

SPORTSREACH



SPRING PRAYER LETTER 2019

Well it's been a busy few months! Not without it's challenges along the way, but many, MANY encouragements!

LEAGUES

The Leagues finished well, with 2 presentation evenings at **Capernwray Hall** – one for football, one for netball. 240 people came together over the two nights and enjoyed good food, fun, fellowship, presentation of awards, and more especially heard again the **Good News!** Thanks for praying, and please would you pray especially for the two young men who have broken a leg this season, that they would make a full and speedy recovery.

The **Football Cup Finals** were held at Squires' Gate, Blackpool with Fulwood winning the champions Cup (and also the All Day Tournament!) and Wray winning the League Trophy. Winners of the League were Great Eccleston FMC, and 5aside winners were Roeburndale Rascals (Premiership) and Chipping (Championship).

Netball League winners Chipping Topcats also took the League Cup! Sat 18th May was our **Annual Netball Tournament**, with 27 teams. Garstang were worthy winners, just beating Topcats in the final who were going for the treble! Lizzie Hyde shared a **great message** at midday to well over 300 people in the sunshine at Ripley St Thomas School. She shared how sin separates each one of us from God, but how Jesus came and died in our place so that we can be reconciled if we repent and believe. **Praise God** for a great day and please continue to pray for the leagues and all the teams, managers and churches involved.



The Netball Tournament Winners and Runners up –
Garstang and Chipping TopCats

The Football League Champions –
Great Eccleston

KENYA MISSION

7th – 18th June

Please pray for the team as they go out for an intense program of schools work, Bible seminars, adult football and netball matches, open-air evangelism and more!
See schedule attached

5 ASIDE TOURNAMENTS

We are having Men's and Women's 5aside football tournaments on 29th June at Lancaster Uni. Please pray for this event and contact us if you are interested in entering a team.

CLASSICS TOURS

Germany Classics:

4th – 9th July

Austria Classics:

21st – 28th Sept (places still available)

SOCCER & NETBALL SCHOOLS

29th May – 2nd June Caton
29th May – 2nd June Stowmarket
24th – 28th July Wray
25th – 28th July Staines
31st July – 4th Aug Clapham
7th – 11th Aug Ripon
14th – 18th Aug Sandhurst
21st – 25th Aug Carnforth
1st – 7th Sept Bodensee of Soccer Camp, Germany

SOCCER AND NETBALL SCHOOLS

'Mission Impossible' is the theme for this year! Looking at how with God, **ALL things are possible**, through stories such as David and Goliath, Gideon defeating the Midianites, Joshua and Jericho, and of course Jesus defeating death! The Easter camps went **SO well**; around 150 children attending between **Battle, Horsforth and Brixworth**, and some of the **best Bible times** we have had! Kids were asking great questions, many took Bibles and daily Bible reading notes, and several made new commitments to God! Again, thank you so much for your prayers.



"He's had a fabulous 4 days and he said he will be really sad when it's over! It has been a blessing and a joy to see him enjoy something so much and to share his excitement and experience. Your ministries focussed on the children are pitched so well and delivered to such a high standard and it's clear to see that they are being so well received by the children involved." – Mum of a child at soccer school



FRANCE

"SportsReach came to France for one week as they have been faithfully coming for the past 16 years. They were a huge blessing to our local ministries as well as to the local teams they have been playing for years now.

Using football as a bridge for the gospel message into the lives of youth and adults who would otherwise not have the opportunity to hear.

We hosted for the first time a three day English and football school for the children of our local community here in Saint Albain, giving us the opportunity to build new relationships and casually share and live out the Gospel message with children who would otherwise have minimal access to the Gospel. The youth and parents had a blast and are eager to have SportsReach back next year!

We organized football games, had a barbecue and spent time with a group of migrants from all around the world (Chad, Mongolia, Albania, Guinea, Libya, Syria, Sierra Leone...) who are stuck in hotels in the city of Macon, waiting on their papers. Will Marsden and others from SportsReach eagerly shared the Gospel in English and through translation (French & Arabic)! A few men seemingly took steps of faith through prayer while others accepted to download a Bible app on their phone in their language.

SportsReach played against 4 local teams that they have been faithfully playing for years now, what really struck me was the enthusiasm SportsReach teammates had for praying for the teams and for sharing the gospel with them!

The gospel was shared through "football sermons" with a content which was accessible and engaging to crowds much more accustomed to watching Premier league football then going to a church service.

Personally it was an honour and encouragement to host, serve and play alongside the SportsReach team! Thank you guys for your will to seek the Lord and bring glory to him."

Ethan Fogle – Director of Chateau St Albain



With the children at the soccer school in France



A man from Nigeria who received new life in Christ



A great time sharing after the match with our friends at Gibles



League Plate Winners 2019 –
Babybelles



All the teams gathered together to hear the message at the Netball
Tournament, Saturday 18th



A full Church at Horsforth as all the families joined together at
the end of the soccer school



Junior tournament winners 2019 –
Quernmore Wasps



Fulwood collecting their Champions Cup at the
Football league meal at Capernwray Hall



The team out in France playing against a local team
from Belleville.

Walk Through the Bible...

Over the last couple of months, Sooty and Ruth have had the opportunity to go into schools with James Boveniser who has been training them up to be **Walk Through The Bible** presenters. We are hoping that this will open even more doors for us to go into schools and that it will build more connections with local schools. The Walk Through teaching with the children runs over 5 weeks and does an overview of the Old Testament. Sooty and Ruth are hoping to start going into schools in September as presenters. **Please pray that God will use them** and Walk Through for His glory and that further opportunities will arise from this.

KENYA SCHEDULE 7th – 18th JUNE

Fri 7th – Depart Manchester 06:45 Terminal 3

Arrive Nairobi 21:05 Terminal 1A

Overnight in Nairobi

Sat 8th

Travel to Njoro to Pastor Hudson Nyando's church (approx. 4hrs by car)

Afternoon sports outreach

Evening Revival Meeting at the church

Sunday morning separate into teams for different church services

Possible sports outreach in the afternoon? (tbc)

Travel to Lumakanda (approx. 4hrs by car)



Some of the Kenya Team

Sun 9th – Mon 17th - @ Lumakanda, staying with Pastor Omido Jahonga

Mon – Sat – School Assemblies, and Bible Conference in the mornings, sports outreach each afternoon, films most nights in the market places

Mon 10th – Wed 12th

Chimoi conference

- Chimoi Deliverance Church 09:30 – 12:00

Schools 09:30 – 12:30

Netball and football matches 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Night Films Crusade

- Monday – Matete market
- Tuesday – Chimoi market and also lunch open air
- Wednesday – Lwandati market

Thurs 13th – Sat 15th April

Lumakanda Conference

- Lumakanda Deliverance Church 09:30 – 12:00

Schools 09:30- 12:30

Netball and football matches 3:00pm – 5:00pm

Night crusade films

- Thursday – Kipkarren
- Friday – Munyuki

Saturday morning Sue and Ruth visit the sponsored children @ **New School**

Sun 16th

Morning – Preaching n churches

Afternoon – Possible football match

Mon 17th Possible time at new school. Travel to Eldoret for evening flight 20:00 to Nairobi, depart Nairobi 23:50

Tues 18th Arrive Manchester Airport 10:05



The New School build in Lumakanda – if you would like to support Pastor Omido in this project please get in touch

