

A young man wearing a blue helmet and a purple t-shirt is climbing a rock wall. He is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The rock wall is made of large, light-colored stones. In the background, another person wearing a white helmet is visible, also climbing. The scene is outdoors with green foliage in the background.

# apex challenge

## Annual Report

Financial Year: January - December 2012  
Charity number 1102633

[www.apexchallenge.co.uk](http://www.apexchallenge.co.uk)

The Apex Challenge is considered to be among the toughest of all the UK's adventure competitions with several events each year for Explorer Scouts and Scout Network members aged 14-25.

Combining challenging outdoor activities with navigation and teamwork, our events offer a unique adventure experience.

Our dedicated team of volunteers is working to modernise and energise the whole Scouting movement with dynamic events and activities.

# From the trustees...



**Matt Richards - Event Director**

It's amazing to think how a small event for Explorers back in 2002 has developed into the Apex Challenge of 2012. Back then we ran the event for a few dozen local competitors from a small tent in a pub car park.

This year we had nearly 500 people in one of the National Trust's flagship properties. So much has changed, but the core values have remained the same and that desire to deliver outstanding adventure in an innovative way is still the key to the Apex Challenge's success.

We're really proud of what the Apex Challenge team has achieved and the fact that our events are now in such high demand. Despite consistent growth, the events all sell out extremely quickly, and finding new ways to meet that demand is one of our top priorities.

In this extended report, you can read about all the events which helped us to celebrate 10 years of adventure in 2012. But you can also discover more about how the event has evolved, and what we've learnt over the last decade.

It has been a huge honour to be part of such an amazing, talented, innovative and dedicated team. Knowing that nearly 5000 competitors have taken part in our events is an incredible achievement and we are all looking forward to continuing to deliver the adventure for many more years to come.

## Legal information

The **Apex Challenge** became a registered charity in 2004 and is governed by its own declaration of trust. The charity operates throughout England and Wales. It is also part of the Scout Association and operates under its rules and guidelines. Its aims are 'to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical intellectual social and spiritual potentials, as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of the local, national and international communities particularly by the provision of specialised outdoor activities'.

The Apex Challenge currently has three trustees. These first trustees are permanent appointments:

- **Matthew Richards:** The Old Barn, 1 1B The Cross, Barwick in Elmet, Leeds, LS15 4JP. (Registered charity address.)
- **David Pape:** 45 Old Road, Stanningley, Pudsey, LS28 6BG.
- **James Webster:** 45 Old Road, Stanningley, Pudsey, LS28 6BG.

New trustees may be appointed by the existing trustees for a term of one year by a resolution passed at a special meeting called under clause 15 of the Apex Challenge declaration of trust.



**David Pape - Assistant Event Organiser**

2012 has been a fantastic year to celebrate our ten year anniversary with two hugely successful events. It is great to see all the people involved with the Apex Challenge come together to deliver something that the teams really enjoy and want to be a part of.



**James Webster - Assistant Event Organiser**

It has been great to reflect on what we've achieved over the last ten years. Certainly when we started, none of us thought as far as celebrating this milestone. Reminding ourselves what we have done so far has inspired us to look for new ways of taking the event forward.

# ten years of adventure



As well as organising two thrilling competitions 2012 was also about taking time to celebrate everything the Apex Challenge has achieved in its first decade. Looking back to 2002 has thrown up some interesting facts and figures.

20 main events  
4960 competitors  
13 event locations  
7344 bacon sandwiches  
£97,915 worth of adventure!

## This year's winners...



**Alex Hayes writes...** Apex is a great event with many exciting and challenging activities. Its friendly crowds and well organised events make it by far the most fun event I have taken part in. The best part is definitely the activities and the freedom to explore.

The secret to winning Apex is the Coughs' secret guide to success; only a cough gains the privilege to read it. You also need to be extremely cocky, a massive fan of Bear Grylls (sleep with his picture every night) and finally you must keep your identity a complete secret by wearing cheap rubbish sunglasses.



**Matt Wood writes...** We really enjoyed this year's amazing event. You get the chance to do things which you wouldn't normally get to and they are always fun and challenging.

All the people who go, the competitors and organisers are all nice and friendly which gives the whole event a brilliant atmosphere where you can have a laugh with your friends and meet new people.

The key to us winning Apex was the navigation which meant we could get to most checkpoints without getting lost so we didn't lose any time trying to find our way back to the route.



