

23 June 2014

Thank you for sending me the tickets to see Jane Goodall, and organizing a meeting with her. I can't believe I actually got to meet with her. I was pretty nervous I wasn't sure what I would say to such a famous person.

When Jane Goodall walked into the foyer Glenda introduced me to her, she also got to meet my family. I shook her hand and told her about my animation and about our orange day at school to raise awareness about what is happening to the orangutan and their habitat. She said "well done". I had my photo taken with Jane, and then it was time for her to go and get ready for the presentation. I was able to go to the back stage and watch everyone checking the lighting and microphones.

When Jane came on the stage the whole room went instantly quiet. She opened her presentation with a call that a chimpanzee would make. It was very impressive. Some people from the audience answered her back the same way, she said they were her friends from the zoo.

I had been told a little bit about Jane Goodall from Joy a teacher at school, she said Jane Goodall was her idol when she was growing up.

I thought she was a pretty amazing lady to be able to go all the way to Africa at the age of 23, and end up studying chimpanzee in the wild, and now at the age of 80 still travelling 300 days a year giving presentations all over the world. I don't think she has ever wasted a minute of her life.

Jane talked about the damage that has been made to the planet and that it is my generation that will need to fix the problem. As a 10 year old I was thinking how could I possibly help fix a planet that's too big, and very overwhelming. Then I realized that everyone has a chance to make a change to help save the planet and we all need to do our bit and doesn't matter what size it all helps. The animation that I made for a competition has taken me on a journey of discovery and learning, and awareness of what is going on in the world.

Jane Goodall is one amazing person travelling the world spreading her message of HOPE for our planet.

I was lucky enough to meet her thanks to the Allan Wilson Centre.

Liam Adrian

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