



## Matt Hatton steps down as KCAH CEO



This coming September, Matt Hatton is stepping down as CEO of Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness, after 18 years of working for the charity. He will be handing over the baton to Aileen Almond, who has been an active member of the KCAH board for several years.

Matt, who started working at KCAH in 2003, says, "It's incredibly sad to be leaving. However, it feels like the right time for me personally to take a career break. I am so excited to be handing over to Aileen, who has already been an exceptional asset to KCAH during her time on the board of trustees. She is absolutely the right person to be taking KCAH forward as a growing organisation."

Aileen says: "I am delighted to be joining KCAH as the new Chief Executive. Matt has given such wonderful service to people in housing crisis in Kingston over the past two decades - I feel honoured to be accepting the baton from him."

My first encounter with KCAH was as a volunteer at the roving night shelter in my home church, over a number of winters. This whet my appetite to do more, and for the past four years I have been a KCAH Trustee.

As Chief Executive, I'm hoping to bring my experience as a civil servant in local government and in the charitable sector to the organisation.

I know that I am joining an amazing team of staff, volunteers and supporters. I can't wait to get started!"

We all wish Matt the very best for the future and are so proud of everything we have achieved together as a team! We would also like to welcome Aileen to the team. We are excited to be working with her!

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## Join our Board of Trustees

We are looking for trustees with experience in **Communications, PR, Fundraising or professional experience in a mental health setting such as in counselling/therapy**. We welcome and encourage applications from all communities and backgrounds. You do not have to have experience in Housing or having been on a Board before but rather have the particular skills mentioned above combined with a desire to help lead KCAH forward and support its staff.

If you are interested, please email our Chair of the Board, Roger Sutton, on [roger.s@kcah.org.uk](mailto:roger.s@kcah.org.uk).



# For a brighter future



Prior to visiting the KCAH Night Shelter, Monica was sleeping rough and in a church after arriving in the UK from Romania. At times she had to resort to begging to be able to send money home to her two children now staying with her dad. It was an incredibly difficult time.

Now in hotel accommodation through the Everyone In scheme, she is determined to make a better future for herself and her children. Working closely with her Romanian speaking Support Worker, Andreea, she now has pre-settled residency status, a bank account and National Insurance number. She also works as a cleaner a few hours a week. Once a week she also comes in to KCAH to meet with her English tutor. Her ambition is to learn to really master the language and make a future for her and her children and she has really impressed Andreea with her determination, drive and progress. We wish Monica all the very best, you are an inspiration!

*Thank you to Monica for sharing her story and to Andreea for making it possible by translating.*

## Support our work



*Our fundraiser Tariq raising money by cycling in our Extra Mile Challenge*

Our work helping local people in housing crisis is needed more than ever and as we're coming out of the pandemic, we also prepare for the added pressure of increased unemployment, Universal Credit being reduced, furlough ending and the eviction ban being lifted. Our teams are helping people with mental health issues, addiction, poverty, trauma etc. But whilst the pressure on our services are great, we have lost out on a lot of income such as that from fundraising events such as the Prudential Cycle not being able to go ahead and individual giving going down in the current climate.

If you can support our work financially, even with a very low amount, please do so. We appreciate every little bit and it really does make a difference.

Here are a few ways in which you can donate:

**By cheque** to Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness - address the envelope to KCAH, F.A.O Tariq Shabbeer (fundraiser), St Peter's Church Hall, London Road, Kingston, KT2 6QL

**Virgin Money Giving, JustGiving or CAF** - search for Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness

**Donate to our Extra Mile campaign** - visit our website [kcah.org.uk](http://kcah.org.uk) and click on 'donate'

**Raise money by getting sponsored** for something inspiring you're doing - don't forget to send us pictures if you do!

**Set up a Standing Order** - download a form from our website or instruct your bank that you want to set up a SO to Kingston Churches Action on Homelessness, Account number: 04234030, Sort Code: 30-94-77. You can of course also make a one-off donation.