**Adam Talbot writes...** This year's new location presented us with an exciting new challenge to win our fifth consecutive Apex title. The secrets of our success include always getting controls between bases, strong teamwork, but most of all enthusiasm to throw ourselves at every challenge.

This attitude fits Apex perfectly and made sure we left each year with not just great prizes, but also great memories. Apex is the perfect mix of competition and fun; it always amazes me to see some of the things teams do, going round topless in the night and so on.



**Jake Ramsden writes...** In many ways me and my fellow Muskequeers hope to be trail blazers for the future of Apex. For us this was not just about winning. If you compare us to the Explorer section we would have come 15th rather than first and I think this shows that the Network competition has got the balance right between aiming to win and getting the most out of the Apex event. If four lads from Sheffield can turn up in drag and win one of Scouting's biggest competitions it shows anyone can be part of the Apex experience. To me this is one of the many reasons I enjoy Apex. It is not an elitist competition like others. We went out there and had fun.

# 2012 - a year in review

- Increased youth-led planning
- Landmark 10th birthday event
- Enhanced online entry system
- Begun planning of new events
- New ways to promote Apex brand
- Secured grants to fund training and one-off birthday celebration
- Received technology award nomination

In early 2012 the charity set seven aims for the 12 month period which are detailed here:

**1. To include more young people in the planning process of the Apex Challenge as part of the Scouts' youth-led movement initiative.**

The event has benefited greatly this year through increased input from young people. We targeted skilled younger members of the team for such things as designing the event T-shirt, selecting music for the playlists and devising new activity ideas. We also worked alongside South Yorkshire's Youth Involvement Project to provide a milkshake bar and feedback area at the autumn event, which gave us great ideas on how to further improve future competitions.

**AIM SUCCESSFULLY ACHIEVED**

**2. To create a landmark event in autumn 2012 which differentiates itself and is a fitting celebration of 10 years of adventure at the Apex Challenge.**

Our event in October 2012 was our most successful yet. More people took part than ever before and it was great to be able to use a lottery grant to fund new activities and additions to the event such as our longest ever inflatable assault course which provided a unique start and finish for teams at each stage of the competition. The 10th birthday party complete with live music, late night disco and milkshake bar on the Saturday night was a particular success and was widely praised by people both inside and outside the Scouting movement.

**AIM SUCCESSFULLY ACHIEVED**

**3. To maintain our current financial position, neither significantly building nor reducing our bank surplus.**

We received some generous donations this year which meant we could spend more on the events, safe in the knowledge that we are financially secure. At the end of 2012 our bank surplus has increased by a small amount compared to our total expenditure. This leaves us in a healthy financial situation for the future. As a result our financial position has improved more than originally planned.

**AIM PARTIALLY ACHIEVED**

**4. To further develop our new online entry system including allowing teams to modify their T-shirt orders.**

Following the successful introduction of online electronic payment in 2011 we developed the system yet further in 2012. Teams are now able to log into the system with individual passwords and modify their souvenir T-shirt requirements to add extra ones to their order. They can also change the sizes of garments already ordered. This system is entirely self-managing and updates an admin tool so we can view the latest quantities when placing an order. It also paves the way for further online sales of exclusive Apex Challenge merchandise.

**AIM SUCCESSFULLY ACHIEVED**

**5. To develop a mobile version of the Apex Challenge website which makes it more compatible with smartphone browsing.**

More and more people are viewing websites on the move and we recognise that a shortcoming of our current website is that its layout does not adapt easily to mobile and tablet devices. Considerable research has been carried out to work out how best to develop our site to enable this to happen. While we have made several improvements to the website and our IT infrastructure, we have yet to develop a mobile version of the Apex Challenge website. The changes will require a rewrite to the behind the scenes code of the existing pages which we plan to do during 2013.

**AIM NOT YET ACHIEVED**

**6. To consider fresh formats for 2013 which would allow our events to move into their second decade with a new and exciting look.**

The Apex Challenge has evolved greatly over the last decade and we are keen to continue that expansion into the next ten years. We have already come up with some innovative new ideas for the 2013 events, and will discuss these further at our team weekend in March 2013 when we also plan to discuss possible new formats to take the event in a new direction during its second decade.

**AIM PARTIALLY ACHIEVED**

**7. To create new opportunities to capitalise on the revitalised Apex brand both through the use of merchandise and social networking.**

The enhanced Apex Challenge brand and logo appeared on many more items in 2012 including giant new banners, catering team clothing and new items of merchandise. The Apex AdventureStore sold more event souvenirs than ever before including hoodies, flash drives and event mugs, proving the growing popularity of the Apex brand.

