



Dear Roots & Shoots Members,

As another year draws to a close, there is no doubt that we are still living through challenging times and trying to adapt to circumstances which are being described as the 'new normal'. What does that actually mean?

This month I suffered a major setback at work. Suffice it to say, if I were to find a parallel, it would be to have reached the top of the mountain after a strenuous climb, only to find myself right back at the bottom again, looking up.

Which raised the question; How do we maintain resilience in the face of major setbacks?

My young son recently reminded me of the famous Nelson Mandela quote; *"Do not judge me by my success. Judge me by how many times I fell down and got back up again"*

Maintaining valued connections, keeping a healthy perspective including gratitude, embracing change and building a sense of purpose were the four pillars that I found to be the most helpful.

In my opinion, Roots & Shoots is a way of living that embraces these pillars above all else. Through those values it has become not just a programme but a way of life. I see it continuing for many more years to come – building a better future for the next generations by ensuring their roles as responsible Global citizens.

If I ever feel like burying my head under my duvet instead of facing the world, all I need to do is just tap into the amazing stories of our young members from across the Globe, highlighted in our 30th Anniversary Global Awards.

Read on for just a few of them.

Happy New Year and warm wishes for 2022.

Tara

Tara Golshan  
Executive Director, Education



## WINTER TERM 2021



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# The Enduring Hope of Jane Goodall



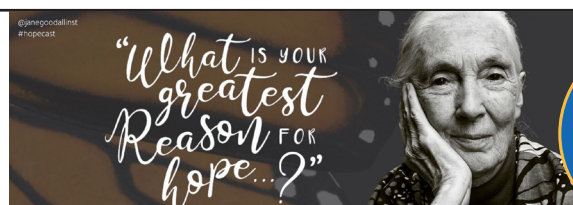
**Now, more than ever, we need reasons for hope, and that is exactly the topic that Dr Jane Goodall and internationally bestselling author Douglas Abrams explore in *The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for an Endangered Planet*.**

The book explores one of the most sought-after and least understood elements of human nature – hope. Through intimate and thought-provoking dialogue, Jane explains her 'Four Reasons for Hope': the amazing human intellect, the resilience of nature, the power of young people and the

indomitable human spirit. She discusses the many extraordinary people and animals she has encountered around the world, and what has given her the strength to tirelessly continue to spread her message.

Jane talks for the first time about how she became a messenger of hope, from living through World War II to her years at Gombe, to realising she had to leave the forest and chimpanzees she had grown to love to take her message to people around the world. She also shares her revelations about her next, and perhaps final, adventure.

The book is available on [Amazon UAE](#) and coming to local bookstores soon.



Hopecast  
Season 2  
is HERE!

**Scientist. Activist. Storyteller. Icon.**

Jane Goodall blazed the trail and changed the world. Now, she's studying new subjects – humans! The [second season](#) of her incredible podcast will take listeners on a one-of-a-kind journey as they learn from Dr. Goodall's extraordinary life, hear from changemaking guests from every arena and become awed by a growing movement sparked by Jane and fuelled by hope.

JOIN US AS WE **GET CURIOUS, GROW COMPASSION,**  
AND **TAKE ACTION TO BUILD A BETTER WORLD** FOR ALL

# COP26

the time for action is

**NOW**

The last few years have witnessed relentless challenges for our Planet and its inhabitants. Apathy and avoidance is no longer possible. It is time for action.

COP26, therefore, was more important than ever – where young people from across the Globe, spoke up about the pressing issues that need addressing – now!

As the leading voice in conservation and an expert in animal behaviour, [Dr Jane Goodall](#) was announced as Advocate of COP26 and her mission was to speak to World Leaders about the vital relationship between nature and climate.

"In my 87 years, I have seen the ice melting in Greenland and the glaciers vanishing on Mount Kilimanjaro and around the world. Forests are disappearing – deforestation means we are losing one of the lungs of the world. It is crucial that world leaders come together at COP26 to take urgent action to protect our planet."

