

A young boy with blonde hair, wearing a blue Scout shirt and a maroon scarf, is climbing a rope on a tree. He is smiling and looking towards the camera. The background shows a lush green forest with a tent and other people in the distance.

apex challenge

Annual Report

Financial year: January - October 2014
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 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 been a funny old year at the Apex Challenge. For various reasons, including several members of the organising team working overseas for much of 2014, we decided to postpone the planned Apex events. However it's been far from a quiet time for the Apex team.

Over the last twelve months we have been able to help with several other high profile adventure events, including the Yorkshire Rose Challenge and Scouttastic, while also creating ambitious new plans for the Apex Challenge.

2015 is set to be packed with adventures with at least two more large-scale Apex events. So as the year gets underway, we are all heading into it refreshed, recharged and re-energised - determined to make 2015 the best Apex year ever! We look forward to seeing you joining us on the adventure.

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, 11B 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.

2014: Review of the Year

Although our two flagship competitions were postponed during 2014, there were still opportunities for Scouts to take part in Apex Challenge events, albeit on a smaller scale.

Apex gets intense at Scouttastic



Following a successful one-day event last year, South Yorkshire's annual county camp, Scouttastic, returned in 2014 for a full weekend. Once again the Apex Challenge was there to give Scouts of all ages the chance to experience what makes our events so special.

Teams raced against the clock to navigate around a course of challenging obstacles and other control points in the fastest possible time.

Several new obstacles were created to give teams a unique new challenge to complete and we worked hard to make sure more teams than ever were able to take part in the event.

Daring Duck Rescue

Part of what makes the Apex Challenge events such a success is the contribution made by the dozens of people who look after our activities.

The organisers of the Yorkshire Rose Challenge are regulars at our events and this year we once again supported them by providing an activity for their event.

A good sense of balance was needed as teams navigated a low ropes course to rescue as many rubber ducks as possible from a 'toxic' pond. It was definitely harder than teams originally thought!



Getting better connected

More than ever before the Apex Challenge experience is being talked about online on sites like Facebook and Twitter.

people's news feeds, most of the time with photos.

The photo albums on the website are now fully linked to our Facebook page and for the first time display on Apple devices which blocked our previous photo albums.



This year we have rewritten much of the event website so that when our stories are shared, they appear better in

Recognition for Apex leader



For the past 12 years as one of the Apex Challenge event organisers, James Webster has used his enthusiasm, attention to detail and passion to help make the Apex Challenge the success it is.

This year he was nominated for the new 'Leader of Excellence' award at the South Yorkshire Scouts annual awards ceremony for the amount of time he has spent on the event's branding, sound engineering and website.

Tributes to Apex team member



Ever since the Apex Challenge started in 2002, Chris Plant has been a key member of the safety and communications team. It was with great sadness this year we learned he had lost his battle with cancer.

Seen here with Bear Grylls, Chris was always happy to take on any role, he could often be found manning the emergency radios, marshalling cars in the parking areas, or organising the results booklets. He will be greatly missed.

Accounts summary



David Pape - Treasurer

We have changed the end of our financial year to be 31 October. This fits in better with our event schedule. The consequence this year is that we are reporting our accounts over a ten month period.

Although we did not run any Apex events in 2014 we have spent money on other events the Apex team has helped out at. We also have a few fixed recurring costs and some money has been spent preparing for when our main events return in 2015.

* The negative miscellaneous income was accounted as positive miscellaneous income in 2013. This was due to an error in a PayPal refund in 2013, and the money was later taken from our account and is therefore shown being removed in this accounting period.