**AIM SUCCESSFULLY ACHIEVED**



# Spring 2012: New location for our overnight adventure

What a way to start celebrating our 10th anniversary! We couldn't have asked for a better location than Bramham Park for the first of this year's events. Its spectacular mix of open ground, dense forest, water features and amazing historical sights made for an unforgettable event for the 400 adventurous competitors.

As almost 100 Explorer and Network teams from across the UK arrived at the great expanse of the event centre area, tents were springing up, strategies were being devised, and plans were being hatched. It was great to see so many teams meeting back up with others they had met at previous Apex Challenge events. It's clear the event is becoming as much a social event as an adventure one.

With nearly 500 people packed into the giant marquee it was time for the briefing, a high-octane look

at what lay ahead. With all the rules and features explained, it was then time for teams to start their six-hour overnight adventure.

As soon as they set off, teams faced their first challenge – heading off into the playing area across the Apex suspension bridge. Our engineers had spent months finely tuning the design and the result was impressive.

Teams were now frantically scouring the playing area for Apex points. Some were sprinting

Nicholas Pritchard  
(Bramham Park):  
"We've found it to be a pleasure working with you from the start. Your organisation and provision of information was excellent. If only all events operated in such a way. We hope to welcome the Apex Challenge back to Bramham Park one day in the future."



between cunningly hidden control points, making use of the last minutes of daylight, while others were heading straight for to the activities.

From woodland archery deep in the forest, to high-speed grass sledging, challenging mountain biking and even space-hopper racing, there were loads of tough activities which teams needed to complete to maximise their score.

Perhaps the most daunting was the challenge by the lake. Few of the competitors had ever taken to a canoe on open water in the dead of the night, but it was clear all were determined to reach the crucial punch.

But while all these points were being gained, teams of highly trained Apex chasers were busy trying to take them away. Across the estate they were hiding, following, lurking and ambushing teams to relieve them of their points.

Other teams were making use of the brand new Apex SuperScore feature to maximise their points. These controls doubled the points of the next two places they visited but many were discovering it took a fair bit of strategy to use them to their full potential.

As the six hours were coming to an end, teams began to return to event centre, once again scaling

the giant suspension bridge to conclude their challenge. As they returned, their animated maps instantly appeared on the big screen. With a hot dog in one hand and a hot drink in the other, it was a chance to catch up on how everyone else had done as the photos and maps of the night's events continued to appear. Soon everyone was back in the marquee and the Apex results team were getting to work.

As Sunday dawned, the tired legs and aching bodies were easy to spot as 400 weary competitors emerged from their tents after their night of adventure. With a sandwich from the Apex Cafe there was more time to reflect on what had gone well, and where teams could have gained those extra points.

Then the live results presentation got underway. It was a high-energy display of how every team had done. From those finishing with the lowest scores, to those seeing where they were in the top ten, there were cheers all round as everyone finally got to see what they had achieved.

With the top prizes awarded, and a chance to see the route of the winning teams, the event was then drawing to an end. Some were leaving with the winners' prizes, but all were heading home with some cracking memories of yet another intense Apex Challenge adventure.

# Autumn 2012: A landmark event to celebrate ten years

**Well what a weekend! We were determined to celebrate the Apex Challenge's 10th birthday in style, and what better way to do it than with an action packed weekend of non-stop adventure.**

Exactly ten years ago, just a few hundred metres from where this weekend's event took place, the Apex Challenge was born. 26 teams joined us for that first event, which was to set the foundations for the event to grow and grow.

Now, in 2012, we were able to welcome 100 teams from right across the UK, and it was great to be able to celebrate those ten years by returning to where it all began.

There was a real sense of anticipation and excitement on Friday as the camping field began to fill with Explorers and Network members. Everyone was keen to find the driest spots in the field, before registering their arrival at event centre. As the map booklets were given out, plans were already being devised as everyone eagerly awaited the first briefing.

With fireworks and thumping music the event was underway. The first challenge started straight away, a night sprint event where points had to be gained, but the chasers needed to be avoided in order to succeed. Straight away teams were bounding over the inflatable assault course as they started their quest for points. But elsewhere the highly trained chasers were pouncing on

teams to relieve them of their hard-earned points.

By the time the first game finished, there were plenty of tired faces, but the event had only just begun.

As Saturday dawned, the rain of the night faded away and the main event grew closer. After a legendary Apex breakfast, the first teams were being called up to start their seven-hour challenge. With 15 activity bases, and 30 control points to visit, this was going to be an intense day of adventure.

