



ONE GAME ONE GOAL ONE GOD

To Whom It May Concern:

Soccer Plus NZ is a Christian soccer ministry organization.

We have existed since 1998 taking teams on overseas missions around the world. We are also committed to running soccer camps for kids giving them an opportunity improve their skills and hear about Creator and savior, Jesus.

Our vision has now extended to include players (guys, girls 14 to 'can still play') from Australia and also investigate the possibility of running soccer camps for kids (9-12) and teens (13-17) in Australia.

If any of this interests you, including our upcoming trip to Argentina and Chile (Nov/Dec) or Guatamala/Jamaica (2010), please contact me asap.

Regards

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(Director)

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SOCCERPLUS NZ NEWS

February 2009



GENERAL

December and January are those months where everything travels so fast you wonder if you might have missed something. It was good to slot through that time a week or so of just reading, fishing and hanging out with the family at Snells Beach.

We weren't traveling so fast the other week, however, as we moved along Auckland's Northwestern motorway behind a line of traffic. We traveled 2 kilometres in just over an hour. The reason was because at the other end of the motorway was a man wielding a gun and holding a hostage. Eventually an innocent bystander was killed.

What is it that drives a person to such anger and recklessness to find himself in such a situation where life becomes so cheap. If the truth be known, when there is no hope and the future seems so uncertain, lots of things lose value. There are lots of ways to make the gospel known (our only hope) and they're not all about preaching.

We need to keep praying for and investing in the people we know and meet because they could be the next one to go over the edge?

MISSION TO ARGENTINA & CHILE?

This week I am booking the flights to take a team to Argentina and Chile from November 25 to December 12. I'm really looking forward to getting back over to these two countries. The opportunities to share Christ are awesome (soccer fields, coaching clinics, schools, streets, orphanages, prisons and more).

Don't forget to contact me if you're interested. You will need to have filled out an application form and shown me a commitment to be in the team.

What makes this exciting is we will be joining with a few Aussies as well. This will be our first combined mission.



YOUTH CAMP

Thanks to all those who took part. I don't think the weekend could have gone better. The leaders were outstanding examples of Christian mentoring and the teens made the weekend work.

Thanks for the evaluation forms. Still haven't got all of them back. They are very helpful to me as I plan the next camp.

Thanks to Jeremy, Laurie and Elliot for what you shared. I know some of the feedback has left many young people inspired and challenged.

Thanks Robert and Daniel for your massive commitment to come all the way over from Perth. It was great to meet you and I look forward to catching up again.

Youth camp replaces our original plan for a conference and is for anyone interested in a weekend of football, ministry and fun. It works! Watch this space for information on the next one.



WILLOW PARK CAMP Jan 09

Two weeks before our kids camp I had 6 registrations. I was thinking this might not happen. I sent an email to the kids who had registered and others who had been before and told them we needed more kids.

We had 31 kids at camp. It was awesome. One guy, Mike Hughes, invited the kids from the team he coaches.

Over the week we enjoyed the awesome Willow Park facilities (top fields, huge gym and a beach – what more does a footballer want?).

Some young teens made their leader/helper debuts (Blake Semp and Ryan Barry) and showed maturity beyond their years. Credit to you boys.

We trust the message over the week that Jesus is God and the only access to salvation, that the cross is the centre of life and that God profoundly loves us will have made it's way into the hearts of these kids.

TOTARA SPRINGS SPORTSCAMP

After we had wormed our way through the awful traffic (re the shooting) at the start of anniversary weekend, we found ourselves at Sportscamp. I have been going with L&A for 27 years and this camp will stand out. Not just because we won the soccer and the overall prize, but because we said farewell to 4 great people.

Dave and Robyn Osbourne have been at the Springs for 13 years and make every part of these juggernaught events work. They're an amazing couple, but have moved on and will be sadly missed.

Donald and Toni-Marie Allison-Carnie have superbly managed the L&A team for 10 years and have decided to finally hang up the whistle. The commitment to this project has been immense and they are a great couple with two lovely girls (who will my daughters play with now?).

L&A FOREVER!!



HORSE/ADVENTURE CAMP

I hear you asking what has a horse and adventure camp got to do with Soccer? Soccer can fit anywhere. Surely horses can have sprigs on the shoes?

I spoke at the Horse/Adventure camp at Sonshine Ranch in January. It was a nice change (though I go there every January) and I enjoyed the experience of hanging out with those teens and playing silly games. I trust the messages I shared will have eternal consequences.

SOCCERPLUS OZ

My time with Robert Pipes from Perth seems to have been well worthwhile.

Robert emailed me with progress regarding SoccerPlus OZ and he's done more than expected, even to the point of working on creating a webpage. Thanks Robert – What about SoccerPlus OZ in NSW, QLD & Victoria? Not your project, Robert.

MONEY & SOCCERPLUS NZ

It is my desire that SoccerPlus NZ not be a ministry asking for financial support on a regular basis. The advantage of being a coach is that I can receive income related to the ministry and not constantly ask for financial supporters.

For this reason the financial requests of SoccerPlus NZ will only be project related.

I have listed below areas where you may want to consider this.

CAMPS – The camps are non profit programmes. Camp prices are constantly increasing, so I only want to charge the kids what it costs us. For this reason the fee doesn't cater for prizes and helping out kids who can't afford the full fee (I want them there).

I'm after someone who might be interested in contributing \$500 per camp (\$2000 a year) to cover this expense.

MISSIONS – This year we will head off to Argentina and Chile. Most of the team is young and will lack the maturity to raise the finance an older person would deal with better. We like to have a buffer in the SoccerPlus account to help those who work hard, but still fall short.

If you can help in either of these areas please contact me.

Though this is not primarily a request, if you simply want to contribute to this ministry financially you can do and this will be used to directly aid the ministry. The account number is 031568 0051147 00

UP AND COMING

There's a big year coming up and some projects to consider beyond 2009

CALENDER

Missions

Argentina/Chile Nov 25-Dec 12 2009

Guatamala/Jamaica (to be confirmed) late 2010

Kids Soccer Camps

Totara Springs April 20-24

Carey Park July

Willow Park September

Teen+ Soccer Camp

End of year sometime – watch this space

Preaching (fills up during the year)

Birkdale April 19

Grace Church Nelson October 16-18

Aussie National Tournament

Perth October 1-5

NSW October 2010

New Zealand 2011

Intermediate Sportsamps

June 8-12

June 22-26

July 28-31

August 17-21

September 17-11

September 21-25

Bay Olympic Soccer

February/March - Junior trials, Academy trials, Coaches meetings, Premier Mens pre-season

April-September - Academy coaching, Premier Mens Season

Wynrs

Daily coaching

3 daily schools soccer/lifeskills programmes throughout the year (Wed/Thurs/Fri)

Please continue to pray for the ministry of SoccerPlus NZ and my family as we seek to do God's will on a daily basis.

Keep in touch

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