Dr Jane took part in numerous events, including the [PRESIDENCY EVENT: Intergenerational Inquiry: Youth stepping up for Climate Action](#), where she was joined by Vikram Malhi (UCL Roots & Shoots), who spoke about the impact of Roots & Shoots to young people from all over the World. The session facilitated a dialogue between youth leaders and high-profile experts sharing experiences and stories of change. It brought generations together to learn from each other and amplify the scale of climate action.



Vikram Malhi at the PRESIDENCY EVENT - Intergenerational Inquiry - Youth stepping up for Climate Action

Vikram commented, "*Speaking alongside Dr Jane Goodall on an international platform about the lessons Roots & Shoots has taught me, and continues to teach others, on how we can fight climate change, was a truly awesome experience.*"

*Having people from around the world listen to you when you have barely started your career was an incredibly unique experience many young people often do not get. Furthermore, to be introduced by someone you admire as greatly as I admire Dr Goodall will make this a memory I will always treasure."*

Dr Jane and Roots & Shoots youth also took part in the [Realising a Compassionate Planet](#) event alongside representatives from the Children's Parliament.



We are so proud that the UK was represented by Amelia Litherland and Maylis Riera – both inspirational young ladies that talked with passion about the projects they are involved in and the importance of connecting to nature. Roots & Shoots representatives from Tanzania, Argentina and Puerto Rico were also able to join and share their experiences.

It was also uplifting to see our young Roots & Shoots members taking part in an important debate: [TEDxGWE](#) talk by the Eco-Taskforce students at Ysgol Clywedog in Wrexham for COP26 in Glasgow. Used as a call to action for the World Leaders, the team focused on the plight of Bees across the world and showed how their rapid decline will affect humanity.

## #TreesForJane

Trees are important. They are part of the natural ecosystems of our planet. They clean the air, they provide homes for animals, insects and plants, they provide food that we eat, their roots help the water cycle – in fact, they are so much more important than many of you realise. Now, Dr Jane Goodall needs YOU to help our trees.

Dr Jane Goodall has set up Trees For Jane, a new movement which aims to stop deforestation while helping to replenish the world's dwindling stock of trees and forests through community-based protection and reforestation programs.



It also empowers individuals to plant and care for their own tree or trees in their back gardens, rooftops, or with local community groups. It is a campaign in support of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030).

And we want YOU to get involved! [Find out how and get active!](#)

A special activist roundtable was held on the 22nd September and you can watch the event [here](#).

We were proud to have Alex Marshall representing the UK. Alex is a BSc Zoology graduate with a love of art, science, travel and the natural world. She is currently an intern with Andover Trees United, and the People's Trust for Endangered Species, where she is carrying out a research project on the Small Heath butterflies within Harmony Woods.

A short film 'A Trillion Trees' – directed and produced by Jeff Horowitz and narrated by Dr. Jane Goodall, was shown at [Goal House](#) in support of launching their Trees for Jane grassroots campaign.



# Planting Hope on International Peace Day 2021

We were delighted that the [Andover Trees United \(ATU\)](#) and the town of Andover hosted the Peace Day Parade for the fourth time in the UK. It was amazing to welcome four Roots & Shoots member schools, carrying their doves of peace in Harmony Woods, the community woodland that they are all helping to plant. For 2021, we asked our members to join the Roots & Shoots family around the world in #PlantingHope – and are so happy that many took part and embraced this important message.

Trees and plants represent hope, new life, growth, and development. They enrich the environment, and our lives. They help people, animals and the planet, thus embracing the goals of Roots & Shoots.