Again the teams were hurtling themselves across the inflatable assault course as their long day of challenges got underway. Then they were off, tracking down the control points, and taking on the challenges.



Chris Millner  
(National Trust):  
"It was very impressive to see how well organised everything was, and how you had mastered all the tech side. I think that really gives the event a buzz for the youngsters."



The core events of rock climbing, abseiling and mountain biking tested teams to the max. Then there were the more bizarre games like rescuing rubber chickens, catapulting severed hands, and flinging yourself down a giant water slide. But wherever the points were being gained, it was all happening because of great teamwork and determination.

The seven hours soon passed, and the 400 adventurers returned to the marquee with their final challenge of crossing the inflatable assault course in reverse in order to download their score.

Then it was time for tea – a chance to unwind and share the stories of the day with all the other teams, before Saturday's briefing brought everyone back together. This gave a chance for teams to find out their score so far and it became obvious which teams were leading the field, but with a new award for the most improved team up for grabs, it was all to play for on Sunday.

Before that, it was time to party. More than 500 people packed into the marquee for Apex Challenge's 10th birthday celebrations. Our live act performed to huge cheers, while the Apex milkshake bar was churning out the shakes at incredible speed. The party hats, cake and balloons all added to the festivities as the party continued into the night.

As teams started to emerge from their tents on Sunday morning, it was clear the exertions of the weekend were starting to take their toll. But there was no time for resting as our brand new game, Head Hunters, was about to begin.

With a mass start, all 100 teams were off into the Longshaw Estate, now on the hunt for natives in four distinct tribes. Some were heading straight to Terror Mountain to find the elusive mountaineers, while others were disappearing deep into the Forbidden Forest to find the camouflaged natives there.

Teams were also on the lookout for Paddy Parrot, giant bird worth a massive 60 points, and many heads were turning in the valley as Paddy flapped his way between the tribes.

But Sunday wasn't just about hunting – there was, of course, the legendary Apex Challenge assault course to take on. This was our longest ever obstacle challenge, where some of the country's toughest soldiers were on hand to guide teams through the course. It was a spectacular finale to a spectacular weekend of adventure.

As teams returned to their tents, all were still buzzing from the Apex experience, and soon it was time to see how all that translated into points and prizes. The event briefing was a chance to see how everyone had done. Those at the top were clearly thrilled their hard work had paid off, but it was clear all were happy just to have completed such a gruelling weekend.

So ten years after that first event, it is clear to see how the Apex Challenge has grown. We're immensely proud of what our team has achieved, and are thrilled to see how popular the events have become. Thanks for being part of the Apex adventure. We can't wait to see you next year!

Running two flagship events isn't all that's kept the Apex Challenge team busy this year. Here are some of the other things you might not have noticed...

## Behind the scenes success at Apex HQ

### Award nomination for innovation in the use of technology

In July the Apex Challenge's use of technology was commended at a national awards ceremony.

Members of the organising team were invited to London for the Technology4Good awards, hosted by broadcaster

Mariella Frostrup, which celebrates organisations that use technology for the good of others.

More than 200 entries were received for the 2012 awards and the Apex Challenge was nominated alongside three others in the innovation category. Judges were impressed by our use of technology at outdoor events as a way of encouraging more young

people to take part in the adventure competitions.

The winning entry in the innovation category was ActionAid, which does some amazing work with children in Africa and communities that have been devastated by natural disasters. To be nominated alongside such an organisation, and the others in our category, was a huge honour.

Left: Trustees James Webster and Matt Richards at the Technology4Good Awards in London.



### Increased sharing of technology expertise

The number of requests the Apex Challenge is receiving from other organisations for advice on the use of technology in outdoor events is increasing.

When the event was first set up in 2002, one of our aims to inspire other events to look with fresh eyes at what they are doing and make sure they embrace new ideas.

Sharing our own expertise in our use of online entry systems and bespoke event management systems is part of helping to make this happen.



### Apex gets intense at South Yorkshire county camp

This year we supported the South Yorkshire county's summer camp, Synergise, by running an exclusive version of our event.

Cubs and Scouts were invited to compete alongside Explorers and members of the Scout Network during the two day event.

Bad weather had forced its postponement in July and the rearranged date in September clashed with prior commitments for

several of our main organising team.

With two of the event's three trustees unavailable James Webster led the team with support from Bob Teasdale and Darrell Coates to ensure a new generation of Apex competitors tried out the event.

The Apex Challenge's technical team also used their expertise to stage-manage the evening entertainment at the event producing a dramatic and professional show.