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 (2014)	Restricted funds this year (2014)	Unrestricted funds this year (2013)	Restricted funds this year (2013)
Receipts				
Entry fees (Spring)	£ 0	£ 0	£ 7650	£ 0
T-shirt sales (Spring)	£ 0	£ 0	£ 1726	£ 0
Other merchandise sales (Spring)	£ 0	£ 0	£ 259	£ 0
Entry fees (Autumn)	£ 0	£ 0	£ 12360	£ 0
T-shirt sales (Autumn)	£ 0	£ 0	£ 1222	£ 0
Other merchandise sales (Autumn)	£ 0	£ 0	£ 672	£ 0
Income for third party events	£ 268	£ 0	£ 177	£ 0
Sponsorship donations	£ 20	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Misc. income (incl. interest)	- £ 139*	£ 0	£ 228	£ 0
Refunds for withdrawn teams	£ 0	£ 0	- £ 600	£ 0
Sub-total	£ 150	£ 0	£ 23694	£ 0
Assets and investment sales				
	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0	£ 0
Total receipts	£ 150	£ 0	£ 23694	£ 0

Payments

Activity bases	£ 281	£ 0	£ 3211	£ 0
Catering	£ 88	£ 0	£ 4497	£ 0
Communications and first aid	£ 0	£ 0	£ 745	£ 0
Event centre kit	£ 112	£ 0	£ 2789	£ 0
Information technology	£ 165	£ 0	£ 1085	£ 0
Logistics and infrastructure	£ 164	£ 0	£ 5321	£ 0
Merchandise	£ 298	£ 0	£ 2245	£ 0
Prizes	£ 0	£ 0	£ 252	£ 0
Site hire	£ 0	£ 0	£ 2850	£ 0
Stationery and printing	£ 15	£ 0	£ 708	£ 0
Training	£ 124	£ 0	£ 529	£ 9
Sub-total	£ 1247	£ 0	£ 24232	£ 9
Asset and investment purchases				
	£ 0	£ 0	£ 1059	£ 0
Total payments	£ 1247	£ 0	£ 25291	£ 9
Net of receipts/payments	- £ 1098	- £ 0	- £ 1598	- £ 9
Cheques written but now expired				
	£ 0	£ 0	£ 45	£ 0
Cash funds last year end				
	£ 6970	£ 0	£ 8523	£ 9
Cash funds this year end	£ 5873	£ 0	£ 6970	£ 0

NOTES

Column totals may not sum correctly due to rounding. All amounts are shown to nearest pound.

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

Cash funds	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds
Cash in hand	£ 223	£ 0
Bank account balance (as at 31 Oct 2014)	£ 6119	£ 0
Sub-total	£ 6342	£ 0
Less cheques written but not cashed	£ 469	£ 0
Total cash funds this year end	£ 5873	£ 0

Assets retained for the charity's own use	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost at purchase
Total value of assets purchased before 2014	Unrestricted	£ 5000

Liabilities	Fund to which liability belongs	Amount due
Printer toner	Unrestricted	£469

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 2014. 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 October 2014 which comprise the 'Statement of receipts and payments' and 'Statement of assets and liabilities' set out on pages 5 and 6.

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 works so hard to make the Apex Challenge possible:

Ben Abell, Joanne Alflat, Simon Atha, Matt Atkinson, Andrew Batley, John Batley, Rob Batley, Abby Baxter, Grace Baxter, Darren Bell, Martin Bennett, Andrew Billington, Duncan Blakeley, 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, Tracey Dixon, 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, Elinor Hamilton, Isabelle Handley, 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, Alison Lamb, Nigel Lee, Jen Lowthrop, Kristian Lucas, Maria Mahon, Ross Masters, Neil McKay, Bruce Meek, Rebecca Meers, Andrew Melleney, Jon Mitchell, 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, Matt Richards, Nigel Redfern, Susie Roache, Brian Robinson, Bev Rothery, Mark Rothery, Mike Sharp, Dom Sharpe, Ben Sheldon, John Skipper, Tom Smith, Tom Spreyer, Mike Squires, Dave Stern, Jon Stewart, Ben Stevenson, Pete Stevenson, Sian Stockham, Becky Stone, Jason Stubbs, Nadine Sweeney, Bob Teasdale, Haley Toseland, James Tucker, Sam Turnbull, Amanda Ward, Andrew Ward, Edward Watchorn, David Webster, James Webster, Carolyn Welborn, Kevin Welborn, Jim Wild, Susan Wragg, Julie Wright, David Yates, Mark Yates.



If you would like further copies, please contact:

Apex Challenge
45 Old Road
Stanningley
PUDSEY
LS28 6BG

A small charge to cover printing, postage and packing will be required.



For further details go online:

www.apexchallenge.co.uk

or scan the QR code with your smartphone.