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## January – Roots & Shoots is officially launched in the UAE by Dr Jane Goodall



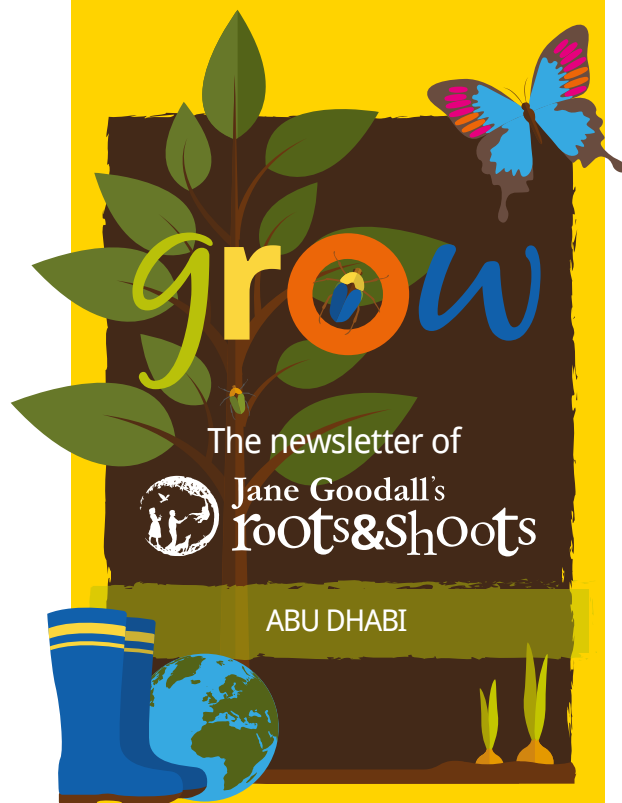
**It was a busy week in late January for Dr Jane in the UAE. Accompanied by Tara Golshan (Executive Director, Education), she gave lectures at Khalifa University and New York University, Abu Dhabi (NYUAD); numerous press interviews in Abu Dhabi and Dubai, and the first Roots & Shoots celebration at NYUAD.**

The programme started in UAE a year ago, supported and funded by the Environment Agency – Abu Dhabi (EAD). EAD has been promoting Environmental Education and awareness since its inception in 1996. EAD has partnered with The Jane Goodall Institute to establish the Jane Goodall's Roots and Shoots Programme in the UAE.

Maya Korayem, Roots & Shoots coordinator from EAD said: "When Her Excellency Razan Al Mubarak, the Secretary General of EAD, foresaw to partner with this gentle yet effective program in early 2014,

it was not only to introduce to the UAE community the fun aspects of getting our hands dirty for a good cause, but also to tell the world what our community here has been doing for conservation and care for our planet. The Environment Agency's backing has catalyzed this program's outreach and growth in Abu Dhabi, by furnishing the ideal proactive government platform. Also, the unique angle that Abu Dhabi brings to this program is its incredible diversity, which draws on so much talent, creativity, and resourcefulness!"

The Roots & Shoots celebration



The newsletter of



Jane Goodall's  
**Roots & Shoots**

ABU DHABI

Dear Roots & Shoots Members,



Welcome to our very first edition of our Roots & Shoots newsletter in Abu Dhabi.

It is exciting times!

It has been a hectic time here at the R&S headquarters since

our official launch in Abu Dhabi last January. Among other projects, Dr Jane undertook a very successful royal lecture in June to the Crown Prince, His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

For my part, I have already done four trips to Abu Dhabi this year alone! Our programme in the Middle East is going from strength to strength with schools and universities undertaking some amazing projects (see inside for details). We have also started an exciting twinning programme between our UK and Abu Dhabi schools. If this is something your school is interested in getting involved with, then please let us know. You can also see the global reach of our programme inside this issue.

In addition, we are writing some exciting new resources for our schools which will shortly be available on our website at [www.rootsnshoots.ae](http://www.rootsnshoots.ae). So watch this space.

I reflect on how far we have come from those early days in Tanzania, where the idea for Roots & Shoots was just being explored by a group of young students back in 1991. Now we are in over 130 countries around the globe.