### Record turnout for AGM weekend



We had our biggest ever turnout for this year's AGM, as the team headed underground on an adventure caving trip in the Peak District.

Activities like this are now always integrated into our annual planning weekends, to promote teamwork as well as enabling everyone to think creatively about new ideas for the event. The rest of the weekend was spent planning the forthcoming events, while reviewing those from the previous year and devising new activity ideas.

### Grant awards for Apex 10th birthday

The Apex Challenge received three generous grants this year.



After a grant from the A J Burton Charitable Trust, we were then

supported by the Co-operative. This paid for a range of training courses for our core team including food hygiene certification, electrical testing courses and water sports qualifications.

Another larger grant from the Big Lottery Fund allowed us to spend more on activities for October's ten year celebration event. The funding paid for enhanced equipment and expertise which added a great new dimension to the competition.

### Making a splash!

Members of the Apex Challenge team returned to Sheffield's annual weekend of watersports action at Rother Valley Country Park to support the event.

As in previous years the team laid on a radio station with increased support from young people taking part in the event. It provided the soundtrack to the weekend, important safety announcements and a running commentary on some of the thrilling spectacles on the water.



# 10 things from 10 years

Over the last ten years, the Apex Challenge has grown from a small local event in South Yorkshire, to become one of the country's top adventure competitions for Explorers and the Scout Network. Here Event Director Matt Richards gives an honest look at the main things the event has learnt over the last decade.

## Speak directly to young people

At the Apex Challenge we have always directed our marketing and promotions directly to the competitors, not to leaders or commissioners. They can then ask their leaders/supporters about coming. This way the message doesn't get delayed or diluted through layers – and empowers the young people to arrange their own programmes supported by the leaders.

## Look after the leaders

Every one of the 60-strong team who helps at the events works unbelievably hard to deliver the adventure. It's vital they enjoy it too. People like to be associated with successful things, and they like a freebie! So we have a policy of never charging adults at the Apex Challenge, and strive to make the weekend as fun as possible for everyone. If they enjoy it, they'll be back next year.

## Actively search out feedback

There are lots of things we've got wrong but have been able to change through feedback from the competitors. There are loads of ways to get feedback through Facebook polls, Twitter discussions and the new Youth Involvement projects, but by far the best way is just taking a

few minutes to chat to young people during the events. Often it's really simple things we could be doing to make things even better.

## Big committees don't work

We run the Apex Challenge as a core group of just three people, and it works brilliantly. Each of us are empowered to make decisions, and only refer to the core team for crucial things. We've heard of other events with massive

*A team member reaches for the punch to claim 50 Apex points at the first Apex Challenge event in 2002. The event format has stayed very similar since but the competition has got bigger and bigger.*



*The three Apex Challenge trustees are presented with a specially made birthday card and cake in October 2012 in celebration of organising ten years of competitions. (L-R David Pape, Matt Richards and James Webster.)*

teams that take months to make simple decisions but at Apex we just delegate tasks out and trust our volunteers to deliver them.

## Success breeds success

You can't force people to attend an event if it's not good enough. We had a few years desperately trying to fill the events but once we made them good enough that problem disappeared. The last three sold out in less than an hour. Build it well, and they will come!

## Events need to support groups not the other way around

We've heard about the organisers of other camps and events complaining that they're not being supported by groups and can't get people to attend. That's the wrong way of looking at it. If there is demand for the event, it's of high quality and delivers something the groups want, they will come.

## Some people just like to grumble

While the vast majority of people in our organisation are committed, fun, friendly and positive, there are a few who just seem to get a kick out of being negative. We've learnt just to smile, tolerate their oddities and concentrate on working with everyone else who's up for delivering the adventure.

## The little things matter

People notice attention to detail. It may seem

over the top, but every picture in the marquee will be at exactly the same height, all the booklets and results use the same fonts and colour palette, and we have several full rehearsals for each of our presentations. We even make sure we use the right colour of cable tie for each banner. Obsessive? Maybe, but it makes a difference.

## Don't get complacent

Our least successful events have been when we've repeated activities or returned to the same place in consecutive years. While it may be easier for the organisers, the lack of originality is instantly noticeable and the competitors are very aware. If you keep challenging yourself with new ideas, places and activities, it keeps the events feeling fresh and vibrant.

## We have unlimited skills at our disposal

We're becoming increasingly amazed at the skills and goodwill that can be tapped into in Scouting. The volunteers and supporters of our events include experts in adventurous activities, mass catering, electrical engineering, lighting design, broadcasting, construction and even weather forecasting. People like to be asked to use their key skills, and if they get something out of it they will be sure to return next time.



