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A Standing Ovation for Dr Jane at the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology Lecture

On the 25th February, Dr Jane Goodall gave the [2020 DICE Lecture](#) on “*Gombe and beyond: chimpanzees, conservation and change*”.

The Roots & Shoots event



The lecture theatre

Photos: University of Kent

Dear Members,

What unsettling times we find ourselves in. I'm sure I speak for a number of us when I say, three months of lockdown is becoming rather tedious. Certainly here in the UK, the future is both uncertain and unpredictable. And the shocking number of fatalities from Covid-19 has placed a very dark shadow across our planet.

Life, as we now know it, is extremely difficult and uncertain, not just on a national level, but global too. I understand you must be feeling worried and fearful of how things will turn out but I want you to know that R&S is here to support you through these challenging times.

And, I still have hope. Hope for our planet, hope for mankind, hope for the future and hope for the next generation. And on that note, I am proud to present you with the latest edition of our exciting newsletter, which proves, that even with a global pandemic and subsequent lockdown, there is every reason to hope, and no stopping our resilient and resourceful Roots & Shoots members!

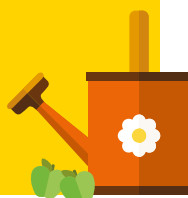
Dr Jane Goodall has shared some wonderful messages of hope and her unshaken belief in a brighter future, because when things are in crisis, [hope has the power to transform](#).

[Our special guide](#) has been specifically tailored towards Roots & Shoots activities that can be undertaken during this difficult period of isolation. For me personally, nature has always been a wonderful escape and indeed a healing tool in difficult times and I take every opportunity to embrace it whenever I can.

Stay safe and well, support loved ones, neighbours and your local communities.

We are with you all the way!

Tara Golshan
Executive Director, Education



Wirral Home Educators

We are a unique group of home educating families raising our children in the North West of England. Environmental education has a special importance in our home educating journey

Photos: Wirral Home Educators



Sowing native wildflower seeds



Visiting the Local Recycling centre



Making 'poo cake'



The bug hotel

Our aim is for our children to become self-confident, conscious adults, who contribute to the regeneration of this planet rather than to its destruction. We believe that through play they can learn a tremendous amount and by joining Roots & Shoots we wanted the children to learn about environmental issues too, whilst having fun.

The age of the children in [our group](#) ranges between 4 and 9 so we tailor our activities for this age group. We have had various activities in the past 18 months since joining R&S concerned with helping either animals, the environment and/or the human community. One of the children's favourite activities is [World Toilet Day](#) (a UN day on every 15 November) which we traditionally celebrate by making 'poo cakes'. Using just a few ingredients (plain biscuit, butter, sugar and cocoa powder) the children knead it to the size, colour and shape of their liking. While they are working, we gently quiz them about how they think less fortunate people in developing countries go about their business and discuss the issue with them. A hit activity every year!

Every child loves animals and our aim is that our children keep on loving and respecting the animal kingdom we are part of. For now, we try to help animals on our doorstep, and have made [bird food](#) using fat and seeds, [sowed wildflower seeds](#) for pollinators to feed on and created an awesome [bug hotel](#) for solitary bees. It is absolutely heart-warming to see how well children respond and point out flowers and bees every time they see one.

Plastic is a tremendous burden on the planet and our children are well aware of it. Even the littlest ones don't question recycling, it is the norm for them. Last year

we also made a fascinating visit to a [local recycling centre](#) with an educational area which was really interesting for children and adults alike. Unfortunately, not all plastic types are recycled but we use the non-recycled ones to create [eco bricks](#). These are plastic bottles filled with unrecyclable plastic to a predefined density, so they are hard and sturdy enough to be used as bricks. It is incredible what these can be used for, from making tables and shelf holders to building actual houses with them. Another way we made use of plastic bottles is making compost in them. These "compost bottles" are using our raw plant-based food scraps and alternating layers of this with layers of soil in a plastic bottle, then leaving them outdoors for bacteria to work its magic.

In the beginning of November, we also disposed of [our Halloween](#) pumpkins through feeding wild animals and those in animal shelters. None of our Halloween pumpkins ended up in the landfill.

At Christmas we got the opportunity to take part at the Christmas tree festival of Chester Cathedral which was dubbed "Christmas Tree-Cycled Festival". The decorations that children prepared had to be made of recycled material. The festival while raising awareness of recycling also supported two local charities.