What a legacy we are creating...

Thank you for joining us.

Onwards and upwards.

Tara Golshan  
Executive Director, Education



## January – Roots & Shoots is officially launched in the UAE by Dr Jane Goodall (continued)

was a huge success. Students gathered together at NYUAD to display their work and activities undertaken so far in making this world a better place through positive projects in the areas of animals, the environment and the human community.

Participating schools included Al Muna Primary School, Al Mushrif School, American Community School (ACS), the Shaikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Bangladesh Islamia School, the Emirates Private School and the British International School of Abu Dhabi (BISAD).

Students prepared slideshows, charts and videos showcasing their conservation projects. Each school also prepared a poem or song for Dr. Goodall in commemoration of her 80th birthday. Dr. Goodall then addressed the students and told them stories about her times with the chimpanzees and the major role her mother played in her life. Afterwards, the students had lunch with Dr. Goodall and were able to share exciting new ideas with each other for future collaborations.

Salma Alwi, a student from Emirates Private School Abu Dhabi said that they started the Roots & Shoots program in October in their school. Since then, they have been able to build a decomposer pit and garden in the backyard of their school. When asked about her encounter with Dr. Goodall, Salma smiled and said, “It was really incredible. We heard that we were coming here and presenting our work but we didn’t think that she would actually be here. It is such an inspiring moment to meet someone who is responsible for all that we



Dr Jane with Emirates Private School (above) and Al Muna Primary School (right) at the Roots & Shoots Awards.



have done through her organization. It was just amazing.”

NYUAD student Fisher Wu (Class of 2017) was excited to be a part of the Roots & Shoots celebration in Abu Dhabi. “I joined Roots & Shoots in Shanghai 9 years ago, since then R&S and Jane have changed my life so much. She gives me reason to pursue my passion in protecting the environment.”

NYUAD student Maryam Rasheed Al Hammadi (Class of 2018) also had a memorable meeting with Dr. Goodall at the event, “Meeting Jane Goodall was definitely an intriguing experience for me. I had been involved in Roots and Shoots for a while when I was younger – to see Dr. Jane felt like part of my younger self. I had told her, in all earnestness, that I wish I had met her when I was younger.” “Well, you’ve met me now,” said Dr. Jane. “But it would have been more magical back then,” I said. Dr. Jane then proceeded to tell me how her life now, at age 81, is a lot more magical than it was before. As we said good-bye, she said, “Don’t lose the magic.”



*It is a privilege to be able to bring the Roots & Shoots programme to the UAE. We very much look forward to a very exciting partnership between EAD, NYUAD and JGR&S in reaching young people through education and engagement in order to protect and nurture our future planet earth.*

Tara Golshan,  
Executive Director, Education  
with the Jane Goodall Institute



Roots & Shoots is officially launched in Abu Dhabi by Dr Jane Goodall at NYUAD

# Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed greets Dr Jane Goodall at his Ramadan Majlis

Abu Dhabi – His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, attended a lecture delivered by Dr Jane Goodall, on 24th June at the prestigious Ramadan Majlis lecture.

Present were Shaikh Nahyan bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan Charitable and Humanitarian Foundation; Lt.-General Shaikh Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior; Shaikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Chief of the Abu Dhabi Crown Prince's Court; Shaikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Foreign Minister; Shaikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan, Minister of Culture, Youth and Community Development; Shaikh Sultan bin Tahnoun Al Nahyan, Chairman of Abu Dhabi Transport Department and Chairman of Abu Dhabi Tourism & Culture Authority; other Shaikhs, ministers, FNC members, senior officials and diplomats.

In her lecture, Dr Goodall highlighted the importance of environment protection,

endangered wildlife species conservation and addressing climate change.

She lauded the Mohammed bin Zayed Species conservation Fund and said the programme launched by the late Shaikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan for the conservation of Arabian Oryx in Sir Bani Yas sanctuary was a source of pride.

She said it was necessary to address causes of climate change, including greenhouse and carbon emissions, as well as chemical fertilizers.

