



Date: 17th November, 2025

SOWA Discovery Weekend 2026

I am delighted to launch the Scouts of the World Award (SOWA) for 2026. SOWA is a Scout Network only award that gives Scout Network members the chance to undertake a project of their choice within the themes of Peace, Environment and Sustainability and take action on their chosen issue. More details about the award can be found at the end of this letter or on the Scouts UK Website [here](#).

In January, the Northern Ireland SOWA Team will be hosting the **2026 SOWA Discovery Weekend** along with our excellent SOWA Trainers. If you are between the ages of 18 to 25 years old, you can attend and start your award journey.

Since SOWA was launched in Northern Ireland in 2018, 50+ Scout Network members have attended a Discovery Weekend with many having begun and completed their SOWA Projects. The newest recipients will receive their certificates and badges at the NI Awards Ceremony in January 2026.

Date: Friday 30th January (7 PM) - Sunday 1st February (2 PM)

Location: [Activity Centre](#) (Indoor Residential)

Cost: £26.50 per participant (*This cost includes food and accommodation*)

Registration

To apply to attend the Discovery Weekend, please register via the Scouts NI website.

More information for applicants will follow.

Yours in Scouting,

Emma Webster

NI SOWA Coordinator

SOWA Discovery Outline Programme

Friday

19:00 Arrival / housekeeping

19:30 Introduction to SOWA

20:00 Icebreakers

20:30 Introduction to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) **Supper**

Saturday

Breakfast

Morning SDG modules:

Sustainable Development

Peace

Environment

Lunch

Afternoon Review

Project management – Challenge Course

Emotions – Behaviour Discussion

Conflict – Role Play

Prejudice – Train Carriage Discussion

Problem Solving / Planning

Dinner

Project Ideas – Round table

Supper

Sunday

Breakfast

Review

Administration

SOWA Recipients Preparations

Dragon's Den – Presentation / Discussion

Lunch

SOWA Information

Scouts of the World Award (SOWA) is a Scout Network only award that gives Scout Network members the chance to undertake a project of their choice within the themes of **Peace, Environment and Sustainability** and take action on their chosen issue.

Through your Scouts of the World Award journey, you'll develop skills and knowledge that will empower you to undertake a project that will make a sustainable impact on your local, national or international community, while developing your personal skills.

You'll learn skills including independence, teamwork, project planning, time management and communication skills, while gaining an understanding for global issues and international relations. You don't have to go abroad to complete your Scouts of the World Award. Local and national projects are acceptable, as long as all requirements of the award are being met.

Requirements of the Award

To take part, you must:

- be between 18-25 years old and a member of the Scout Network section
- attend a Scouts of the World Discovery (14 hours) run by a SOWA Trainer
- register for the Award by filling out this registration form after you have attended a Discovery
- create a plan for your SOWA project based on one or more of the three themes (Peace, Environment and Sustainable Development) with the guidance of your mentor
- complete your SOWA voluntary project (80 hours) based on one or more of the three themes (Peace, Environment and Sustainable Development)
- undertake an evaluation, personal reflection and local presentation (three hours) which should reflect your personal development, the project deliverables and how you have ensured the project is sustainable

Your mentor will be able to offer you guidance throughout your award.