In 2019 we were honoured with a Gold certificate and an invitation to the R&S award ceremony in London. It was wonderful to see and learn from the creativity of fellow R&S groups and to meet Dr Jane Goodall personally.

Children and adults in our group will continue to strive to make the world a better place for people, animals and the environment.

At last, a lockdown perk! Storytime with Jane – virtual book readings!

As we all know, Dr Jane travels about 300 days a year – lectures; conference; events; fundraisers to name just a few of her portfolio of activities... But the last few months our eminent traveller has had to spend the time in lockdown at her home in Bournemouth, UK.

Most might have taken this time to relax but not Dr Jane. In true style she has not stopped working – interviews; webinars; virtual events... she has done it all!

In keeping of her character she also did not forget all the young people at home and wanted to do something special for them – so began 'Storytime with Jane', where Dr Jane does a live reading of some of her children's books. What a treat for all. Enjoy!

[Chimpanzee Family Book](#); [Elephant Family](#); [Me...Jane](#) and the [Eagle and the Wren](#)



Gombe 60

2020 is the landmark year where we celebrate the amazing landmark of 60 years that the Gombe Research Centre has been running. [Watch this space](#) for some exciting upcoming events and merchandise

Check out the pets of JGI and share a cute photo of your little bundle of joy!

The Jane Goodall Institute and its many worldwide programmes are the tangible demonstration of Jane's vision turned into reality. Just like the rest of the world, JGI staff all over the globe were at home, continuing to work tirelessly to fulfil our mission. But as we work toward that mission, we can sometimes forget how to restore ourselves and recognize our connections to one another.

It's crystal clear, now more than ever, that the community we've built as a JGI team, and with our audiences, is precious.

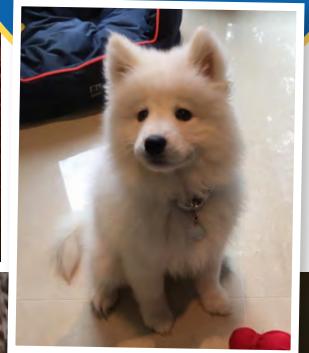
Being in lockdown/isolation is tough and now more than ever we see the 'little' things that actually make us so happy – like our pets!

So, we wanted to share a few snaps of [our lockdown buddies](#) that made this time more bearable and very often fun, including Dr Jane's dog, Bean!

And we would love to see who you spend your precious time with at home! [Join us in sharing](#) your sources of inspiration and keep us all moving forward.



Please share photos on [Instagram](#) (and tag us) using the hashtag [#MyLockdownBestie](#)



Dr Jane's dog Bean

Peace Day 2020 – we can still celebrate!

This Autumn, we might not be able to gather together to fly our giant doves but we can certainly celebrate [Peace day](#), and indeed, make it a special day!

This year is more important than ever to unite (even from afar), and the theme couldn't be more fitting – '[Shaping Peace Together](#)'

Here at Roots & Shoots we would like to encourage you to take part. Here are a few ideas to get you started;

- Sing the Peace Day [Song](#)
- Share ideas – what is Peace? What can we do together to have a more peaceful World?
- Make a Giant Dove [RSPeaceDay-GiantPeaceDoves](#) (get the whole family involved and fly it in your garden) and Small Peace day Doves [Small Dove Instructions](#)
- Write a pledge on your dove - what can you do to bring Peace and harmony to your local environment, and/or the world stage?

Photo: Burdick Photography



Artwork by Rachael Clark



Photo: Claire Quarendon

And of course, share your pledges and photos with us!
We will create a gallery and inspire even more people!
E-mail Jasmina Georgovska at jasmina@janegoodall.org.uk

Eco-Action Taskforce, Ysgol Clywedog, Wrexham

Since its conception in September 2019, the Tyfu Project run by the newly formed School Eco-Action Taskforce at Ysgol Clywedog has gone from strength to strength

The initial aim of the project was simply to take over a disused boggy sports field and turn it into a haven of biodiversity and outdoor learning. The pupils (aged 11-16) meet weekly to discuss and then implement the actions that need to be taken.

In October 2019 the pupils in the Eco-taskforce held a 'Tree Planting Party' to plant 250 trees of mixed types from the Woodland Trust. This was the first step in the whole plan and the intention of this was to soak up the water in the ground and make the field usable again. This was a great success!

Since then, we have been working in partnership with local groups and businesses to really make an impact. The Wirral Tree Wardens have donated 50 additional trees to add to our project area.