*"We are to blame for the pollution caused by irresponsible industrial practices which impact habitat, water, wildlife and other parts of the ecosystem,"* she added.

The lecture was a huge success and created an even stronger foundation for our Middle East programme.



Shaikh Mohammed bin Zayed greets Dr Jane Goodall at his Ramadan Majlis



## Roots & Shoots International Leadership Event August 2015

**Jess Doyle, our teacher from Al Muna school, who attended the R&S International Leadership event in Windsor Castle tells us about her amazing week**

For the second year running, Roots & Shoots representatives from around the world had the incredible opportunity to meet for a week, surrounded by British tradition and history in St George's House, Windsor Castle.

The Roots & Shoots family has continued to expand globally over the last year and the meeting at St George's House enabled worldwide partnerships to be strengthened and incredible ideas to be shared. Examples such as 'The Animal Parade' in Taiwan, recycled music concerts in Columbia, Roots & Shoots activities in local libraries in Italy and planting trees in Tanzania, show how diversely different countries strive to empower and inspire their local communities.

Various speakers were able to share their expertise creating a foundation for a number of fascinating discussions. The impact of social media was explored and how to use it to our advantage. Several countries were able to share the

Jess Doyle, (front row, right) at the R&S International Leadership event



success stories and passion of their youth leadership programs and the value of having young leaders involved intrinsically within Roots & Shoots.

I have been teaching in Abu Dhabi, and over the last 18 months we were lucky enough to pilot the Roots & Shoots program at Al Muna Primary School. This was a fantastic opportunity to show case all of the fabulous work we already do and develop the program even further alongside our curriculum.

As a foundation stage 1 teacher, I was able to experience first hand just how much the children love learning about their environment. A trip to the beach to

take part in a clean up while learning about protecting the local Hawksbill turtles really motivated the children to tell their friends and family why it is so important to put their litter in the bin. Empowering others to join in and take action is all part of the Roots & Shoots fun! Learning how to look after our chickens and other animals has been hugely invaluable and rewarding too.

No paper and no electricity days at Al Muna have been great at showing the children just how much we use on a daily basis. The children learnt about how this impacts our environment and they found some amazingly simple ways of reducing how much we use, such as turning off the lights when you aren't in the room! Our Roots & Shoots week was a huge success, with the children coming up with their own incredible ideas of how to use recycled materials to make funky clothing, bags, instruments and various other innovative ideas, ending the week with a wonderful 'Trashion Show'. There were so many more inspired ideas shared at St George's House, I can't wait to try them out!

There is so much to look forward to as the Roots & Shoots global community continues to grow together. The future is incredibly exciting! Watch this space...

# Dr. Jane Goodall visits ACS!



On Wednesday, January 21, the American Community School of Abu Dhabi Roots & Shoots Club was honored by an award from the Jane Goodall Institute.

ACS Roots & Shoots Group with Dr Jane

The students, their club teachers Channin Becker and Nandita Saxena, along with ACS Service Learning co-ordinator Anne Russell, and Service Learning Assistant Leena Bahoshi, enjoyed a morning event at New York University, Abu Dhabi (NYUAD).

For the students, the highlight of the event was an opportunity to share their projects with the Roots and Shoots founder Dr Jane Goodall. The ACS students took turns explaining their successful endeavors: installing new automatic faucets to save water, raising

funds for bus raids, creative projects with re-cycled materials, and local tree planting.

For the parents and staff at the event the highlight was watching Jane interact with the passionate young people. She acknowledged their hard work, affirmed their beliefs, and stressed that they should never be overwhelmed because they are part of a larger family of environmentally aware citizens.

Later in the day Jane Goodall honoured ACS with a personal visit.

Jane spoke to current and former Roots & Shoots members and the High School Green Team about her passion for the environmental work with chimpanzees and her confidence in young people to expand environmental awareness. She then asked for questions from the 3rd graders and held an interview with members of the ACS Green Team.

The Roots & Shoots members concluded the day's celebration with a rousing environmental rap song and a delicious birthday cake for Jane Goodall's 80th birthday.