# Accounts summary



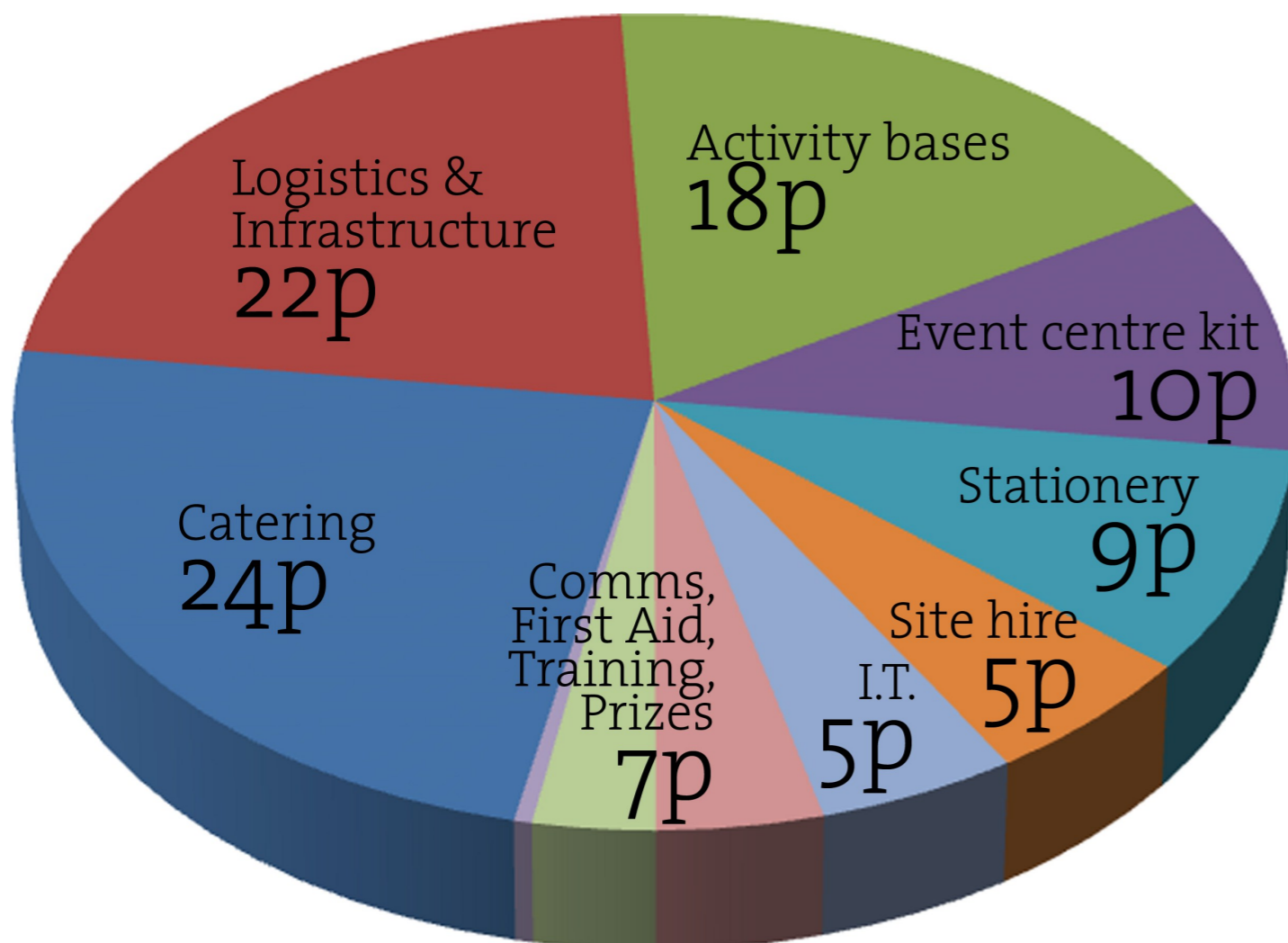
David Pape - Treasurer

We were able to confidently spend extra money on the events to make them even better this year because of generous donations and grants. Combined with sensible budgeting this means that we have made a small profit that we can use to make the Apex Challenge financially secure for the future.

The accounting categories have been changed slightly this year to make it easier to understand where money is being spent, including removing the miscellaneous category and reallocating spending into more meaningful headings. This does however mean that like-for-like comparisons with last year's accounts are not totally accurate.

