



SUNDERLAND SAMBA

Festival of Football

Our Festival of Football, held from October 27–29, 2025, brought together enthusiastic children aged 7–15 for three vibrant days of sport, learning, and community.

The event featured exciting football matches and fun games that encouraged teamwork and friendship. A special highlight was an engaging conversation led by our club chaplain, Rev. John Purdy, who spoke about the connection between faith and football. Participants also took part in an important action supporting the “Show Racism the Red Card” campaign, reinforcing our commitment to inclusion and respect.

The festival celebrated football’s power to inspire, unite, and create positive change.

3Generate

Our annual participation at the Methodist Church’s 3Generate event was once again a joyful and energetic weekend. As in previous years, we hosted the leisure centre—a vibrant space welcoming children and young people to enjoy football, basketball, climbing, the bouncy castle, the gym, dancing, and much more. The atmosphere was filled with excitement, friendship, and adventure. We extend our heartfelt thanks to all our dedicated volunteers who travel to Birmingham each year to make this experience possible. Their passion and commitment ensure that 3Generate remains a fun, safe, and memorable event.



SPIRITED ARTS

We were honoured to be welcomed once again to Broadway Junior School Sunderland, this time for their inspiring art exhibition. Among the many creative pieces, one stood out—a vibrant portrait of John and Ayo, celebrating their positive impact in the community. The students crafted the artwork using football shapes, African prints, and inspiration drawn from the djembe drums that Sunderland Samba introduced to the school. Their creativity and thoughtfulness were truly moving, reflecting how deeply our partnership has influenced their learning. It was a joyful reminder of the power of art, culture, and football to inspire young people and strengthen community bonds.



Kenya News

John Boyd reports, "It was a joy to spend time with the Kenya Team in October whilst delivering new boots and our first official Samba red and white stripes kit.

We have 27 young women proudly representing Sunderland in the 2nd tier of Football in Kenya alongside promoting our community initiatives supporting positive mental health, safeguarding and FGM awareness. A big thank you to all our supporters!"

Sunderland Samba Kenya Women's Team started the 2025-26 season in the FKF Women's National Super League with 3 wins, 1 draw and 4 losses. We go into the Christmas break looking forward with great hope as the team have given really encouraging performances so far. More importantly we share in a positive hope for the future for all our staff, volunteers and players. We have been able to start giving everyone a monthly allowance to give a more dependable income and recognising the gifts they bring to the team and community. We share this hope - football and faith restoring our souls, making a way that keeps us moving, side by side on the journey, a race, a goal that sets us free.

The Kenya Team wishes all their supporters 'Krismasi Njema na Mwaka Mpya Mzuri! - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!'



SPONSORSHIP APPEAL



£75/year or £6.25/month pays for boots, equipment and transport for training
 £120/year or £10/month pays for 6 match balls
 £240/year or £20/month pays for a monthly allowance providing for all basic living costs
 £480/year or £40/month pays for pre-match lunch
 £1800/year or £150/month pays for our home league match costs

Contact John on 07751944500

SPONSORSHIP APPEAL

We're still actively looking for sponsors for players and the team for 2025-26. Please do get in touch with John 07751944500 or john1boyd@yahoo.co.uk if you are interested in supporting in any way. Your encouragement will make a real difference.