Following this the pupils planned and started planting an allotment to grow their own fruit and vegetables onsite. The intention of this was to improve outdoor learning, improve mental health, improve teamwork and confidence, and give more pupils access to this well being project. The pupils had planted potatoes, butternut squash, strawberries, sweet potatoes and a variety of wildflowers. However, they knew that with only a few people onsite at school these could not be looked after. During



The school allotment

Lockdown these seedlings had to be moved over to gardens of local retired residents and some members of the local Friends of the Earth group to be looked after. This had a really positive knock on effect of linking the school to the local community and helping those that are isolated during this period.

Alongside these outdoor activities, the Tyfu project has taken on a wider scope focusing on plastic pollution and waste both in school and across the world. In school the pupils have run seasonal campaigns to promote plastic free shopping such as Halloween 'Plastic is the Real Monster'.

When we started on this journey our expectations were low and our plans small. The student's passion to make a difference



The Eco-Club



Photos: Ysgol Clywedog, Wrexham

The Tree Planting Party

and their capacity for good has changed everything. The phrase 'Act local, Think Global' has been expanded to 'Act Local, Act Global' and the students are realising that they CAN make a difference to the environment and people's lives around the world from a comprehensive school on the outskirts of Wrexham. You are never too small to make a difference!

For more information on our wider reach please visit the [Roots & Shoots blog](#)

AROUND THE WORLD



INDIA

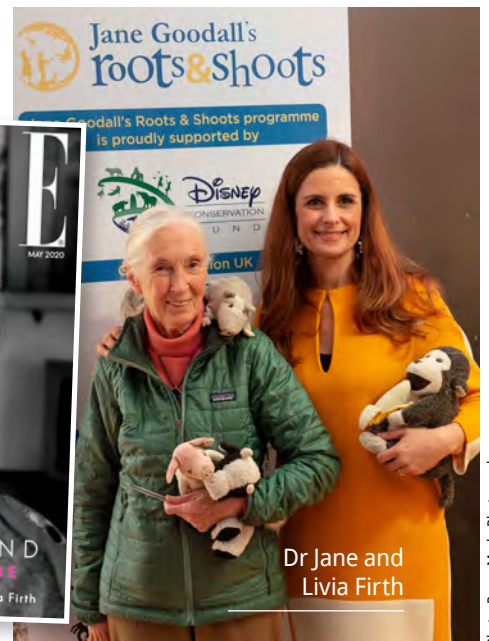
Elle India Exclusive: Dr Jane Goodall, our May cover star, in conversation with Livia Firth

Eco-Age co-founder and creative director Livia Firth chats to the ever-inspiring Dr Jane Goodall, DBE on the resilience of nature, hope in the indomitable human spirit and how this pandemic is an opportunity to start over.

Livia is a long-time associate and supporter of Roots & Shoots and was the prestigious judge of our UK Trashion Show last year! Their inspiring conversation can be found [here](#).



The Elle India cover



Dr Jane and Livia Firth

Photo: Roger Marks Photography

An Uplifting and Inspiring Day at our UAE Awards

Our Roots & Shoots UAE Awards 2020, supported by NYU Abu Dhabi (NYUAD) was held at the beautiful Park Hyatt, Abu Dhabi in the presence of Dr Jane Goodall who presented 12 awards to UAE school members.

Dr Jane recognized students' achievements in a ceremony that was attended by NYUAD Vice Chancellor Mariët Westermann, alongside representatives from NYUAD, and over 100 youth from more than 20 schools across the nation. The 12 primary and secondary school-age students presented their projects.

Dr Jane commented, *"I am excited that R&S has taken root in the UAE. It now has groups across the UAE. During my current visit I attended the annual UAE R&S Awards Celebration. For the sixth time, we selected groups from around the UAE who have undertaken outstanding projects, some of which are ongoing, to come together to present their work and receive special recognition and certificates. It was a wonderful occasion, inspirational, and one of the events that gives me the energy to keep on travelling 300 days a year."*

Projects undertaken by the Roots & Shoots clubs included planting Sidr tree

saplings, designing bird feeders from plastic waste, helping Syrian children build their English language skills, planting school gardens, producing solar model windmills, managing smart waste and turning it into organic compost.

