



apex
challenge

ANNUAL REPORT

Financial year: November 2017 - October 2018
Charity number 1102633

www.apexchallenge.co.uk



The Apex Challenge is considered to be among the toughest of all the UK's adventure competitions with 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.



Matt Richards - Event Director

It was great to be able to bring the Apex Challenge back in 2018 after its year away and we are proud to have put on one of the best ever Apex events.

The challenges we faced in 2017 meant that we decided to focus our efforts on just one event per year, rather than the two competitions we had been running since 2003. This allowed the whole team to focus on the detail of the full-weekend competition meaning it ran extremely smoothly and was also hugely enjoyable for the organising team.

This re-focussing means we are now re-energised to continue developing the events. We are also actively looking at ways to enhance and grow the core organising team.

We are extremely proud of what we have achieved over the last 16 years and we plan to continue to develop the Apex Challenge into 2019 and beyond.

Statement of public benefit

In seeking to promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical intellectual social and spiritual potentials, the Apex Challenge this year staged a large adventure competition for members of the Scout Association.

The event provided opportunities for around 400 young people to take part in a wide variety of activities that allow them to demonstrate their physical skills as well as promoting teamwork and social interaction.

In organising these events, the charity has had due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising its powers and duties.

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 Barn, 3 Cherry Tree Court, Sherburn in Elmet, Leeds, North Yorkshire, LS25 6PZ. (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.

If you would like further copies of this annual report, please write to Apex Challenge, 45 Old Road, Stanningley, Pudsey, LS28 6BG. A small charge to cover printing, postage and packing will be required.



2017/18

REVIEWING THE YEAR'S AIMS:

"It is an amazing weekend and is probably one of the best events I have been to in five years of Scouting."

1. To aim for more activities at this year's competition than ever before.

This year's Apex Challenge had 14 activity bases although at short notice on the weekend of the event one of the base teams had to withdraw leaving us with 13. We had aimed to increase the number of activities yet further and this remains an aim for future events by expanding our team of activity base organisers and inviting some of our most successful teams from previous years to consider returning and running activities. **AIM NOT ACHIEVED.**

2. To add extra elements to this year's competition that teams will notice.

We had several ideas of new event elements to include this year but in the end were restricted by some of the conditions of the area in which the event was staged. That said, we introduced a UV glow paint feature to the Saturday Night Live which was very well received along with a new band who are keen to return and we have other ideas on this list for future events for inclusion on both Friday and Sunday. **AIM ACHIEVED.**

3. To make no financial loss, but ideally no significant profit either.

On paper the accounts summary detailed later in this report shows a profit of around £2000 during the financial year but with around £2000 of outstanding expenses from the 2018 competition to leave the account after the financial year end, the event actually made a slight financial loss. Further details are explained later in this annual report. **AIM ACHIEVED.**

4. To find the year as trustees more fulfilling through concentrating on one big event.

After 16 years of organising two events each year, during 2018 we considered that quality is better than quantity. Reducing to just one competition gave us one big focus and time to step back, think more about planning the event and more time to enjoy that planning. As a result the event weekend and the build up to it were more enjoyable and more relaxing and this had the effect of us staging our smoothest event in recent memory. **AIM ACHIEVED.**

"We have never done an event like it. We are coming back!"

ONE BIG EVENT: BRAMHAM PARK



Bramham Park hosted the Apex Challenge for a full weekend and proved to be a perfect location for three days of adventure!

With the rain pouring on Friday evening, the event began with a challenging sprint version of the main event. Teams had just 70 minutes to hunt down 15 well-hidden control points strewn over the Bramham Park estate in the pitch darkness, it took great navigation skills, determination and endurance to succeed while evading a team of highly trained Apex Chasers. Scores were already looking impressive after just the weekend's first stage.

On Saturday teams had six hours to collect as many points as possible, demanding a great strategy to succeed. Activities ranged from kayaking across an open lake, to mountain biking down sheer slopes and hurling axes - so teams needed to be adaptable to make the most of what was on offer.

