

# The Rufford Foundation Final Report

Congratulations on the completion of your project that was supported by The Rufford Foundation.

We ask all grant recipients to complete a Final Report Form that helps us to gauge the success of our grant giving. The Final Report must be sent in **word format** and not PDF format or any other format. We understand that projects often do not follow the predicted course but knowledge of your experiences is valuable to us and others who may be undertaking similar work. Please be as honest as you can in answering the questions – remember that negative experiences are just as valuable as positive ones if they help others to learn from them.

Please complete the form in English and be as clear and concise as you can. Please note that the information may be edited for clarity. We will ask for further information if required. If you have any other materials produced by the project, particularly a few relevant photographs, please send these to us separately.

Please submit your final report to jane@rufford.org.

Thank you for your help.

#### Josh Cole, Grants Director

| Grant Recipient Details |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| Your name               | Morgan Cooper          |
| Project title           | Managing Director      |
| RSG reference           | 18552-2                |
| Reporting period        | March 2016-August 2017 |
| Amount of grant         | £5,000                 |
| Your email address      | info@juthour.org       |
| Date of this report     | August 10, 2017        |



### 1. Please indicate the level of achievement of the project's original objectives and include any relevant comments on factors affecting this.

| Objective  | Not<br>achieved | Partially achieved | Fully<br>achieved | Comments   |
|--|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|--|
| Continue visitors trail  |                 |                    |                   |  |
| Create planters from collected/recycled stonesurrounded plant bedsas delineation for some of the inner trail circuits. |                 |                    |                   |  |
| Create green bordersplants delineating the inner trail markers   |                 |                    |                   | We planted in four sections and we have more plants purchased for the purpose of green borders but are waiting until winter planting season when the rains come again.   |
| Add pipe and steel railings to ramps   |                 |                    |                   | We installed on three ramps and have steel to put railings on another two ramps. Also we primed the railings that were installed but want to paint still and will have that completed by volunteers by the end of August 2017. |
| Connect terraces with found-<br>stone stairs   |                 |                    |                   |  |
| Mark off no access areas with rope   |                 |                    |                   |  |
| Propagate indigenous plant species   |                 |                    |                   |  |
| Plant in the protected areas   |                 |                    |                   |  |
| Wildflowers awareness series on social media Wildflower walks & talks with the community                               |                 |                    |                   |  |
| Seed collection community hikes  |                 |                    |                   |  |
| Propagation Workshop for community participants  |                 |                    |                   |  |
| Grafting Workshop for community participants   |                 |                    |                   |  |



| Photo exhibition at Khalil<br>Sakakini Cultural Center in<br>Ramallah |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| Wildflower Documentary  |  |  |

### 2. Please explain any unforeseen difficulties that arose during the project and how these were tackled (if relevant).

The grant was awarded at the end of wildflower season so we weren't able to execute the majority of activities in the originally proposed timeline. A huge problem we faced was from the wild boars in the area. They are terribly destructive and especially like to dig up any areas that are fertilised. Of course we fertilised many areas for this project and a few transplanted orchid areas suffered.

#### 3. Briefly describe the three most important outcomes of your project.

Though not an activity funded by this project, as part of the larger work around Wildflowers of Palestine, we make a short documentary and photo competition and exhibition, all of which had great community outreach!

That we have begun the very important work of propagating and transplanting wild species as part of our conservation work. This was new for us and we did a lot of research. We will be participating in a training at a botanic garden nursery in order to learn more about propagation and seed storage.

A group asked us to host a meditation retreat but they were concerned about one of their guests in a wheelchair, and we were able to assure them that the arboretum is wheelchair accessible because of the ramps and walking paths that were further developed and improved as part of this second RSG.