Tara Golshan, Executive Director, Education said: *“Peace is personal to the individual, meaning different things to different people. But, I believe at its core, it represents collaboration, understanding, empathy and compassion.”*

*Now, more than ever, we must be united in achieving Peace – peace between ourselves, in our Planet and in the natural World.*



Photo: Terri Forbes

Planting Hope on International Peace Day 2021, at Harmony Woods

*I was privileged to join the procession at the beautiful Harmony Woods and meet so many like-minded individuals and inspiring young people. We need to stand strong for the future, and I believe that our young Roots & Shoots members are well braced for this. Thank you Andover Trees United for hosting us once again and for being part of this important mission!”*



Photo: Roots &amp; Shoots



Photo: Terri Forbes

## Delhi Private School Sharjah (DPS Sharjah) observed the International Day of Peace

To accentuate the significance of peace and integration in a world grappling with the repercussions of the global Pandemic. Clad in serene white, the Principal and Director, Ms. Vandana Marwaha, along with Vice-Principals, HMs, supervisors, and teachers planted saplings to pay homage to world peace as the innate beauty of the world can be embellished only by the glittering symbols of peace.



DPS Sharjah celebrates Peace Day



Photos: DPS Sharjah

## GEMS United Indian School

Commemorated the International Day of Peace with the theme Recovering better for an equitable and sustainable world. Students of secondary classes performed a street play by keeping the protocols of COVID 19.

They recited the Peace poems virtually and exchanged the messages to staff and students.

You can watch the street play [here](#)

What a wonderful way to Plant Hope!

Thank you all for honouring this special day for Dr Jane and for all of us!

## The Renaissance Awards – all about the Youth Leaders



Dr Jane Goodall was delighted to support The Renaissance Awards, launched by Eco Age and spearheaded by eco-fashion icon, Livia Firth [@therenaissanceawards](#), [@liviafirth](#) and [@ecoage](#) in creating [this beautiful movie!](#)

The Renaissance Awards is the first global awards dedicated to the work of

international young leaders who are working for a more environmentally regenerative, socially just, economically inclusive and technologically balanced future. More about the Awards can be found here [www.therenaissanceawards.com/](http://www.therenaissanceawards.com/) and here you can watch to Dr Jane's message.



# Jane Goodall Institute Partners with DP World to support the growth of **Roots & Shoots**

DP World are a leading provider of worldwide smart end-to-end supply chain logistics with a presence in 55 countries, enabling the flow of trade across the globe. This exciting partnership will support the expansion of existing Roots & Shoots groups and the development of new groups around the world, including the provision of a new schools outreach officer. It will also support the creation of new Roots & Shoots resources focusing on the marine ecosystem.

**Dr Jane Goodall, DBE, said:** “Roots & Shoots is empowering young people to make a difference in their local communities in over 60 countries worldwide. DP World is a major global corporation, and it is heartening to know that they are committed to making positive

*change for people and the environment. All around the globe DP World staff share the Roots & Shoots goal of protecting our planet and by partnering together we hope to enable more young people to become the compassionate changemakers our world needs.”*

The partnership with DP World is being proudly led by the Jane Goodall Institute in the UK. You can watch Dr Goodall and Group Chairman & CEO of DP World, Sultan Ahmed Bin Sulayem being interviewed by pupils from Dunecrest School, Dubai [here](#)

Our ED also had the opportunity to meet with our new partners at DP World and visit their amazing Pavilion at the stunning EXPO exhibition hosted in Dubai, where Dr Jane Goodall gave a virtual talk to enthralled delegates.



Tara Golshan and Victoria Bowden (DP World) at EXPO Dubai 2021-2022

**DP WORLD**  
[www.dpworld.com](http://www.dpworld.com)

## The Amazing Darwin200 Voyage

Over the summer of 2021, three Roots & Shoots members joined the DARWIN200 UK Voyage aboard the 45 m long tall ship Pelican of London. The objective of the voyage was to circumnavigate the UK and study the health of the marine environment around the British Isles.

The Roots & Shoots members joined professional researchers to undertake systematic studies of plastic pollution, megafauna (whales, dolphins, basking sharks), and seabirds to collect data for key conservation surveys, and to create live, interactive maps showcasing their findings!