All the time, seconds were ticking away and it was those who used clever route planning with endurance and determination who came out on top. The rare giant Apex parrot was out throughout the event - and 59 teams managed to track him down to secure the substantial 75 point reward.

As teams gathered at Event Centre, they got the latest scores at the results update. It was also becoming clear what was laying ahead on Sunday. But before all that it was Saturday Night Live. Competitors danced into the night to the sounds of "The Epics" playing a fantastic live set on stage. Neon face paint and wild dancing followed to make it an unforgettable night.

Sunday brought the toughest ever Apex Adventure Race. The 5km course took in woodland tracks, steep slopes, boggy swamps and thick forest - but dotted along the route were more than a dozen obstacles. This tested the endurance of event the fittest competitors. All in all it was once again a fantastic weekend in a stunning location.



Check out the exclusive video of this event:

www.facebook.com/apexchallenge

Accounts summary



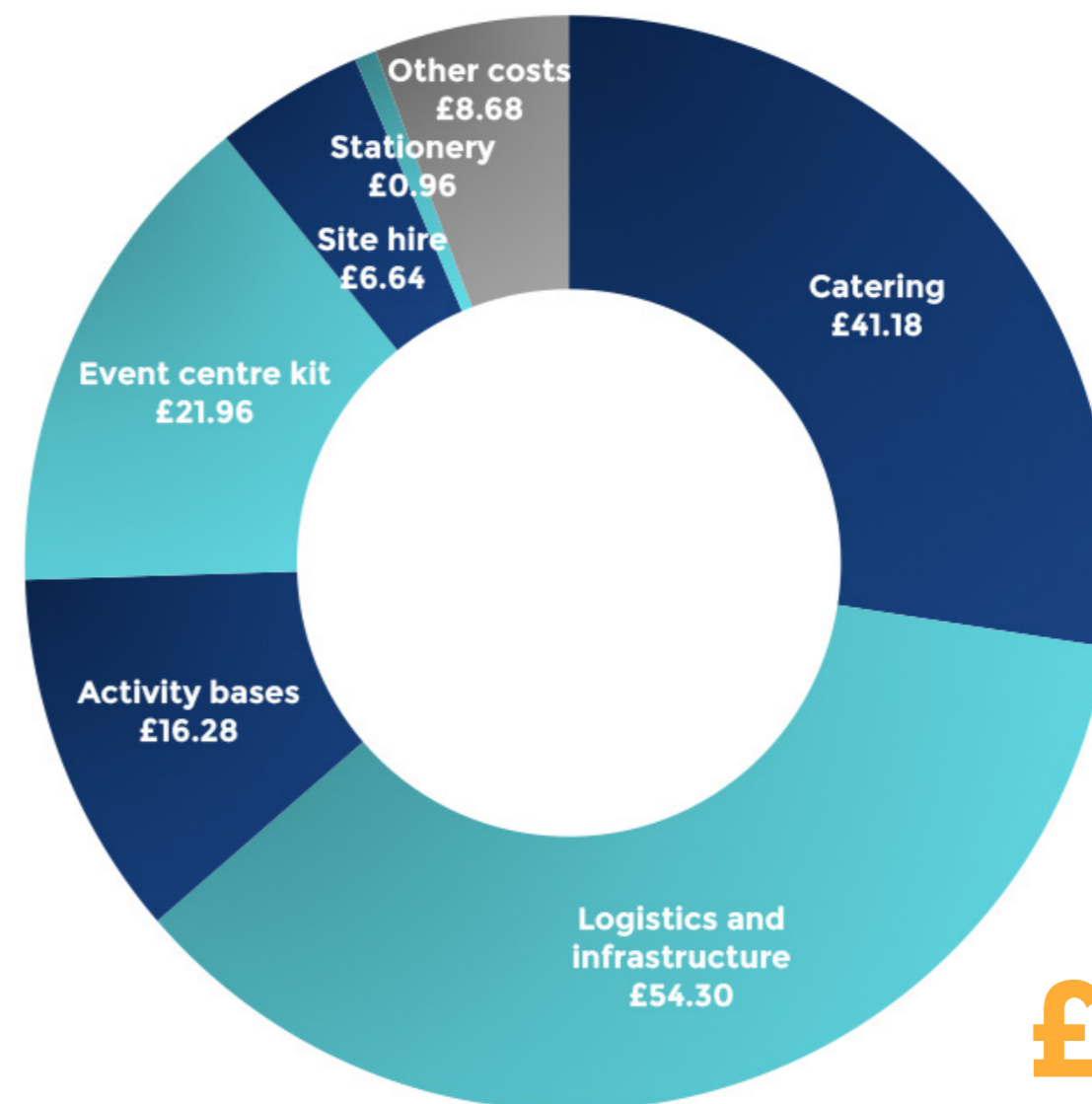
David Pape - Treasurer

At the start of the financial year we set ourselves the aim of neither making a significant financial loss, nor a significant financial profit in 2017/18.

The decision was made to maintain the same entry fee for teams entering our 2018 competition as the amount charged in 2016 and plan expenses to remain within that budget.

When looking at the end of year accounts it does, at first, seem to show that the event made around £2000 in profit, but it is important to note that around £2000 of expenses from that event had yet to leave the bank account at the end of the financial year (31 October 2018). When this is taken into consideration the event actually made a slight financial loss.

Financially this puts the Apex Challenge in the position that the trustees hoped at the start of the year with neither a significant financial profit or loss. Decisions on entry fee levels and spending for the forthcoming year have yet to be made.



We always try to spend money within Scouting where possible to keep funds within the Movement. Of our total expenditure this year, the amount remaining in Scouting was:

£2355

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 this year (2017-2018)	Restricted funds this year (2017-2018)	Unrestricted funds last year (2016-2017)	Restricted funds last year (2016-2017)
Receipts				
Entry fees	£ 14100	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
T-shirt sales	£ 2040	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Other merchandise sales	£ 487	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Income from third party events	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Sponsorship donations	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Miscellaneous income (incl interest)	£ 321	£ 0	£ 431	£ 0
