



## Scout's of the World Award Trial Discovery

After more than 12 months of planning the first 'trial' Scouts of the World Discovery was held at Youlbury Scout Activity Centre near Oxford from July 31<sup>st</sup> until August 3<sup>rd</sup>. Eight enthusiastic members of the Scout Network from across the country took part in the Discovery which had Environment and Sustainability as its theme, and The Woodland Trust as partners.

A full day of 'exploration' was spent photographing and 'hugging' trees in the nearby forest to provide a practical introduction to the Ancient Tree Hunt project. Participants were also given training in a wide range of skills including project management, behavioural analysis, challenging prejudice, conflict resolution, and what it means to be a Scout of the World. Case studies of overseas service projects were examined, and input given by a team of experts including two members of Scouts et Guides de France. Finally, action plans were drawn up to ensure this cohort will be the first British Scouts to achieve the Scouts of the World Award which they must do complete by their 25<sup>th</sup> birthday.

The participants now move to the 'Response' phase of the award, where supported by mentors, they will reflect on the Discovery and introduce environmental programmes to their local Scouting Communities.

The final component of the Award is the Voluntary Service where the participants will complete 14 days of community service in either the UK or abroad as part of a small team, in this case with the focus on Environment. Following an evaluation the Award is granted and a very special badge presented.

To have a look at some pictures that were taken over the Discovery please visit <http://www2.scouts.org.uk/network/pics/index.html> for the Scout Network Gallery.

A second trial Discovery will take place over two weekends early in 2009 with Severn Trent as partners. For information about how to register for the Scouts of the World Award and to apply for the next Discovery Scout Network members should contact the Scout Network Office at Gilwell Park via email [scout.network@scout.org.uk](mailto:scout.network@scout.org.uk) or telephone 0208 433 7125.