443	6
THAILAND 2024	9	11	249	1	89	2
INDIA 2024	39	88	1544	26	7661	7
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>3225</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>18,193</b>	<b>15</b>



# 5.2 PWB-UK

Since January 2018 PUK has been delivering self-funded taster sessions to Partner Organisations (PO's) in the UK, such as the **Royal Society for Blind Children** in London, the **Manchester Deaf Centre and St Vincent's School** for the Visually Impaired in Liverpool, **Shropshire Supports Refugees, New College Worcester** (school of the blind) delivered by Jamie Moore, Peter King and Gina Disney. We are continuously applying for project grants backed from these sessions and happy to talk to any potential PO's or fundraising streams.



## Swiss Cottage School for Special Needs Project - Network for Social Change £7,200

In March 2019, For more see: [www.pwb.ngo/pwb-uk/](http://www.pwb.ngo/pwb-uk/) & [www.pwb.ngo/swisscottage/](http://www.pwb.ngo/swisscottage/)

## Looked After Children Blackburn - Awards for All Grant £9,660

On 25th Oct 2019 PWB delivered a free taster session at **Blackburn With Darwen (BwD)** Children's Services Participation Relaunch Event, attended by Looked After Children (LAC) and associated professionals. It proved popular and after conducting surveys we managed to get more funding to return via **National Lottery Community Fund of £10,000**.

For more on this evaluation please see: [www.pwb.ngo/blackburn/](http://www.pwb.ngo/blackburn/)



## New College Worcester - National Lottery Community Fund £10,000

After self-funding 4 workshops at Visually Impaired residential school **New College Worcester** in 2022 we managed to obtain funding to return for a longer intervention with the aim of teaching fire skills at the end of the project. We have delivered half this project in 2023 and will finish in 2024.

## 'PWB Produces' Percy headley & Circus Central - Sports England £4900

In 2023 we launched 'PWB Produces' and working alongside **Circus Central** in Newcastle and the **Percy Hedley Foundation** we managed to obtain partial funding from **Sports England**, and the **Percy Hedley Foundation** contributed **£1500** to meet the full funding target.

For more on this evaluation please see: [www.pwb.ngo/pwb-uk/pwb-produces/](http://www.pwb.ngo/pwb-uk/pwb-produces/)



# PWB-UK

The table below lists our main impact figures for PWB-UK, but please see our website for more details of our work in the UK: [www.pwb.ngo/pwb-uk/](http://www.pwb.ngo/pwb-uk/)

In January 2022 we received a further **£10,000** from the **National Lottery Community Fund** to continue this project. The project was delivered successfully in line with the budget and time frame. During this project we introduced fire performing to the older participants, for a memorable experience.

Link to our YouTube channel PUK-Playlist: [www.youtube.com/watch?v=N90AFFBhzKs&list=PLV9fEOI1blggc00FLXC8QTGIf57wT9IJ&index=3](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N90AFFBhzKs&list=PLV9fEOI1blggc00FLXC8QTGIf57wT9IJ&index=3)

TOUR	# Sessions	PWB Hours	# Attended	# Shows	# Audience	# PWBers
PUK 2018-2019	7	19	62	6	69	6
PUK 2019-2020	11	25	380	5	152	8
PUK 2020-2021	2	0	60	2	250	4
PUK 2021-2022	53	90	920	7	355	4
PUK 2022-2023	17	82	1377	3	726	2
PUK 2023-2024	16	54	327	1	150	4
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>370</b>	<b>3126</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>1702</b>	<b>28</b>





# 6. FINANCIAL SUMMARY

PWB-HQ is mainly funded by individual donations via our small donations fundraising network – the **FAB500** ([www.pwb.ngo/fab500](http://www.pwb.ngo/fab500)) which raises about **£500pm** which is about **£6000py**. The remainder comes from Events or General Giving (EGG) which varies from year to year but averages out at about **£1200** per year. We aim to keep around **£3,000** in reserves to cover 3 months expenses and possible emergency repatriation costs from our International Tours.

Apart from that, our only other income stream is restricted from **project grants**, one-off workshops for PWB-UK or from our **volunteer contributions** that are raised to go on tour. The latter averages out at about **£1000 per volunteer** and is used to pay for their accommodation, food and travel costs whilst on tour and totals around **£11,000** per year. Flights, vaccinations and travel insurance are all paid directly by our volunteers, and the tours usually break even every year, although we allow for about **£2000 for Tour Coordinator costs**. Last year PWB made a decision to use our surplus from previous years to self-fund the **Philippines Tour**. Which is why our balance has dropped below **£6000**.

This year our restricted income was again boosted by the **Awards for All grant** for **£9985**, which was delivered in Autumn 2023. PWB-UK had an earned income of **£400**.