Use of an electronic till this year means that we now have a more accurate breakdown of income received during the event which can be broken down more easily into entry fees, T-shirt sales and other merchandise sales.

Every Apex Challenge event is different with varying costs and expenses. The graph below gives a rough idea, based on this year's accounts, of how each pound of a team's entry fee is spent.



## Section A: Statement of receipts and payments

A full list of receipts and payments, from which this summary has been prepared is available on request.

	Unrestricted funds (to the nearest £)	Restricted funds (to the nearest £)	Last year (2011) (to the nearest £) (All unrestricted)
<b>Receipts</b>			
Entry fees (Spring event)	£ 7650	£ 0	£ 5280
T-shirt sales (Spring event)	£ 2016	£ 0	£ 1488
Other merchandise sales (Spring event)	£ 478	£ 0	£ 718 <sup>a</sup>
Entry fees (Autumn event)	£ 12360	£ 0	£ 9600
T-shirt sales (Autumn event)	£ 798	£ 0	£ 440
Other merchandise sales (Autumn event)	£ 927	£ 0	£ 714 <sup>a</sup>
Apex Intense at Synergise 2012	£ 800	£ 0	£ 0
Sponsorship donations	£ 530	£ 3644	£ 650
Miscellaneous income (including interest)	£ 5	£ 0	£ 119
Refunds for withdrawn teams (Spring and autumn)	- £ 629	£ 0	£ 0
Sub-total	£ 0	£ 0	£ 19009
<b>Assets and investment sales</b>	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>£ 24935</b>	<b>£ 3644</b>	<b>£ 19009</b>

	Unrestricted funds (to the nearest £)	Restricted funds (to the nearest £)	Last year (2011) (to the nearest £) (All unrestricted)
<b>Payments</b>			
Activity bases	£ 1885	£ 1922	£ 1617
Catering	£ 5113	£ 0	£ 3649
Communications and first aid	£ 867	£ 0	£ 838 <sup>b</sup>
Event centre kit	£ 2179	£ 33	£ 1851 <sup>c</sup>
Information technology	£ 1036	£ 0	£ 360 <sup>d</sup>
Logistics and infrastructure	£ 3747	£ 1045	£ 1049 <sup>e</sup>
Merchandise	£ 3390	£ 0	£ 1672 <sup>f</sup>
Miscellaneous	£ 0 <sup>g</sup>	£ 0	£ 2713
Prizes	£ 94	£ 0	£ 150
Site hire	£ 1140	£ 0	£ 3125 <sup>h</sup>
Stationery and printing	£ 1933	£ 0	£ 1132
Training	£ 0 <sup>i</sup>	£ 636	£ 0
Sub-total	£ 22012	£ 3635	£ 18156
<b>Assets and investment purchases</b>	£ 0	£ 0	£ 559
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>£ 22012</b>	<b>£ 3635</b>	<b>£ 18715</b>
<b>Net of receipts/payments</b>	<b>£ 3552</b>	<b>£ 9</b>	<b>£ 294</b>
<b>Cheques written but now expired</b>	£ 20	£ 0	£ 49
<b>Cash funds last year end</b>	£ 4951	£ 0	£ 4609
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>£ 8523</b>	<b>£ 9</b>	<b>£ 4952</b>

**NOTES:** Changes to the categories used for reporting payments were made in 2012. Several categories were merged and some new ones were created. To aid comparison with last year's accounts the payments from 2011 have been reclassified using the new categories, though it should be remembered that some individual items may now fall in a different category so exact comparisons are not completely accurate. The changes are detailed here: <sup>a</sup> cash received during the event can now be accurately attributed to different items which was not possible in 2011 therefore this figure may also include some T-shirt sales. <sup>b</sup> combines 'Communications' and 'First aid'. <sup>c</sup> combines 'Event day equipment' and 'Promotions and branding'. <sup>d</sup> replaces 'Website' but includes extra items from 2012 onwards. <sup>e</sup> combines 'Fuel' and 'Transport' and includes extra items from 2012 onwards. <sup>f</sup> combines 'Clothing' and 'DVDs' and includes extra items from 2012 onwards. <sup>g</sup> 'Miscellaneous' is no longer used and all items in this category are now redistributed into other categories. <sup>h</sup> replaces Accommodation and includes extra items from 2012 onwards. <sup>i</sup> is a new category. Also, some totals may not sum due to rounding.