Sub-total	£ 16947	£ 0	£ 431	£ 0
Assets and investment sales	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Total receipts	£ 16947	£ 0	£ 431	£ 0

	Unrestricted funds this year (2017-2018)	Restricted funds this year (2017-2018)	Unrestricted funds last year (2016-2017)	Restricted funds last year (2016-2017)
Payments				
Activity bases	£ 1471	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Catering	£ 3721	£ 0	£ 909	£ 0
Communications and first aid	£ 163	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Event centre kit	£ 1984	£ 0	£ 463	£ 0
Information technology	£ 455	£ 0	£ 359	£ 0
Logistics and infrastructure	£ 4906	£ 0	£ 1025	£ 0
Merchandise	£ 1387	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Prizes	£ 166	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Site hire	£ 600	£ 0	£ 600	£ 0
Stationery and printing	£ 87	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Training	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Sub-total	£ 14940	£ 0	£ 3356	£ 0
Assets and investment purchases	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Total payments	£ 14940	£ 0	£ 3356	£ 0
Net of receipts/payments	£ 2007	£ 0	£ -2925	£ 0
Cheques written but now expired	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Cheques received but now expired	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Cash funds last year end	£ 5616	£ 0	£ 8540	£ 0
Cash funds this year end	£ 7623	£ 0	£ 5616	£ 0

NOTES

Column totals may not sum correctly due to rounding. All amounts are shown to the nearest pound. It is important to note when comparing spending this financial year with last, that there was no Apex Challenge competition in 2016/17 which is why both the receipts and payments figures are significantly lower than in 2017/18.

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

Cash funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds
Cash in hand	£ 0	£ 0
Bank account balance (as at 31 Oct 2018)	£ 7623	£ 0
Sub-total	£ 7623	£ 0
Less cheques written but not cashed	£ 0	£ 0
Total cash funds this year end	£ 7623	£ 0

Assets retained for the charity's own use	Fund	Purchase cost
Total value of assets purchased before 2017-18	Unrestricted	£ 0

Liabilities	Fund	Amount due
The charity had several financial liabilities at the end of the financial year	Unrestricted	£ 2124

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 2017-18. 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 (charity number 1102633) for the year ended 31 October 2018 which comprise the 'Statement of receipts and payments' and 'Statement of assets and liabilities' set out on pages 3 and 14.

