



The newsletter of

Jane Goodall's
Roots & Shoots

UNITED KINGDOM

Dear Roots & Shoots Members,

Yet again! Another year over, where did it go?

And what a great year we have had with so many achievements to share with you, of which you have played such an important role.

In the UK there have been more exciting developments. Our schools did us proud yet again this year with our very own Portway Junior winning the Observer Ethical awards with their exceptional Andover Trees United Project. See inside for more details. Well done guys!

We also held our annual R&S summit at, the one and only, Windsor Castle! Wendy Gediman reveals her inspirational week at the royal residence.

On an exciting overseas note, our new leadership programme was launched in the Middle East by Céline Cousteau, the founder of Cause Centric and grand daughter of the famous ocean explorer Jacques Cousteau. She was our very first leadership speaker.

As Christmas draws upon us once again I am reminded of one word, Gratitude.

For all that we have, and all that we have achieved.

Thank you and Merry Christmas.

Tara Golshan
Executive Director, Education



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Celine Cousteau launches Roots & Shoots leadership programme in Abu Dhabi

Céline Cousteau —granddaughter of the famous French underwater explorer Jacques Cousteau, recently launched the Roots & Shoots leadership programme in Abu Dhabi.

The leadership programme involves inviting inspirational role models to talk about their work in the environmental field. Cousteau is the director of CauseCentric Productions, a non-profit organisation that produces and distributes multi-media projects focused on grass-roots organisations who specialise in environmental issues. She has produced and presented television documentaries, which involve regular stints out at sea, such as when she spent five months diving off the coast of Antarctica and Easter Island for a 12-part series. In year 2014, EAD partnered with the Jane Goodall Institute founded by the world-renowned conservationist, anthropologist and UN messenger of peace Dr. Jane Goodall, to bring the global environmental and humanitarian initiative, 'Roots & Shoots', to Abu Dhabi with an aim to help equip a generation of inspired youth with the knowledge and skills to create meaningful change and live sustainably.

It is a pleasure to be here in Abu Dhabi to launch the leadership programme on behalf of Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots, encourage young people to



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Céline Cousteau granddaughter of the famous French underwater explorer Jacques Cousteau

explore the opportunities and challenges within environmental causes, using media as a vehicle for communicating important stories. Céline Cousteau, Founder, CauseCentric & The Céline Cousteau Film Fellowship. I am very excited to have Céline here to launch the leadership programme for Roots & Shoots which involves bringing inspirational role models to our members to talk about their work in the environmental field through their varying professions. Tara Golshan, Executive Director, Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots

Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots Teacher Amy Marshall Wins fully – funded place at the Earthwatch Expedition 2015

The evidence for climate change is sobering, and reading the pre-course materials for the Earthwatch Institute's Teach Earth programme made my heart sink. Not for long though – I arrived at Wytham Woods one Sunday in the middle of August, for a week's residential where I quickly got to know a group of the most amazing course leaders and other environmental educators, with a real passion for nurturing nature.

The Earthwatch Teach Earth programme aims to develop environmental leaders of the future by supporting teachers to inspire young people to connect with and care for our natural world.

We started the course by learning about the 9 planetary boundaries, which include species extinction, climate change and ocean acidification – if we go beyond certain levels in too many of these areas, then the Earth may not be able to recover. This may seem a gloomy message, but this knowledge gives us the chance to turn things around.

Throughout the week we were very busy – we spent hours in the wonderful Wytham Woods helping to collect data which can be used to assess how our woodlands are affected by climate change, and to inform policy; we shared resources and discussed how we plan to incorporate climate change into our teaching; we tested the Freshwater Watch and tea-bag decomposition citizen science projects; we learned about dead man's fingers (fungi); we visited a unique Japanese kiln; we gathered wood, learned how to light fires, listened to storytelling and toasted marshmallows around the bonfire; we reflected on how valuable the environment is to us personally. The days flew by, ideas were shared and new friendships were established, all of us aware that “We live in a moment of great opportunities and great risk.”

After immersing myself in the Teach Earth programme for a week I left feeling recharged, inspired, cheered and with my optimism soaring. I'm looking forward to next spring when we meet again to share news



of our challenges and successes. I'm extremely grateful to Roots & to have been given the opportunity to participate in Teach Earth.



Back at school now, I have already been able to address a “rallying cry” speech to all staff; delivered a whole school assembly on climate change (complete with film clip of the wonderful, giant polar bear Aurora); submitted climate change linked items to our school newsletter each week; we've been awarded Eco-schools silver status. It's all go, and it's all good!