Sorry, I have to write a fourth. Because of the RSG 2 project, I focused all my work on wildflower conservation, and so again this is not a direct outcome from the project funds, but it is an outcome of the focus and impetus of the RSG work: I created a walking guide for wildflower identification that includes a pull out with English, Latin and Arabic names. The Arabic names were a nearly impossible task to acquire and having a database with those is a hugely important outcome. Also a great essay on why some flowers are protected was written and translated as part of this booklet. And I would not have done this booklet had I not worked on this RSG project.

### 4. Briefly describe the involvement of local communities and how they have benefitted from the project (if relevant).

Our community participated in transplanting, propagating, grafting and planting. We were grateful for help from the head of a botanic garden in identifying wild species, and from Dr Reema Hammama in working on Arabic names. We also had community support in our grafting and propagation workshops and in our wildflower



walks and seed collection. Extra helping hands that are being educated also, are vital in our work!

#### 5. Are there any plans to continue this work?

I think the most important work I have engaged in is in fact this wildflower conservation work. We are concerned about further planting and transplanting because of wild boar, people coming after hours, and goat herds. The next priority before continuing conservation at Juthour needs to be fencing the property (this would happen ABOVE the stone wall that has wildlife tunnels built in).

#### 6. How do you plan to share the results of your work with others?

I've published our documentary on YouTube and promoted it on FB. It's also going to be available on our website. We have the hiking guide that we would like to get into local schools as a resource.

### 7. Timescale: Over what period was The Rufford Foundation grant used? How does this compare to the anticipated or actual length of the project?

We planned to do the project from March 2016 but did the majority of work in the spring of 2017.

## 8. Budget: Please provide a breakdown of budgeted versus actual expenditure and the reasons for any differences. All figures should be in £ sterling, indicating the local exchange rate used.

| Item                               | Budgeted<br>Amount | Actual<br>Amount | Difference | Comments   |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------|--|
| Labour: support work               | £1,479             | £1,479           |            |  |
| Railings                           | £1,768             | £1,888           | -£120      | This is overspent because I combined expenses from this line and Conservation Upper Terrace for metal costs, meaning the Conservation Upper Terrace line below has remaining funds |
| Stairways                          | £253               | £253             |            |  |
| Off Limit Areas                    | £34                | £0.00            | £34        |  |
| Conservation Area Upper<br>Terrace | £152               | £61              | £91        | See note above.  |
| Planting Beds                      |                    |                  |            |  |
| Fertilizer                         | £337               | £201             | £136       | We had to buy bags of fertilizer as  |



|                      |        |        |       | a truck refused to deliver, leaving excess. |
|----------------------|--------|--------|-------|---|
| Top Soil             | £118   | £253   | -£135 | Spent from excess in fertilizer line.       |
| Green Borders        | £253   | £312   | -£60  |   |
| Social Media         | £168   | £141   | £28   |   |
| Wildflower Walks     | £253   | £253   | £0.00 |   |
| Seed Collection      | £34    | £51    | -£17  |   |
| Propagation Workshop | £84    | £77    | £7    |   |
| Grafting Workshop    | £84    | £66    | £19   |   |
| Total                | £5,014 | £5,032 | -£18  |   |

#### 9. Looking ahead, what do you feel are the important next steps?

To protect the work we've done and enable further work by fencing the arboretum as mentioned above. This is an urgent need.

Also, to continue collecting Arabic names for all species as these are nearly impossible to gather. In Arabic, most flowers are named only if they are useful so flowers like the bee orchids that have no use are all called orchid or bee orchid in Arabic, though there are nine distinct species in Palestine. Or conversely, a flower that is very common or used may have up to a half dozen different names from one region to the next and these need to be gathered. I think the flower guide I made needs to be widely distributed and also updated as I continue to document the flowers.

### 10. Did you use The Rufford Foundation logo in any materials produced in relation to this project? Did the RSGF receive any publicity during the course of your work?

We regularly acknowledged or thanked The Rufford Foundation whenever we shared photos of activities or promoted upcoming activities for the project. We also put the Rufford logo on our website.

#### 11. Any other comments?

Thank you so much for your continued support!