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 Commission. 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 the 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.

2018 HALL OF FAME

Explorers Competition Winners



Honey Nut Cheerios

**Chorlton Bees ESU
(Greater Manchester East)**

Network Competition Winners



Still Single Virgins Open

**To Offers
South Derbyshire Network
Derbyshire**

JCH Award Winners



Barney's Buddies

**Phoenix ESU
(Derbyshire)**

Thank you to all who make Apex possible...

Ben Abell, Lloyd Acornley, Aaron Adams, Scott Adgar, Joanne Alflat, Matt Atkinson, Sheenagh Austin, Ashley Baker, Matthew Barnes, Andrew Batley, John Batley, Rob Batley, Grace Baxter, Martin Bennett, Phil Bennett, Sam Bennett, Andrew Billington, Jo Blythe, Ian Bradshaw, Sean Brady, Michelle Bragg, Ian Brannan, Rachel Breedon, Abby Brown, James Brown, Ruth Bullivant-Layton, Kevin Bumbly, Stewart Butler, Jake Carpenter, Tony Casson, Charles Cave, Sarah Cave, Julia Charlesworth, Joe Christian, James Clarke, Brad Cole, Tom Conroy, Ian Cook, David Cooper, Harry Curtis, Jake D'Souza Kelly, Alex Detalia Riley, James Dobson, James Downs, Rachel Edwards, Alex Ellis, Sam Farnsworth, Mike Fawcett, Rosie Flint, Martyn Foster, Paul Fox, Richard Galliford, James Garrett, Richard Garrett, Phillip Gillingham, Fran Glew, James Godfrey, Rob Godfrey, Tim Hague, Tom Hague, Steve Hall, Elinor Hamilton, Tom Hamilton, Sarah Harris, Ricky Harrison, Simon Harrison, Guy Harrison, Graham Harrop, Sarah Henell, Irene Hewitt, Ian Hill, Lucy Hobbs, Richard Hollingworth, Janet Horner, Samuel Hough, Alex Hummel, David Ingledew, Adam Jacklin, Andy Jackson, Barrie Jenkinson, Marcus Jenkinson, Karl Jones, John Kessel, Sarah Kessel, George King, Alison Lamb, Danny Levick, Kristian Lucas, Maria Mahon, Ross Masters, Daniel Maude, Sarah McConnachie-Kessel, Neil McKay, Bruce Meek, Andrew Melleney, Jack Mellors, Adam Mitchell, Jon Mitchell, Derek Mollan, Andy Moore, Dom Moore, Lynn Moore, Dave Mott, David Needham, Charlie Newton, Phillip Norton, Andy Pagett, David Pape, Gordon Parkinson, John Parkinson, Marion Parkinson, Simon Peers, Andrew Phipps, Becca Phipps, Nicky Phipps, Thomas Phipps, David Platts, Andrew Plummer, Lee Plummer, Lynne Plummer, Sara Plummer, Claire Probert, James Purdy, John Putland, Joanne Rayner, Hayley Richardson, Tony Richardson, Matt Richards, Nigel Redfern, Brian Robinson, Danny Rogers, Bev Rothery, Mark Rothery, Dave Scott, Mike Sharp, Dom Sharpe, Lewis Simpson, John Smallwood, Tom Smith, Mike Snaith, Chris Spencer, Jonathan Spencer, Mike Squires, Ben Stevenson, Matt Stevenson, Sian Stockham, Jason Stubbs, Molly Stubbs, Nadine Sweeney, Bob Teasdale, Ian Thompson, David Thorp, Daniel Tinker, Haley Toseland, David Towner, James Tucker, Sam Turnbull, Julia Voyse, David Ward, Matt Ward, Tom Ward, Edward Watchorn, David Webster, James Webster, Will Wells, Jim Wild, Susan Wragg, David Yates, Mark Yates, Sally Yates.

Join the adventure in 2019:

www.apexchallenge.co.uk