**Date: 10th February 2016**

**Lonsdale Cub Scouts hold Wildest Beach Party Ever to celebrate Cubs100**

* Centenary to be celebrated throughout 2016 with a host of events and activities planned via Cubs 100 programme

Cub Scouts and volunteers from Lonsdale District Scouts took part in the Wildest Beach Party Ever to celebrate one-hundred years of Cub Scouting.

The party, held exclusively at Blackpool Pleasure Beach on Saturday the 6th of February, was a great way to kick off the year of celebrations by having fun and meeting up with nearly 8,000 Cub Scouts from across the UK.

Cub Scouts are young people aged between 8 and 10½ years old. Over 150,000 Cubs take part in life-changing adventure every week, with the help and support of adult volunteers, up and down the Country by providing an inspiring programme of everyday adventure. Over 200 different activities, including adventure camps, climbing and water zorbing are on offer.

The Cubs were able to have exclusive use of Blackpool Pleasure Beach, which boasts top attractions such as ‘The Big One’ which is the UK’s tallest and fastest roller coaster standing at 235 feet. The exclusive event meant that Cub Scouts from the Lancaster and Morecambe area were able to ride on all their favourite attractions as many times as they liked before gathering together for a World Record Attempt by the Guinness Book Of World Records of the most people singing “If you’re happy and you know it clap your hands!”.

Mandy Sweet, who led the Cub Scouts to Blackpool Pleasure Beach said “It’s been a fantastic day to celebrate 100 years of Cubs, and to mark the start of an exciting year which will see Young People take part in hundreds of different activities.”

Chief Scout Bear Grylls said “I’m super proud that Cubs Scouts from Lonsdale District are getting out and about to take part in the Wildest Beach Party Ever at Blackpool Pleasure Beach. It’s great that nearly 8,000 Cub Scouts from all over the UK are getting together to celebrate our centenary. This will be one of the biggest celebrations that Scouting will see this year. I am so proud of all the Cub Scouts and all of the volunteers who give them so much fun, challenge and life changing adventure every week”

Cubs 100 aims to provide 150,000 Cub Scouts with the opportunity to get involved with the Widest Birthday Ever! experience, allowing them to create new friendships and memories throughout the year.

The Cubs were joined by Cat Smith, MP for Lancaster and Fleetwood. She said “It has been fantastic to spend the day with local Cubs celebrating 100 years of Cub Scouts. All the children had a great time and I want to pay tribute to all the adults who have over the past 100 years, and going forward, given up their time to offer opportunities to youngsters like this. In the words of 7 year old Cub Scout Mikey from Lancaster it's been "epic" and I'm sure the next 100 years will be too!"

The Scout Association hopes that Cubs 100 will help to increase the number of adult volunteers by raising the profile and understanding of the impact of Cub Scouts today, including how the Movement helps to build and develop a young person’s character, resilience, leadership and responsibility.

More broadly, the Movement continues to grow year-on-year and remains on track to open new Scout groups in the UK’s 200 most deprived areas by 2018, the majority providing opportunities for Cub Scouts. The Scout Association aims to help transform the lives’ of young people whatever their background and to ensure that Scouting is available to the next generation.

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