

Press on towards the goal...

January 2013

Reaching the world for Christ through sport



SportsReach

Please pray for...

- South Africa Mission Trip 15—27 Feb
- Football League
- All Day Cup 23 March
- League Cup Finals
- Men's 5Aside League
- Ladies' 5Aside League
- Netball Leagues
- Easter Soccer/Netball Schools



WHY NOT JOIN US!...

Weekend Away @ Knock Christian Centre 1-3 Feb

Commissioning Service 3 March

Coach at an Easter Soccer/Netball School

On Tour in Austria 10-24 May

On Tour in France 5-14 June

Ladies Germany Soccer Tour 20-27 July

For more details, contact the office or check our website

A New Year and New Goals

New Year is a time when many of us take stock of our lives and decide what we are going to have as our goal for that year. For some of us it is that look in the mirror and seeing the few extra pounds that have crept upon us almost unnoticed over Christmas and determining to shed them in an effort to look trimmer! For others it is to determine to get fitter to be able to run faster, jump higher and breathe a little easier during any activities. Gym membership shoots up during the early weeks of Jan!!! For some it may be to learn or hone another skill such as playing a musical instrument or plan to keep in touch with loved ones more regularly. For some it may be to slow down and take life at a gentler pace.

Paul, in Philippians ch3 v12 – 14 reminds us of his goal which was not just for a new year, but for his life. *"I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has laid hold of me.....one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."*

The Lord Jesus had laid hold of Paul because He had a **purpose for his life**. Paul had grasped that purpose and even though he was in prison as he wrote those verses he was determined to keep pressing on for what was ahead and to fulfil that purpose. Our goal as SportsReach is to **"Reach the world for Christ through sport."**

That is why SportsReach exists. The world needs to hear the message of Jesus and to experience the life change that turning to Jesus brings. **Will you press on with us this year and pray on that we will reach more than ever with the good news of the gospel?** Can I encourage you to pray on that many who are involved with us through mission trips and soccer and netball leagues and schools will *"take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of them?"*

Many goals that are made at the start of the New Year will not be reached, chocolates tempt and the extra pounds stay stubbornly fixed, cold wet weather deters those from getting out to exercise and get fitter. **Please pray** that like Paul - *"one thing I do"* - we **would press on** and not be moved from what God has called us to.

May God bless you. *Will*

Sharing the gospel at a league match before play commences



Weekend Away

Just a few places left!
1st-3rd Feb

@ Knock Christian Centre,
Appleby for football,
netball, fun and faith!

Contact

richard@sportsreach.org.uk

Commissioning Service

Come and join us to commit
the work and the workers

to God at

Capernwray Hall

3rd March

2.30pm

Everyone welcome
Refreshments to follow

Germany Soccer Camp Oct '12

In Oct half term 2012 John Gorst, Richard 'Sooty' Sutton and Tim Slater took 13 teenage lads to the Black Forest region, Germany, for a **Sportsreach Soccer Camp** at a Christian guesthouse, Haus Barnabas.

Each day comprised of a **team devotion** followed by breakfast and then a group devotion starting with God's creation, the life, death and resurrection of Jesus and what it meant to us.

We then played football, back for lunch followed by either football coaching or an excursion. The first outing being a visit to the highest mountain in Germany outside the Alps, the Feldberg, for hiking but snowball fights were the more desired thing here! Another trip was to Lake Titisee which is one of the most popular tourist attractions in the Black Forest. A highlight of the week was the toboggan run at Todtnau! Back for dinner and an evening spent together either watching Christian movies, or having fun games. A coaches interview followed and the lads were able to hear how Jesus had changed our lives for the better.

At the end of the week, the lads were given questionnaires for their thoughts on the week. A few of the questions were asked about what they had learnt over the week and what they would do differently when they returned home.

Here are a few of the answers they gave – **God loves me no matter what, I need to get more involved with God, I'm a bad goalkeeper (!), to love people, how large the universe is, I'm not right before God at all, God hates sin, I'm a good defender (!), trust in God more, I don't read the bible enough, read the bible more....**

The highlight for me was the conversation at Lake Titisee with one lad who told me he wanted to become a Christian....though he was worried about being excluded from his friends. It allowed me to share how since I had become a true Christian, I had made the best friends ever and wouldn't turn the clock back.

It was **an excellent time enjoyed by all**. After arriving home, it was great to receive these messages from two of the lads -

- Just wanna say thank you for a great time in Germany, since i have been there it has open my mind and has made me a better player, i have gone on to having a chat with my manager about trying for midfield
- Thanks for the advice. I've started to go to church recently and I'm really enjoying it!

Roll on next year! *Tim Slater*



South Africa 15-27 February 2013

Please pray for this mission trip, working with Stepwise Youth Ministry.

The team...

Will and Sue Marsden, and 3 of their daughters—Grace, Ruth and Sarah; Richard Sutton and his son James; Ruth Snalam.



The programme...

Working in schools in and around Clarens, doing assemblies and sports outreach.

Also working at Tshepong Feeding Centre and at the Health Clinic, Police and Municipality.

School Assemblies and sports in and around Johannesburg.

Tembisa Church Plant Outreach

Pray for open doors and open hearts

*Thank you so much for your prayers. If you would like to support us financially as we 'press towards the goal' together, please use the form below and return to: **SportsReach, 57 Lancaster Road, Carnforth, Lancs LA5 9LE.** Thank you.*

Name Address.....
Postcode (please print) Tel.....

I enclose a one-off gift of £.....

I would like to support the work on a regular basis (please complete the standing order form below)

Bank Bank Address
Postcode

Acc No Sort Code-.....-.....

Please pay to the account of **SportsReach, 3 Market St, Carnforth, LA5 9JX, Sort Code 20-47-61 Acc No 00780723** the sum of

£.....(in figures) (in words)

On the fifth day of(Month)..... (year) and every month/quarter/year (delete which is not applicable) on the same day until further notice.

Signature Date

I am a UK Tax Payer, please treat all donations from this date as Gift Aid Donation

NB You must pay an amount of income tax or capital gains tax equal to the tax deducted from these gifts. Charity No. 1065723.