Green School, Bali

Green School, Bali's Grade 1 collected used unwanted items for donation to the Smile Shop in Ubud. The Smile Shop is a second hand shop (think “thrift store”) located in Ubud that sells used clothes, books, toys, household goods (including plates, towels, lamps-almost anything) in order to help pay for operations for people born with cleft palate, cleft lip, or any other craniofacial disabilities. This non-profit shop has helped 1,792 people to have these life changing operations. They have always been very appreciative of the generous support from Green School over the years and are always so happy to receive our “previously loved” goods. This collection drive was one of our school's projects as a part of Roots and Shoots. We are very honored to be working on the same “team” as Doctor Jane! Please see www.senyumbali.org/ for more information.

Our very own Roots & Shoots group wins the Observer Ethical Awards 2015 – Andover Trees United

We always have been proud of our groups, and when they achieve something exceptional we are the first to cheer them on and support them

How proud we are therefore of this latest win of Andover Trees United.

“Mighty oaks from little acorns grow” is a phrase nobody understands better than Andover Trees United. Established in 2011 by teacher Wendy Davis (former teacher at Portway Junior School), the project’s aim was to ensure that every young person in the Hampshire town and surrounding area planted a tree in their school nursery bed, later moving it to a dedicated woodland space. “We wanted it to be something that would bring together the community,” says Oonagh Pope, 63, a retired teacher who helped



Davis plant the very first batch of saplings at Portway Junior School. Since then 4,000 trees have been planted in Andover’s seven-acre Harmony Wood, and things show no sign of slowing down.

More than 25 Andover schools are currently

involved in the scheme, with children ranging from primary to sixth-form level. Although nothing would have been possible without a strong team of school support gardeners, the children have been an essential part of the process, mucking in on everything from logo design to seeking out the newest planting spots. Sebastian Duff, 11, regularly gives presentations and attends meetings to engage more children in the project. “I know how much impact it has on the climate,” he says. “This is a project for kids, and we’re very motivated by it.”

Andover Trees is also involved in the United Nations Environment Programme’s (UNEP) global initiative Plant-for-the-Planet, which is striving to reduce CO2 emissions to zero by 2050. If the way they have flourished in the community is anything to go by, Andover Trees United is on target to plant 10,000 trees in the next 10 years. The next venture is to teach children

about the environment and its abundant wildlife in a specially designed woodland centre.

“It is clear that they want to look after the local environment and the planet. The children are very aware of the future and the importance of the oxygen that trees produce,” explains Pope. “They are our best ambassadors.”

Dr Jane also supported the project by attending their Plant-for-the-Planet Conference in 2014 and meeting over 55 students involved.

Tara Golshan, who was a judge at the Observer Ethical Awards and present at the ceremony last night said: “We are so proud of Portway Junior and the Andover Trees project. This is a project that has already made a huge difference in the environmental impact for the UK and will have an effect for generations to come for the local community, the environmental landscape and global warming”

International Leadership Event August 2015

I have been involved with Roots & Shoots at my school, TASIS American School, for the past 8 years. I have been inspired by the work of Dr. Jane Goodall since I was young, and I love working with my students on various projects in our Roots & Shoots club. Our group has been lucky enough to be part of the award’s day at the London Zoo, as it was amazing to spend the day with Dr. Goodall! But, the most exciting part of my work with Roots & Shoots was when I got an invitation to take part in the Roots & Shoots International Leadership Event at Windsor Castle in August this year.

When I received the itinerary for the week, I knew right away that this was going to be a very special experience. I was going to spend 7 days with 25 people associated with Roots & Shoots and the Jane Goodall Institute from around the world! As well, we were going to have Jane Goodall with us the entire time! I could not believe how lucky I was,



Roots & Shoots International Leadership Event at Windsor Castle

and I was excited to share my student’s work and learn about what others were doing!

I have lived nearby Windsor Castle for half of my life, yet to be dropped off to sleep in the castle grounds for a week with my Roots & Shoots family was dreamlike.

It was extraordinary to meet people from around the globe who shared my aspirations for making positive changes in our world through working with young people. And then Jane arrived, and the room came to life with interactions between Jane and all of the

people in the room. We all had the same goals, and we all had a lot to share. And Jane was our leader, our mentor in taking action for positive change with young people.

I enjoyed the presentations that each group member shared over the week. It was so inspiring to see what others were doing in their Roots & Shoots groups!! I could talk to them and learn so much throughout the day.