## Roots & Shoots at the Eco Summit

Organised by EAD as part of their sustainable schools initiative, the Eco Summit, which took place in May at ADNEC this year, provided the opportunity for SSI students to network with each other and share best practice.



It also aimed to motivate students by introducing them to some young active environmental activists from around the world and get involved with planning recommendations for the future preservation of the planet.

Roots & Shoots were proud to

take part in the Summit for the first time through providing a number of successful workshops including the predicament of the Dugongs; the controversial nature of having Exotic pets at home and the development and opportunities of Urban farming.

# Recycling Heaven at the Roots & Shoots Celebration in Abu Dhabi

The Roots & Shoots Celebration at the New York University, Abu Dhabi (NYUAD) Campus was an exciting event with many inspiring projects on display and some fantastic 'Trashion' fashion. Here are some of our proud members with their amazing creations.



Al Mushrif- an Aldar Academies school  
'Trashion' Show outfits



SKBZ  
Bangladesh  
Islamia Pvt.  
School  
Recycled  
Bags and  
outfits



Al Muna School  
Recycled bags



Making jewellery



Emirates Private School Recycled hat and bags

## Community Outreach Appreciation Event

The New York University, Abu Dhabi (NYUAD) Office of Community Outreach hosts this annual Community Outreach recognition ceremony as a way to extend our appreciation to the various community partners that have provided a range of meaningful volunteer and community engagement opportunities to our students throughout the year. With an opening address from Vice Chancellor Al Bloom, over 30 UAE-based organizations were presented

with tokens of appreciation in celebration of their valued partnership. Each organization was individually recognized by one of its NYUAD student volunteers, who thanked the representatives for providing opportunities for exploration, leadership, and mentorship. With over 100 outreach or volunteer opportunities taking place over just the past eight months of the academic year, it was an important way to celebrate student achievements from a busy year.

*"As an internationally based partner, we were privileged that Executive Director of Education Tara Golshan was visiting Abu Dhabi at the same time as this event. Our partnership with the Jane Goodall Institute UK has provided multi-faceted ways for our students to engage with issues of environmental education, sustainability and our global interconnectedness."*  
- Suparna Mathur, Assistant Director of Community Outreach, NYUAD.

# Our AD school projects have done us proud...



## 1 The Oswald Family

At Al Muna Primary School there are three tortoises, which were rescued by a member of staff from a very sad life. They are now happily living with the chickens having lots of fun! Because of the hot weather, the tortoises have moved upstairs into the chicken coop, buried themselves under the hay and have gone to sleep!

While they were sleeping, the children had a competition to see who could come up with some names for the tortoises. We had some brilliant ideas! They are now called Shelly Oswald, Fiona Oswald and Michelangelo Oswald.

## 2 Plastic Bottle House

"We are excited to be involved with the Roots & Shoots Project here at Al Mushrif Primary School, so much so that we built a house made from plastic bottles!"

## 3 Cleaning up the campus and more!

The Emirates Private School's internal clean up campaign held in the school campus, and their external clean up campaign held on Abu Dhabi corniche.

Planting at the school is carried out in a planting spot they chose inside the campus where kids plant, water and watch it grow.

One of the collective projects is creating drawings of the earth indicating polluted areas, and explaining to the students how to minimize pollution and then our students signed it.

# Green Week At The British International School



Amazing Trashion show – fashion from trash, took place during Green week at The British International School and it was a roaring success and the selfies they received were a great way of showing what amazing things were happening at home too!

In addition, during Green Week there were talks from parents in Primary & Secondary about the green companies for whom they work. Some children got to visit Masdar City and view the new London Routemaster bus – one of the greenest buses on the planet. Even lunchtime got involved and one meal per day got a green rating, meaning its ingredients were locally sourced, rather than flown in.

The school's blog has a feature on their 'Reusable Rumble' where you can see the HUGE amount of donated reusable plastic items received from parents. They will never use and throw away a paper plate or cup ever again! All in all it was a great week!



## Gardening at Bangladesh School

Working hard on the school garden and looking forward to the produce.