Visit [Darwin200 website](#) to learn more about the voyage. All three Roots & Shoots reps did an amazing job and made memories for life! Thank you Stewart McPherson and Darwin200 for this incredible opportunity!

You can find out more on

**Vikram Malhi's** (UCL Roots & Shoots) study on seabirds [Here](#).



**Solphia Zhou's** (Accrington St Christopher's Church of England High School) research projects [Here](#).

**Kainaat Hussain's** (Accrington St Christopher's Church of England High School) research projects [Here](#).

Kainaat on a research project



## #EATMEATLESS

– Good for Animals, the Earth & All

The Jane Goodall Institute presents this collection of recipes to illustrate the how and why of plant-based eating. Along with colourful food photography, quotes from Dr. Goodall interspersed throughout transform this plant-based staple into an inspiring guide to reclaiming our broken food system. In the UAE, you can purchase the book from various places, including [Amazon UAE](#)



## Our 30th Anniversary Global Awards – giving us Hope!

On the 23rd November, we had our very first Global Awards recognising the positive actions taken by so many young people from across the Globe. 30 years ago, Dr. Goodall started a movement to empower young people to be changemakers in their communities so that they may shape a better world for all. Today, after 30 years, we reflect on all of the hope, action, connection, and impact of hundreds of thousands of Roots & Shoots changemakers. [Watch](#) this once-in-a-lifetime awards event honouring Roots & Shoots projects done in honour of our 30th year, presented by activists and influencers including Arnold Schwarzenegger, IUCN president Razan Al Mubarak, Saad Amer and many more.

We've nominated groups from the UK and the UAE and celebrated a special mention of Ysgol Clywedog's TYFU project that was a finalist in the 'Growing Together' Long Term Award and Andover Trees United who are a finalist in the 'Longevity' category.



Image: Roots & Shoots Global

# Abu Dhabi HomeSchoolers Association

There are many ways we can take positive action and we are so proud of our homeschoolers who have not allowed the challenges of a pandemic to stand in their way.

Abu Dhabi HomeSchoolers Association (ADHSA) did not let the lockdown restrictions stop them from making a difference.

**Here is what they have done in 2020 - 2021 (reported by team leader Sameera Baig):**

ADHSA kids did an amazing job with the Beach Clean Up organised by DiveAbudhabi, off the seaside of LuLu Island. We collected an astonishing 65kgs of garbage, primarily consisting of bottle caps and glass bottles. We found fishing nets, plastic spoons and a lot of camping trash. Although a lot of trash collected was ocean debris, a good amount of it was by frequent campers and beach goers.

We would like to send a humble message out to the world to keep our oceans clean and that each one of us should do our part in achieving it. Reduce single use plastic that are non-essential, reduce intensive farming products that are not sustainable and be mindful of littering.



Beach clean-up

As COVID-19 spreads, millions do not have ready access to soap and water for handwashing. Every day in rural communities throughout sub-Saharan Africa, people suffer from a lack of access to clean, safe water. Children often bear the burden of walking miles (4kms) each day to find water in streams and ponds, full of water-borne disease that is making them and their families sick.

The home-educating families of the Abu Dhabi Homeschoolers Association (ADHSA) came together to help create awareness and raise funds which provided essential services like handwashing stations, health and hygiene training to the underprivileged communities in Africa. The money was raised with the help of our amazing students through various activities carried out virtually due to COVID restrictions.

Here is a [video](#) of the activities they've organised and have raised over 15,000AED!

