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*Date:* Tuesday, 13 May 2008

### *Apex Challenge 2008*

A group of teenagers from Fylde are celebrating their amazing success in one of the Country's toughest outdoor events.

The 'Pioneers' Explorer Scout Unit from Fylde came second out of 47 teams from across the UK, when they competed in the gruelling Apex challenge.

Teams have to tackle assault courses, mountain bike racing, high ropes courses and extreme bouncy castle gymnastics during the event which is made even tougher as it all takes place overnight!

Team members Bob, Dan, Jess and Jo named their team '*As Long as we Beat Phoenix*' - a reference to a friendly rivalry between another Fylde Explorer Scout Unit but were surprised and delighted at their achievement.

More than 200 competitors aged between 14-25 took part in the event , each team having six hours to visit as many of the demanding activities as they could - To make it even more of a challenge, teams had to watch out for "chasers" who were trying to track them down and taking valuable points away from the team

As well as earning local bragging rights, each team member won a four season sleeping bag.

More Info

<http://www.apexchallenge.co.uk/>

The Apex Challenge is a Scout competition, with two events every year. It is run by a group of Scout Leaders from South Yorkshire, with more than 50 volunteers helping to organise the event. It's a multi-activity competition where teams of four spend six hours visiting a range of activities to test their skills to the limit.

The Apex Challenge is regarded as one of the country's toughest Scout competitions.

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## *Editor's Notes:*

- Scouting is the largest co-educational youth movement in the UK with a total of 476,992 members (March 2002 figures)
- Worldwide, there are well over 28 million members in over 216 Countries. Two thirds of the membership lives in developing Countries.
- The Aim of the Association is "To promote the development of young people in achieving their full physical, intellectual, social and spiritual potential as individuals, as responsible citizens and as members of their local, national and international communities.
- Scouting in West Lancashire has a membership of just under 10,000 members in the following 8 Districts: Chorley, Blackpool, Preston, Ormskirk, South Ribble, Fylde, Wyre and Lonsdale.

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