We also had many interesting guest speakers, and we worked on various projects, such as the Global Roots & Shoots Website, the use of media to engage people in our work, the Roots & Shoots 25th anniversary, Youth Leadership Councils, use of technology, COP 21- The Paris Climate Conference, and Peace Day. My week in Windsor was a life changing experience, one that I will always cherish.

**Wendy Gediman,
Teacher, TASIS The American
School in England**

James Allen's Prep School Fundraising for Nepal

James Allen's Prep School is a very young Roots & Shoots school, having joined less than 2 years ago – but the girls have really embraced the wonderful ethos of looking after people, animals and the environment.

The whole school was deeply affected by the devastating Nepalese earthquake and the desolation it left behind. Having shown the girls some footage of the disaster, it was clear that they wanted to help the people whose lives had been turned upside-down. As Charity Co-ordinator, I had to come up with a campaign which would give the girls a target

I eventually decided that the school could challenge the girls to raise enough money to match the height of Mount Everest, which is 8848 metres. This meant we would aim



to raise £8,848. A colleague came up with a slogan – 'Move Mountains', for which we had wristbands made in the colours of the Nepalese flag and coincidentally the JAPS school colours. These were sold – and the girls were allowed to wear them in school (a great incentive as we don't normally permit jewellery!)

We kicked off the campaign with a cake sale – cupcakes decorated with Nepalese flags, lotus flowers, stacked up as mountains, and even a 'Temple' constructed with marshmallow biscuits and mini-roll prayer wheels!

Where Roots & Shoots has really sown its magic is in the way it has helped to inspire the girls to make a difference on their own and in small groups. As well as our lapathon, we challenged the girls to come up with different creative ways of making

money outside school, which would go towards the charity. Each girl who came up with a way was presented with a special certificate, which acknowledged that they had made a difference to the world around them. The initiatives were amazing – and imaginative.

And so the money poured in... literally! At our end of term Founder's Day, we were able to present a cheque for £18,000 to 'Nepal' – so not only did we reach our target of getting to the summit of Mount

Everest, but we made it all the way back down again, more than doubling our target. For a school of 300 girls, that's pretty remarkable! A large part of this money will go to rebuilding a school in Kathmandu and we are very much hoping to forge future links with the school – so that the girls can send letters, and we as a school can send out equipment; there may even be a possibility that some of the staff have a visit to see the progress!

We have been so proud of the girls and their efforts. They have worked incredibly hard, and have learned a great deal in the process; beside the skills needed for each individual money-making initiative, they have learned about organising a charity event, fundraising, promoting their event, they have learned about earthquakes and the effects they have, they have learned about Nepal, about Mount Everest and its geography. They have also and most importantly, learned about how their efforts can have an enormous effect on the lives of others – people who aren't as lucky as they are. Much of this young philanthropy is down to the Roots & Shoots ethos – of being aware of people, animals and the environment around us – and trying to help and make a difference in our world, which is a sentiment that I know Dr Jane celebrates loudly!

Calixto Suarez visits Andover, UK



On Thursday 16th July, Andover Trees United was lucky enough to get a visitor from Columbia.

Calixto Suarez came to visit having heard of the project through his work with the Jane Goodall Institute, Colombia. He has been travelling the world for the past 15 years as a messenger of peace.

Mamo Calixto Villafane Suarez is a spiritual authority and shaman Arhuaco (Mamos), he is an ambassador of the Mamos from the Arhuaco people.

The Arhuaco, Ika or Ijka, are Amerindians who live on the southern slope of the Sierra de Santa Marta, Colombia and consist of nine thousand people. In the Sierra Nevada of Santa Marta, a massive block from the Andes Mountains, there are thousands of endemic species, thanks to the variety of climate; it is just 42 km from the coast of the Caribbean Sea, but at a height of 5,800 meters is the snow line. This mountain range is regarded as a living body to their native country, a land of peace, which allows them to maintain harmony and balance with nature. The Arhuaco call it "Umunukunu" or "Heart of the World" and UNESCO has recognized it as a World Heritage site for Humanity and the Biosphere.

He was in the UK for 1 day only, while touring Europe, so we felt very honoured he chose to visit us. During his visit he was taken to visit 2 schools in Andover who were kind enough to let us disturb them in the last week of school, Barksbury Juniors and Portway Juniors. He was able to communicate (through a translator) with students about their involvement with the project and their thoughts on the environment. During his time in Andover he also visited a community orchard on Augusta Park, Rooksbury Mills nature reserve and Ridges Copse (a local woodland) as well as being taken to Harmony Woods, to show him the work of the children of Andover. We've had a wonderful day! Thank you very much Roots & Shoots for making this visit happen! Tim Keenan