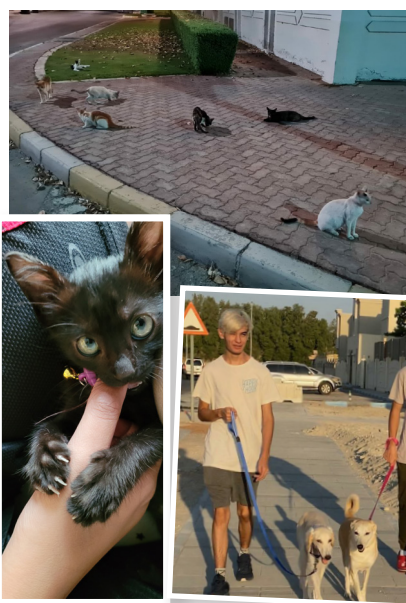
## Helping animals

**Reham, Raahim and Saaim**

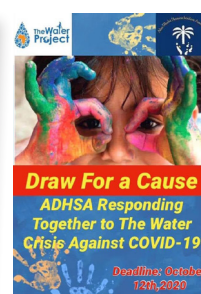
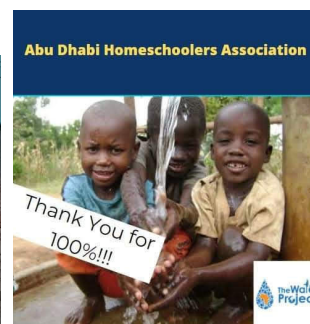
Our neighbourhood is filled with exotic creatures like colourful birds, foxes, and an array of wild cats. We often find these creatures on our evening strolls and mosque trips. We have found all our foster cats outdoors, especially the kittens when we are coming back from prayer. My brother and I fostered more than four cats including kittens in our home.

However, we frequently carry cat food around the blocks near our house to feed stray cats and numerous kittens who are often forgotten about. These cats are usually extremely thin, so we sometimes take both wet and dry cat food, along with a bowl of water. In the summertime, we have noticed cats get sick, so we also take specific cat vitamin pills to feed them along with their food. The cats are always grateful for our visits. They seem to sense when we are walking from many blocks away and run meowing. After they eat, we play with the friendly cats for a while

before making our way back home for the night. We love taking care of sick cats near our home too, we make houses for them with cardboard boxes and fill them with our blankets to keep warm. We also have a small garage that we leave open during the hot summer months and the cool winter months for them to take shelter. We buy a massive 7kg cat food pack that we keep in storage to have enough food for all the stray cats we feed. When we first started our cat feeding walk, we found only 3 cats that trusted us to feed them. After a few days almost 6 to 8 stray cats come nightly. When we come home, we have another 4-6 we feed and take care of. Some of our cats have gotten infections that were severe, and we made prompt vet trips through the years. Although it is a time-consuming job, it never got in the way of us taking care of our beloved cats. We often say that the number of cats we have is never enough, and we frequently look for more cats to add to our family.



Helping cats and dogs



The ADHSA Water Initiative

**Roberto Brown and Samuel Brown**

Our dog Dimas formerly known as Akoun was surrendered to Saluki Rescue Arabia along with his five siblings and mother. There are many Salukis in the Middle East who are dumped or surrendered after they are used for breeding.

Salukis have a smooth or feathered coat. They are one of the oldest domestic dogs in the world and they are considered royal dogs known for their prowess and loyalty.

Dimas was 6 months old when we agreed to foster him. But we immediately loved him and decided to adopt him. Training him has been a learning experience not just for Dimas but for us as well. He likes to chew on things and dig, so keeping him occupied is important. It is not easy to train a puppy, but the rewards are worth it. We have always chosen to adopt our pets either from reputable rescue organizations or shelters. By adopting animals that are already here on our planet we don't need to spend our resources on breeding animals. We can preserve the lives of homeless pets that are at risk of dying. What is more sustainable than that?! [www.salukirescuearabia.org](http://www.salukirescuearabia.org)



# Fossil Dunes clean-up at Al Wathba by the Private International English School

Tireless Eco Champs of Bhavans Natura, the school's Eco Club have participated enthusiastically in the Fossil Dunes Clean-up campaign, organised by the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi.

