



SportsReach

Reaching the world for Christ through sport... Spring 2021

Dear friends, it's the Lord!!!

These last few weeks have been busy with football matches!! And it's been great! Since 29th March as restrictions began to lift, we have brought staff back in on 'flexible furlough' and we have been able to start the 5aside League, Cup Matches for 11aside teams, Classics matches for the over 30's, and Women's friendly matches – all providing great opportunities for the Gospel!

And *hearts are open, people are listening, enquiring, seeking* - **God is at work!** As Graham said this morning when he came into the office – '**It's the Lord!**' We read in John 21 how, after the resurrection, the disciples went on ahead to Galilee, and they fished all night and caught nothing. Then a figure appeared on the beach and told them to cast on the other side of the boat – and they had a **huge catch**. Then they recognised the figure – 'It is the Lord!' In their own strength and ability, they caught nothing – **it was Jesus who made the difference.**

As we run all the sporting events that we can, **please pray with us** that we will follow the Lord's instructions, and we will see a great 'catch' as we spread the Gospel net!

And all the praise and glory go to Him!

Soccer and Netball Schools

With restrictions hopefully beginning to lift mid-May, we can get back to soccer and netball schools!

And we can't wait!! We have Stowmarket and Horsforth booked in for 2nd – 6th June, and we are hoping to have a full programme throughout the summer holidays.

Our theme this year is 'In the beginning' and we are looking forward to working with local churches up and down the country to engage with children and parents through sport.

Please pray for these events. Pray for the planning, safety, numbers to sign up, coaches to assist, good weather... but most of all, please pray that young people and their families turn their hearts towards God and find 'New Life' in Jesus! Let's go fishing together!!!

The Leagues!

The 5aside league is up and running! 8 teams play each Wednesday evening at Carnforth, 8pm-10pm, with a Gospel message shared with all at 9pm. Please pray for this ongoing outreach.

The 11aside football is taking a cup format – 6 teams competing against each other, and everyone getting to a final! Playing Saturdays and Tuesdays, these are great opportunities to get alongside league players and share that there is hope in these difficult times.

Netball! We will be starting the netball up again in September, when we will hopefully be able to go back to the 'normal' netball rules, rather than the modified, socially distant version! Please pray for managers and teams as they practice and begin to sign up for the new season.

Overseas

As you might imagine, it is very difficult to plan anything overseas currently. There are so many places on our hearts, but we know God's timing is perfect. **Please pray for wisdom** in this area of the work, and for those who we partner with around the world. We are ready to '**press play**' and take Jesus to the nations!

Thank you so much for your prayers and continued support, we couldn't do this without you! Please do get in touch if you would like us to come and share about the ministry, or if you are interested in holding a SportsReach event in your area.

In Christ, Will, Sue and all at SportsReach