## Section B: Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of this period

Cash funds	Unrestricted funds (to the nearest £)	Restricted funds (to the nearest £)
Cash in hand	£ 30	£ 0
Bank account balance (as at 31 Dec 2012)	£ 8598	£ 9
Sub-total	<b>£ 8628</b>	<b>£ 9</b>
<b>Less cheques written but not cashed</b>	£ 105	£ 0
Total cash funds this year end	<b>£ 8523</b>	<b>£ 9</b>

Assets retained for the charity's own use	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost at purchase
Total value of assets purchased before 2012	Unrestricted	£ 4141
Merchandise stock	Unrestricted	£ 766

Liabilities	Fund to which asset belongs	Amount due
NOTE: The charity had no financial liabilities at 31 December 2012		

## Declaration

This annual report and summary of accounts is signed to certify it is a true and accurate record of the Apex Challenge's activities for 2012. To the best of our knowledge all details contained within this document are correct and no essential details have been deliberately omitted.

Matthew Richards (Trustee) \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

David Pape (Trustee) \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

James Webster (Trustee) \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Independent examiner's report

I report on the accounts of the Apex Challenge for the year ended 31 December 2012 which comprise the 'Statement of receipts and payments' and 'Statement of assets and liabilities' set out on pages 17 and 18.

This report is made solely to the trustees in accordance with Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in an Independent Examiner's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees for my examination work.

### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The Apex Challenge trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. They consider that an audit is not required for this year (under Section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act)) and that an independent examination is needed. It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts (under Section 145 of the Charities Act);
- Follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners (under Section 145 (5)(b) of the Charities Act); and
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of Independent Examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Apex Challenge and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent Examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the Charities Act; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed (Independent examiner) \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sarah Harris – Solicitor of England & Wales (Non-practising),  
 Inglewood House, Lingards Road, Slaithwaite, Huddersfield, West Yorkshire, HD7 5HY.

Many thanks...

### A huge thanks to everyone who has worked so hard during the past 12 months to make the Apex Challenge possible:

Ben Abell, Simon Atha, Matt Atkinson, Andrew Batley, John Batley, Rob Batley, Abby Baxter, Darren Bell, Martin Bennett, Andrew Billington, Duncan Blakeley, Flt Lt Steve Booth, Ian Brannan, James Brown, Nick Bryan, Ruth Bullivant-Layton, Kevin Bumby, Stewart Butler, Jake Carpenter, Tony Casson, Julia Charlesworth, John Clay, Darrell Coates, Ian Cook, David Cooper, Steve Culmer, Julie Driskell, Owen Driskell, Rachel Edwards, Lee Farrow, Martyn Foster, Jo Fulton, Richard Galliford, Richard Garrett, Phillip Gillingham, Fran Glew, Rob Godfrey, Tim Hague, Tom Hague, Steve Hall, Ben Harding, Hannah Harper, Sarah Harris, Ricky Harrison, Simon Harrison, Graham Harrop, Russ Hirst, Duncan Hocking, Richard Hollingworth, Nikki Hopkins, Gaz Hopkins, Emma Hunter, Jez Ince, Andy Jackson, Colin James, Marcus Jenkinson, Laura Jennings, Nigel Lee, Kristian Lucas, Maria Mahon, Ross Masters, Neil McKay, Rebecca Meers, Andrew Melleney, Chris Millner, Andy Moore, Dom Moore, Lynn Moore, Dave Mott, Phillip Norton, Richard Oliver, Andy Pagett, David Pape, Gordon Parkinson, John Parkinson, Marion Parkinson, Keith Partridge, Simon Peers, Andrew Phipps, Nicky Phipps, David Platts, Andrew Plummer, Lee Plummer, Lynne Plummer, Sara Plummer, Nicholas Pritchard, Matt Richards, Susie Roache, Brian Robinson, Bev Rothery, Mark Rothery, Mike Sharp, Sian Sheeran, John Skipper, Tom Smith, Odette Smyth, Nadine Snowdon, Tom Spreyer, Mike Squires, Dave Stern, Jon Stewart, Ben Stevenson, Pete Stevenson, Sian Stockham, Jason Stubbs, Bob Teasdale, Dave Tor, Haley Toseland, Amanda Ward, Andrew Ward, Edward Watchorn, David Webster, James Webster, Carolyn Welborn, Kevin Welborn, Luisse Whiting, Jon Widdup, Jim Wild, Susan Wragg, Julie Wright, David Yates, Mark Yates.

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[www.apexchallenge.co.uk](http://www.apexchallenge.co.uk)

or scan the QR code with your smartphone.