### **Supporter Newsletter: Summer 2025**



# SUMMER OF SUPPORT FOR KCAH

The number of single adults experiencing homelessness or facing a housing crisis who have registered with KCAH in the first half of the year is 19.5% higher than in 2024. From 1 Jan. to 30 June we have seen 233 local people with nowhere else to turn (compared to 195 in 2024).

There are still 30+ people sleeping rough in Kingston every night.

Demand for KCAH's services is on the rise. In order to help every person who needs us we are calling for a 'Summer of Support'. Please donate what you can and see how to get involved on page 2.



### N's Story (18-year-old Night Shelter Guest)

In mid-February: N, an 18-year-old asylum seeker, was brought to the Assessment and Triage Hub. A member of the public had found him cold and shivering under Kingston Bridge, where he had been sleeping rough for three nights.

Previously staying with a friend while attending Kingston College for A-Levels in Maths, Physics, and Computer Science, N was left homeless when asked to leave their home unexpectedly. When he reached

the winter night shelter: N asked, "How do I know I'll be safe here? You're a stranger to me!" The coordinator reassured him of support, warmth and food. Gradually N relaxed and he eventually fell asleep that night.

Once transferred to the main WNS shelter: N adapted quickly, keeping a quiet routine of eating, studying from 4am and attending college. Over time, N shared details of his journey which involved fleeing Eritrea as well as losing his brother and later his mother in Uganda.

Since the WNS, N has secured accommodation through KCAH's Access Project. N is now thriving... Happy, confident, and deeply grateful. Were it not for the WNS: this outcome would have been impossible.

### Homelessness and Housing Crisis in 2025

101 different guests stayed at Kingston's 2025 WNS!

We will be publishing an impact report from the 2025 WNS soon, alongside the new KCAH business plan. Please join us on 25 September at All Saints Church. See page 2 for more ways to support us.

Your support for KCAH is more important than ever before. Please continue doing everything you can.





### A Thank You to All KCAH Supporters

'Heat Geek' Adam Chapman raised £10,600 for KCAH by running all 26.4 miles of the London Marathon... with a 15kg radiator on his back! Adam did this in solidarity for the 'pain and suffering that people who are homeless have to go through'.

KCAH trustee Anne O'Neil also ran the 2025 London Marathon for our charity; raising more than £1,600!

VISIT THE KCAH WEBSITE AND CLICK 'SUPPORT US' THEN 'DONATE MONEY'

# CC ION on homelessness

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# WHAT'S ON? SUMMER AND AUTUMN

## 26 June: Kingston Council's Celebrating Communities Awards 2025

Thanks to the 90+ volunteers from the local area who put in shifts at the night shelter, the students of Kingston Grammar School who made a hot dinner for the guests once a week, the generous people who let us use their premises for the shelter provisions and everyone else who made this happen!



### 25 September: KCAH Open Day

We have been shouting louder and louder about local homelessness but the challenge remains...

Come and see us between 4pm and 7pm at All Saints Church on 25 Sep. for displays, presentations, O&A and the launch of KCAH's new Business Plan.

Come and chat to KCAH staff, trustees and fellow supporters about the increase in local homelessness.



### 11 October: Walk a Mile in Their Shoes

Did you know that someone experiencing homelessness walks 15 miles per day on average?

Join the crowd of 100 KCAH supporters who will walk 5 miles through the borough of Kingston in solidarity with local people experiencing homelessness.

We aim to raise £10,000+. Updates coming soon. We look forward to seeing you there!



### 20 July: Dragon Boat Racing

The KCAH Spurdogs will be racing dragon boats on the Thames to raise awareness and sponsorship money for KCAH. Come to Canbury Gardens on the day to cheer the team on.

To make a donation towards KCAH's dragon boating efforts, please visit:

#### justgiving.com/campaign/kcah-dragons-25



### 2 October: KCAH Live (Benefit Gig)

Don't miss performances from people KCAH has helped as well as headline sets from two of the most exciting and best-loved bands in the local area: Bourbon Street Revival & The Wonderful Collective.

Help us **shine a spotlight on homelessness**. Get your tickets today:

kcah.org.uk/kcah-live-2025