Participation of Arnav Rajesh Gr. 3, Aishwarya Shyjith, Amogh Rajesh and Govind Subash (Students of grade 7), Advait Sunil, Pranav Kiran, Pallavi Kiran and Rishon Augustine Santhosh (Students of grade 9) made the day extremely memorable.

Private International English School (PIES) aims to instil the values of environmental protection among the students, not only as a part of schools' extra-curricular activity but rather as a duty and responsibility as a global citizen. The school beams with pride with the presence of Abishek Shyjith, a former student of PIES; thus, highlighting the values instilled by the school as well as becoming a source of motivation for all our young minds.

Eco Champs have collected a large number of various types of waste materials including, tissues, masks, bottle caps, plastic bottles and broken glasses and handed over trash bags to the officials of EAD.



**Together We Make Change!**

**Well done PIES!**  
For more on their fantastic activities, [click here](#)

The sheer participation of parents along with the students made the event remarkable. This live experience enabled students to minimise the harmful effects of littering and to contribute to the healing of Mother Earth.

On behalf of the Bhavans Natura and PIES, a big salute to the parents (Mr. & Ms. Shyjith, Mr. Subash, Mr. Santhosh Augustine, Mr. & Ms. Rajesh C Prabhakar & Ms Shreelekha Kiran). Without their presence this day would not have been recorded in the history of PIES, Abu Dhabi.

Usha Kumari, Coordinator of SSI & Eco Club said: "I organise clean-

up campaigns based on Sustainable Development Goal 15 to sensitise our eco champs on various environmental issues. This kind of community outreach programme enhances our students' social responsibility and commitment. Such hands-on practices equip them to become better problem solvers and decision-makers in future. Mother Earth will be safe in their hands as a cleaner, better and more sustainable place to live in."

Photos: Private International English School

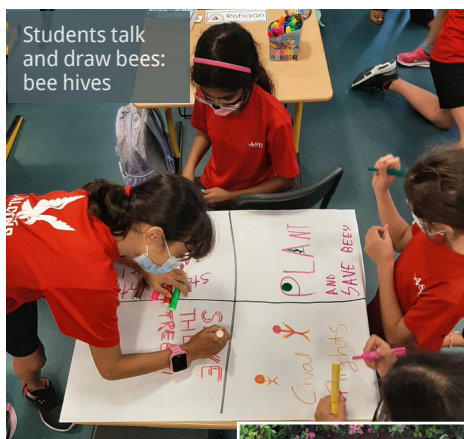
## Our return to the UAE after almost 2 years!

**We recently celebrated the return of our ED Tara Golshan, to the UAE, where she was finally able to reconnect, in person, with our valued members, partners and sponsors.**

There is no substitute for face-to-face contact and we were delighted that her visit was filled with productive meetings, school visits and other exciting developments.

Tara was able to visit Dunecrest American School and Fairgreen International School, where she met students and the leadership teams and heard all about their upcoming Roots & Shoots projects. At the end of her visit, she was treated by a [special guitar performance](#) by our long standing dedicated teacher, Mr Adam Hall. Tara was further inspired by her visit to the American School of Dubai, to see their amazing bee hives and vegetable gardens and learn more about their future plans.

Tara Golshan delivers a workshop at Dunecrest American School



Photos: Dunecrest American School



A beautiful drawing by an American School of Dubai student

Photos: American School of Dubai

### New Fundraising page

Roots & Shoots is a charitable organisation that is funded through donations. You can help to support the work of Roots & Shoots by making a donation. Every donation counts, no matter how small. The easiest way to donate to the Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots programme online is via our campaign on [Just Giving](#). Other donation options will be available soon and we will share the news on the website.

All donations support keeping the programme absolutely **FREE** for all our valued members.

*"What a joy to be back in the UAE again. As always the work of the teachers and students always inspires me to keep walking this challenging and less trodden path of sustainability and environmental responsibility. A huge thank you to Adam Hall and Laurence Myers and all our young members for your on-going commitment through challenging times" – Tara Golshan*