



November 2013
Volume 2 Issue 2

Onside Ministries Newsletter

Chennai Update

Dates for the Diary

January 2014 -
Table Quiz at
Carshalton
Beeches Baptist
Church

April 2014 -
Onside Team
Building day

May 2014 -
Coaching trip
to Chennai

Praise Points

The safe delivery of baby Zachary to Paul and his wife Joanne and the great news that trustee Rob will soon be a granddad for the first time.

Due to the generosity of our supporters in recent months we have been able to extend our work in Chennai and at the moment now run two training sessions a week for over 60 children. Currently we have a group of 40 children who meet in the grounds of Christ Church every Friday evening and we also have a squad of 20 older players who train on Saturday afternoons and who have been formed into the first official Onside team to play competitive matches against other local sides.



Since June we have employed a new Head Coach (Sebastian Francis, pictured above with team) and have brought through two young coaches (Isaac and Asaph) to get involved in the project, all ably assisted

by our Project Director Churchill Joseph. Sebastian has coached football for over 25 years and has worked extensively with teams in the Middle East and India. He currently works full time as a football coach in the American International School in Chennai as well as coaching part time for Onside Soccer. He holds a MSc in Fitness, Exercise Rehabilitation and Nutritional Science and is also a Bachelor of Physical Education. Under Sebastian's expert guidance the standard of football has been gradually getting better and having two sessions a week is proving very popular with the kids. We have invested in professional training equipment, which has been very well received, and proper training kits as well as investing in some portable goalposts for use at Christ Church. The children who come along are from a variety of backgrounds, both religious and social, and seeing everyone mix together on the pitch without any problems has been great. Moving forward it is our hope that we will be able to increase the number of children who come along and also play an increased number of competitive matches.



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Building links in Spain

In October we sent a team across to link up with our good friends from the Ambassadors in Sport team in Granada, southern Spain, to see their work and to support them in what they are doing. The AIS guys have been working in this region for a number of years, developing a football outreach programme for local kids, starting a prison ministry and also working with a local drug rehabilitation unit. They have made a great impact in the local community and now have put partnerships in place with a food bank scheme to help struggling families in the area. Onside is now in the process of building a long term partnership with the Spanish team and hope to start taking groups

from the UK out to Granada and Valencia from late 2014 to get involved in the football ministry projects which are running

every week and also to get involved in different social action projects. Please keep checking the website if this is something in which you would be interested in participating.



Follow us on twitter at www.twitter.com/OnsideSoccer





Helping in D.R. Congo with Kits4Causes

Over the past few years we have built good working relationships with a number of U.K. organisations, including a Sheffield based charity called Kits4Causes. Kits4Causes was started in 2009 by five university students with the aim of sending 2018 football shirts to Africa for underprivileged kids in time for the World Cup in South Africa the following year. The scheme, which involved setting up partnerships from sports companies and football clubs to redistribute their unused stock, was so successful that the team decided to carry on and expand their idea. By last year they had distributed over 10,000 kits worldwide and had been featured on BBC news, Sky Sports and in the Sunday Mirror. Onside has now been working

with Kits4Causes for a couple of years and they have helped supply shirts to our projects in Uganda (pictured bottom left) and India. They also helped us get two full team kits to Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of Congo (pictured top left) where we are looking at the possibility of starting a new project next year. For the kids and teams who receive the kits they really mean a lot and to see a child pull on a proper football shirt for the first time and see the look of pride and belief come over his or her face is fantastic. If you would like to find out more about Kits4Causes, what they do and where they have been working or perhaps even donate a few football shirts, please visit their blog at www.kits4causes.org.

Prayer Requests

- For wisdom for the Onside team, that they remain focused and that they continue to seek God's will in their work.
- For financial support to allow Onside Soccer and Cross Over Basketball to function and for projects to grow and develop.
- For the on-going work in developing the Onside Coaching manual.

Meet the Team—Jamie

Over the next few issues we will be introducing you to some of our team. In this issue we will be hearing a bit more about basketball and dodgeball king Jamie Glencross



Worthing lad Jamie runs Cross Over Basketball, an integral part of Onside Ministries, and he is also part of the management team at Compassion UK, working full-time in their Sponsor Relations Department. Apart from basketball coaching Jamie also organises our hugely popular dodgeball tournaments and has also been involved in mission trips to both Uganda and Kenya in the past. He has coached

basketball at summer camps in the United States and currently coaches in the UK with the Feltham Warriors team. A man of many talents, Jamie has recently been preaching in his local church and is also the driving force behind a business venture called Operation Nets, a company which designs and sells t-shirts and which donates a mosquito net to a family in Uganda for every t-shirt sold (a nice Christmas present idea perhaps??) A keen sports fan, Jamie supports the Chicago Bulls (so much so that he has even travelled to Chicago to see them play!), Premiership new-boys Cardiff City and the Welsh rugby team, who he is predicting great things for in the up-coming Six Nations Tournament.

Final Whistle...

Thank you for taking the time to read our newsletter and also for your on-going support and prayers—we really appreciate it! We would also like to take this opportunity to wish you a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year!

The Onside Team

