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# Onside Soccer Newsletter

## New Project in Kampala, Uganda



In September 2012 we are taking a small team to Uganda to start a new football project in Kampala. Whilst there we will be working with the Lilly school and orphanage, visiting the Krane School and also two churches (Luteete Full Gospel Church and the Gospel Tabernacle, Kazo). At the moment we have six in the team, who will also be involved in teaching English at local schools and getting involved in some basketball coaching with our partner organisation, Cross Over Basketball.

This is Onside's first official venture into Africa and it promises to be an exciting trip, with the main focus being to work with the schools and churches to put long term coaching programmes in place.

Over the past few years we have built strong links to Uganda and developed good relationships with our partner organisations. Our long term vision is to develop soccer academies in the poorest communities in the city, helping churches to build their own sports ministries. We are also hoping to put a mentorship programme in place to impact a fatherless generation. The churches we are going to be working with are led by two forward-thinking pastors who have huge hearts for their own communities. Working with churches allows us to build great relationships within the community and also allows long term sustainability for our programmes. It is our hope and prayer that many children will come along to our activities every day and that they will come to know Jesus through the outreach programmes in place.



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## Sponsored Events in 2012

During the course of 2012 we are organising a number of sponsored events to help raise funds for our projects.

One dedicated supporter who has already taken the plunge was Tim Anderson who, in March, raised just over £150 with his 24 hour sponsored silence. In May we had our first marathon runner hitting the road, with Mark McKinstry taking part in the Belfast Marathon, raising £230 for Onside in the process.

In July Rob Powell, one of our trustees, is taking to the streets of London again for a sponsored walk. Rob's plan

for this year is hiking between all of London's 2011-12 Premiership football grounds (The Emirates, White Hart Lane, Loftus Road, Stamford Bridge and Craven Cottage), a distance of approximately 16 miles.

Finally in August our very own basketball king Jamie Glencross is hoping to complete 1000 free throws during one day, with proceeds going towards buying basketball equipment for our partner organisations in Uganda. If you would like to sponsor any of the guys please feel free to visit our Justgiving page at [www.justgiving.com/onsidesoccer](http://www.justgiving.com/onsidesoccer).



Follow us on twitter at [www.twitter.com/OnsideSoccer](http://www.twitter.com/OnsideSoccer)





## Onside Soccer



### Working in Nigeria

Recent sectarian clashes between Christians and Muslims in northern Nigeria have hit the headlines regularly over the last few months, with reports of massacres perpetrated by both sides becoming commonplace. One man hoping to make a small difference through football is Henry Dakat, with whom Onside Soccer are partnering to set up a football academy in the city of Jos, one of the most badly hit areas. Henry is a native of Jos but has been in the UK over the last few years studying with YWAM in Luton. Formerly a professional footballer with Plateau United, Henry has seen how football can be used as a device for reconciliation and how communities can be brought

together. In July he is heading back to Nigeria to start working in Jos to get his football programme up and running. Henry's first step is getting some volunteer coaches in place and then bringing players from both communities together on the pitch to train together. Given the current situation in Nigeria, this is quite a challenge! Initially Onside Soccer will be supplying kit and equipment for Henry to get the project off the ground. We will also be helping Henry raise awareness of his work in Jos and as it expands further into Nigeria.

To keep up to date with Henry's progress, please check out the Onside Nigeria blog at \_\_\_\_\_

### Prayer Requests

- For wisdom for the Onside team, that they remain focused and that they continue to seek God's will in their work. Please also pray for good health and safe travel for the team and for protection over their families.
- For our ongoing work in India and new projects in Uganda, that all will run smoothly and that the projects will bless many people.
- 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.

### Cross Over Basketball



In April 2012 we officially launched Cross Over Basketball as our new partner organisation, taking the concept of Onside Soccer and adding the basketball element as a further ministry tool.

Heading up the new venture is Jamie Glencross, who currently works for Compassion UK, the child sponsorship charity. Jamie is a man with a real heart for ministry and helping young people. He has previously been part of mission teams which have gone to Kenya and he has also coached basketball in the United States. Although Cross Over Basketball is a new enterprise, Jamie is excited about the challenge setting up a project in Uganda will bring. Like many other sports, basketball is hugely popular in Uganda but facilities are few and far between, and not generally of a high standard.

Jamie will be looking at setting up long term partnerships in Kampala, working with local churches to help build basketball programmes to compliment their current outreach work.

One of the biggest challenges that Cross Over Basketball is facing is getting equipment in place in Kampala to allow programmes to run. Please pray for wisdom for Jamie and that opportunities will come up to allow this to happen.

### 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!

*The Onside Team*