**Cash** - If you don't want to send cash in the post, you can visit us with your donation at our office Monday to Friday 2pm-4pm.

**A Gift in your Will** - Please also remember KCAH in your Will.

We thank you for your support!



# Save the date

On **World Homelessness Day** 10 October 2021, we will organise a virtual Sleep Out and encourage YOU to '**Sleep Out To Help Out**'. Sleep out in your garden, school, church grounds or anywhere else of your choosing whilst collecting sponsorship in aid of KCAH. You will also be able to tune in to our live chats during the evening and we would love for you to keep us updated in social media. More information to follow but please put the date in your diary.

On 25 September we will also be at **Surbiton Festival**. Please come and see us there if you can. We are so excited that the event can take part this year and are looking forward to seeing you.



## Virus testing

Thank you to the lovely team from Hepatitis C Trust and St George's Hospital for visiting KCAH to do free Hepatitis B and C testing. 18 people were tested and received a £5 Greggs voucher for stepping forward. A great turnout and a cause so very important.

A special thank you as well to KCAH's Jamie and Andreea for making the event happen.

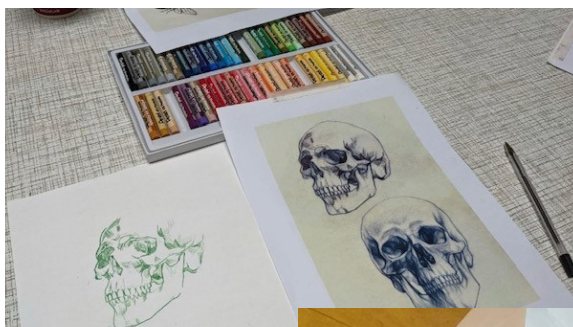
## We're back!



We love talking about what we do and we are now back to doing talks at schools, faith and community groups and any other organisation interested in the work we do supporting those in our borough in housing crisis. If you would like to invite us in person or for a virtual chat, please email Communications Officer Camilla on [camilla.w@kcah.org.uk](mailto:camilla.w@kcah.org.uk)

## Wellness season

As part of our Wellness Season, helping clients focussing on a healthy body, mind and spirit, we had the pleasure of getting creative with some fantastic artists. Tina from Swallow Mosaics got both clients and staff engaged in creating beautiful mosaic pieces and local artist Juliet (Twitter @juliet2104) taught us some impressive pastel techniques.



# Volunteer with us



We are looking for a regular volunteer who is able to support teams across the organisation, including Joel, in overseeing a volunteer process, from application (managing Better Impact) to induction. The volunteer will need to do a few shifts at Joel to understand the structure and Joel journey. The role will be supported by the staff team on shift and overseen by the Joel Manager.

If this sounds like a bit of you, please email [joel@kcah.org.uk](mailto:joel@kcah.org.uk)



## Brightening up our day

Thank you to Surbiton High's Year 10 girls for visiting us and brightening up not just our fence with some much needed fresh paint, but our day too! We are so happy to be back in touch with our community again in a way in which we weren't able to at the height of the pandemic. We meet so many young people in our job that inspire us and give us so much hope for the future. It's a real pleasure and we hope to see our friends at Surbiton High again soon.



### PLEASE PRAY

For the recruitment of new trustees, for our clients and staff, for Matt Hatton and Aileen Almond, for new and reliable sources of income/funding. To receive our regular prayer email, contact [sue.c@kcah.org.uk](mailto:sue.c@kcah.org.uk)

### A GIFT IN YOUR WILL

KCAH is dependent on donations and even a residuary gift of 1% in your Will can make a huge difference. Please visit: [www.kcah.org.uk](http://www.kcah.org.uk)

### PLEASE SUPPORT US

To make a one-off or regular donation, please visit: [www.kcah.org.uk/can-you-help-us/donate-money](http://www.kcah.org.uk/can-you-help-us/donate-money)

Thank you so much for all your support!

**KCAH**, St Peter's Church Hall, London Road, Kingston, KT2 6QL

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