Tara Golshan, Executive Director, Education, said *"Working in the UAE in the last six years has been such a rewarding and uplifting experience. Recently the Dubai Ministry told us that they are moving ahead with accrediting R&S as one of their recommended Educational programmes. This is a significant step forward. When I see the projects, dedication and commitment of our young members here, it has inspired me to continue on our often-challenging journey to protect our planet and develop responsible Global citizens of the future"*.

For further details about this amazing day [click here](#).



Dr Jane at schools' display



Photos: NYUAD

Dr Jane's 2020 UAE visit – phew what a week!

We were delighted that in early 2020, and luckily, just before the Pandemic took hold, Dr Jane managed to attend her [annual UAE visit](#).

The few days she spent there, were packed with events, lectures, book signings, meetings and of course our landmark Roots & Shoots Awards!

A glimpse of Dr Jane's schedule:

- Dr Jane Goodall gave a moving and inspirational speech at the Emirates Literature Festival in Dubai to a packed-out audience
- Dr Jane officially opened her Legacy Garden at Cranleigh School, Abu Dhabi!
- She inspired and educated at the prestigious Crown Prince Court Knowledge Seminar in Abu Dhabi
- The British Embassy Expo Launch event, Dr. Jane Goodall and Professor Tadhg O'Donovan, Associate Head of the School of Engineering and Physical Sciences at Heriot-Watt University Dubai, partook in a discussion on sustainability and efforts to combat climate change, alongside other notable industry experts from the UAE
- A day for interviews
- Awards day dedicated to Roots & Shoots



Photo: NYUAD



Photo: British Embassy



Photo: @julianjohphotography

Dr Jane officially opens her Legacy Garden at Cranleigh Abu Dhabi



Photo: Crown Prince Court Knowledge Seminar

Dr Jane inspires and educates at the prestigious Crown Prince Court Knowledge Seminar in Abu Dhabi

Our new official sponsor – Montessori

We are proud to announce that, owing to a [very successful collaboration](#), Montessori have now signed up to a further three years as the major sponsor of the Roots & Shoots programme. A very special thank you to their CEO Leonor Stepjic and a warm welcome to all their team. We look forward to an exciting partnership ahead.



The Montessori Resource Pack

Interested in a **live** Roots & Shoots Webinar?

SIGN UP NOW!

It has been hard to adjust to studying from home. It is now even more important than ever to remember that even with social distancing we can continue making a positive difference! And, in some cases, it can actually be a benefit.

If you feel that your class needs that extra inspiration or has questions on how to contribute from home, get in touch! We are here to support you.

We can organise a Zoom call with our Executive Director, Tara Golshan, for an interactive session with the students; a talk about our new 'environment'; asking questions; sharing ideas and getting tips on how to help the environment, animals and your local community during these challenging times.

If you are interested in booking a session please e-mail Jasmina Georgovska at jasmina@janegoodall.org.uk
We look forward to hearing from you!
the Roots & Shoots Team UK

Launching our brand-new collaboration with the Ministry of Education, UAE

We are very excited to announce a [brand new collaboration](#) with the Ministry of Education in the UAE. The Ministry of Education (MoE) is launching a Smart Virtual National Clubs program, which is an assessment station that supports students' skills. The program, which is to be implemented after the final results of the academic year 2019/2020 have been issued, targets students of public schools and private schools.

As being one of the partners, Roots & Shoots has taken a part of smart virtual national clubs program in providing Educational programs and assignments for the students to enhance their life skills in different aspects. Smart Virtual National Clubs depend on student's self-learning through educational platforms. They are distinguished for their flexibility in dealing with the self-learning contents or assessment procedures available on the platform. This should contribute to raising the efficiency of a student's performance and enabling them to gain the skills targeted in the program and take responsibility for their learning and assessment.

Our resources will soon be available on the Smart Virtual National Clubs through educational platforms.

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION



الإمارات العربية المتحدة
وزارة التربية والتعليم

Get kids in touch with Nature! Join up now for the chance of a **£250 grant!**

Here at Roots & Shoots we always aim to get children out into the natural world - so that they can enjoy, appreciate, respect and protect Nature!



And this year, we are delighted to offer a £250 grant to our member schools who [sign up and make this happen!](#)

Plant trees; create a pond; fruit and vegetable garden; a legacy garden – you name it, we would support it!

To learn more and to apply for the grant, please e-mail Jasmina Georgovska at jasmina@janegoodall.org.uk

Hurry
We Have Limited Spaces Available
And They Are Going Fast