



TOGETHER, WE ARE STRONGER

AUTUMN 2024 ISSUE



Big Sleep Out Success!

On Friday the 4th of October, more than 40 KCAH supporters participated in the overnight challenge of sleeping out in the churchyard of All Saints Church.

We were relatively lucky with the conditions because it was not raining or windy. Sadly, 30 rough sleepers per night in Kingston currently have no option but to sleep outside. They are not always this lucky with the weather.

Please see the main feature on page 2 for more details.

Inclusion in Local Church Services

As mission partners of St Paul's Church, KCAH was included in both of the church's Sunday services on the morning of 13 October as well as being included in its youth groups.

KCAH's Dan and trustees Bob and Anne were included in the morning's worship. Thanks to everyone at the church; not least Vicar Adam and Pastor Ellie (pictured, right).

KCAH is putting together a schedule of visits for 2025 and so: we may be coming soon to a church near you. To enquire about a visit to your church, please contact Dan.



Available Now: KCAH Christmas Cards

Our 2024 Christmas cards have been delivered!

At A6 size, the cards feature artwork created at our centre by KCAH service users during Art Club sessions.

Pricing: £3.50 for 10, £6.50 for 20, £9.50 for 30

To get your KCAH Christmas cards, please come to our centre at St Peter's Church any weekday 9am to 5pm and ask for Dan (or use the contact details below to enquire).





The Big Sleep Out: 95% of £35k Target Reached

On the night of Friday 4 October, 41 participants spent the night under the stars in the southern church yard of historic All Saints Church.

The BSO was the brainchild of KCAH CEO Georgie Forshaw who was one of 4 speakers at the start of the event alongside Mayor of Kingston Liz Green, Vicar of All Saints Joe Moffatt and Bishop of Kingston Martin Gainsborough.

BSO participant Cathy reflected on what being a KCAH supporter means to her and why she did the sleep out:

“Sleeping out to support KCAH was empowering for me as a local person. I feel powerless to help when it’s just me, myself and I.”

More than 1,050 individuals have donated money toward our Big Sleep Out fundraiser to date with more than £30k being in sponsorship of our participants.

Special mention goes to Julian Adams, one of KCAH’s newest trustees, who has raised nearly £2k. All Saints’ team and Inner Wheel Kingston have raised £2.7k and £2.5 respectively!

At the time of writing, a little over £33,600 has been raised.

We only need £1,400 to reach our target! If you are able to give £5, £10 or £15 then please go to:

www.kcah.org.uk/sleep-out

How to Support KCAH this Festive Season



One way that your place of worship, workplace, household or similar can help is to collect vital goods for us:

- Brand-new boxer shorts M/L size
- Brand-new socks
- Sleeping bags (new or good-as)
- Tracksuits M/L (mainly men’s)
- Warm Jackets and coats (decent condition and clean)
- Some of the above for women

You may well see KCAH out and about this November and December as we have multiple activities and market stalls booked.

Come and chat to us at a stand (or call/email any time) to find out how you can support. Two main options available to you:

- 1) Volunteering your time.
- 2) Donating money one off/monthly.

We would like to say a big **thank you** to St John’s Church (Hampton Wick) and Hanbeet Church (Norbiton) who have already been in touch to discuss what they will be doing for our charity this Christmas.

To discuss your approach to gathering goods or raising funds, contact Dan today (details below).

Consider our Birthday Appeal

Demand for KCAH’s services increased 30% in just 12 months. We are seeing 10+ new people at our drop-in centre each week. These are people who are already homeless or facing a housing crisis.

Consider asking friends and family to donate money to KCAH to mark your birthday. To do this: create your own fundraiser page from the Birthday Appeal campaign on our Just Giving page and website.



CEO’s Message

“It has been very busy here at KCAH. London has seen an 18% increase in rough sleepers from 2023 and this is reflected here in Kingston. We have been doing all we can to get people talking; including our successful Big Sleep Out at the start of October.

Homelessness charities await a pledge of finances from the Government. We welcome plans to deliver more affordable housing but much more needs to be done.

Our drop-in centre remains seeing elevated numbers of those in need. As winter draws ever nearer we are again planning how to intervene in homelessness and support our local community in Kingston.

Please continue to support KCAH during this critical time.”

~Georgie Forshaw