PERFORMERS WITHOUT BORDERS							
BALANCE SHEET							
AS AT 30th June 2024							
		2023			2022		
Fixed assets		£		£	£		£
Tangible assets - workshop kit		75			150		
Depreciated to zero				0			75
Current Assets							
Cash at bank and in hand				5,977			21,493
Creditors				0			0
Net current assets				5,977			21568



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## PERFORMERS WITHOUT BORDERS (July 2023-June 2024)

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 June 2024

		Totals	Totals
		2024	2023
		£	£
<b><u>Incoming Resources</u></b>			
Incoming resources & generated funds			
	Donations	5130	5,809
	Fundraisers	0	1,304
	Volunteer contributions	0	0
	PWB-UK earned income	0	400
	Grants	0	9,985
	<b>Total incoming resources</b>	<b>5130</b>	<b>17,498</b>
<b><u>Resources Expended</u></b>			
	Marketing	1,035	438
	Admin	115	775
	Bank Charges	0	0
	Safeguarding checks	0	24
	Training	0	331
	Contractors	2,400	3,000
	PWB-UK costs	0	8,300
	Grant expenditure	9,050	4,135
	Tour costs	7,991	0
	<b>Total resources expended</b>	<b>20,592</b>	<b>17,003</b>
	Net income for the year	-15,462	495
	<b>Fund balances at 30th June 2024</b>	<b>5,977</b>	<b>21,439</b>



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

The company is entitled to the exemption from the audit requirement contained in section 477 of the Companies Act 2006, for the year ended 28 February 2015. Members have not required the company to obtain an audit, since no member of the company has deposited a notice, pursuant to section 476, requiring an audit of these accounts.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act and for preparing accounts which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to accounts, so far as applicable to the company.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to small companies within Part 15 the Companies Act 2006.

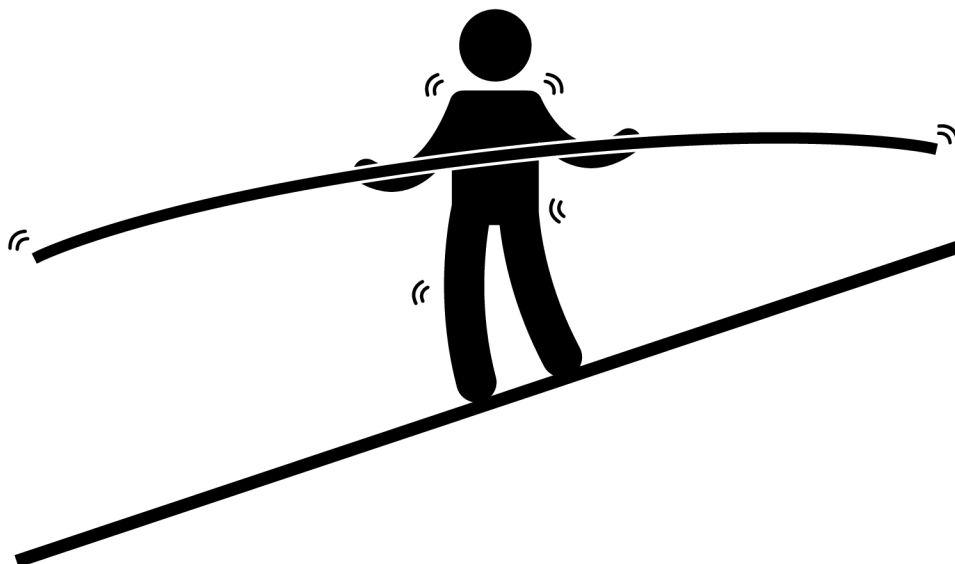
The accounts were approved at the AGM by the Board on 2nd March 2024.

11/12/23

Claire Bader

Chair of the Trustees

Charity Number: 1121236



**Independent Examiners report not required this year as turnover is under £25,000.**



# 7. FUTURE PLANS

Writing this in March 2025 after submitting our accounts to the Charity Commission I can say that starting our International Touring again has been a success after such a long break and we have come back with new energy, people and ideas to look forward to in the coming years! In the UK we have been met with funding difficulties due to the current political climate but are looking at launching new avenues of funding streams. We continue to work on expanding our operations with some exciting prospects listed below.

## 7.1 – Future Prospects

**PWB Philippines** – After a successful reconnaissance tour in the Philippines and solidifying our new partnership with UN SDSN, we are planning on opening applications again and delivering in October 2024. This is part of a 5-year project commitment to bring circus arts to youth champions around Negros Island!

**PWB SDSN** - We are applying for a membership with SDSN to raise awareness and attend conferences and make new connections in other countries that they operate within.

**PWB India** - We will keep mentoring the India project while looking at changing it's format entirely to a legacy continuation where our longstanding students from Asha-Deep Vidyashram (The Kashi Fire Warriors) will continue to deliver social circus projects supported by PWB.

**PWB Produces** - Having already completed one PWB Produces project successfully with Circus Central in Newcastle we will look at finding more Partner Organisations in the UK to develop a new project for this we have appointed a new trial Regional Manager for Scotland.

**PWB Residential's** - This is a new idea we are looking into developing for 2024/25 connecting Social Circuses around the globe with our volunteers for short stay experiences, looking at supporting teacher training, equipment distribution and further outreach, working alongside Caravan network.

**PWB Documentary** - We are looking at creating a feature length documentary of our tours in the Philippines, opening doors to film funding and sharing the story of PWB following this new project. Expect a video release in 2024!



**We look forward to increasing the depth and range  
of our outstanding legacy of impacts  
in 2024 and onwards!**

*Report written by Gina Disney, Dr Peter King and Jamie Moore and designed by Gina Disney*

