

# Life at King's

AUTUMN / WINTER



# 2021



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# A WORD FROM PAUL THOMAS

I hope you've had an enjoyable summer and perhaps some time to relax and rest.

Amazingly it's already September and time for another edition of our Life at Kings magazine.

Over the following 40+ pages, you will find information and articles that we trust will be of some encouragement and blessing as you take time to look through.

After many months of waiting, we are delighted to be getting back to a near-complete program of activities and being able to finally open our building again to serve the community into which God has placed us. We hope that we can take further steps towards rebuilding something of the fellowship and community lost over the last year and a half over these next few months.

As I look over the diary for this coming term, it's great to see many of the weekly happenings, things that perhaps we'd taken for granted in the past, returning along with some new stuff as well. We are particularly looking forward to the return of the over 60's group 'Cedars,' who will be back at KCA 'in-person' on a Wednesday morning. It's also exciting to see the building hosting its first concert in a long while, with the band of the Royal Air Force returning for a Gala evening performance on 21st of October.

I should also mention how thrilled we are to have Jack and Fizz join the staff team as part of the DY program for the coming year. You can read more about their plans and on pages 12 and 13.



Lastly, our Sunday morning services are now operating without many of the former restrictions, and if you've never been or perhaps just not for a while ...we'd love to see you there. You can find details of what to expect on Sunday on page 6, I hope you will join us.

Let us be concerned for one another, to help one another to show love and to do good

Hebrews 10:24



# ABOUT

**WHO WE ARE...** Welcome to King's Church Amersham, a modern, friendly church with a passion for Jesus, for the people in our community and for enjoying life together!

**WHAT TO EXPECT IN NORMAL TIMES...** A congregation made up of people of all ages and backgrounds, some of whom have been part of the church for many years and some who have only recently come to know us.

- A friendly environment where all are welcome and included
- Joyful, creative and expressive worship times
- A commitment to the Bible as truth and to learning how it is relevant to life today
- Regular opportunities to share communion and to be supported in prayer
- A safe, caring place for children and young people to be, with activities that are fun and relevant to them

**WHAT TO EXPECT AT THE MOMENT...** Our congregation has had to adapt during the Pandemic, enjoying a mixture of online services via our YouTube channel (King's Church Amersham) and in-person services. We are currently meeting with some restrictions still in place for the safety of all & will continue to monitor this over time.

**WHAT WE BELIEVE...** King's Church Amersham is an independent Christian church. Although not affiliated to any particular denomination, along with 4000 other churches in the UK, we fully subscribe to the Evangelical Alliance's 'statement of faith.'

**ORGANISATION...** We have a team of people called 'Elders' to oversee the spiritual life of the church, a Board of Trustees to take care of the business of running it and a staff team to serve and facilitate the day to day life of the church and most importantly an amazing congregation who enable everything that we do.

A modern, friendly church with a passion for Jesus



# ATTENDING FOR THE FIRST TIME

## What time do I need to arrive?

We recommend you arrive at least 15 minutes before the service starts so you can park, find a seat and if you like, have a drink from the King's Roast Coffee shop.

## Where do I park?

We have our own car park on site.

## What do I wear?

You are welcome just as you are. You'll see people in shirt and tie, in jeans and t-shirt, and everywhere in-between.

## Where do I sit?

The Welcome Team in blue t-shirts will assist you in finding a space within the auditorium, answer any questions you may have on arrival, or help you into the building.

## How long is the service?

Our services last approximately an hour.

## What will my children do during the service?

We have a fantastic programme for children and young people. Visit our website for more information.

# FAQ

## How can I get to know others in the church?

Join us at the end of the service for a time to chat together, come along to a social event or join our Connect small group for newcomers. This group is ideally suited for anyone new to the church, and you can join at any time.

## How can I find out more about King's?

Have a chat with any of our friendly Welcome Team, pick up one of our 'Life at King's' magazines, or take a look at the website ([www.kca.church](http://www.kca.church)). Our 'Who We Are' pages will tell you more about the history, who's who, how we operate and what we believe.

You are welcome at King's Church

# VISION



## MISSION STATEMENT

Why we exist?  
Who's interest do we serve & how?  
What impact do we hope to make?

To share the good news of Jesus in as many ways as we are able, so that people who are far from God will be raised to life in Christ.

## VISION STATEMENT

What might we look like?  
Goals, objectives, hopes ...  
To be a church that ...

MISSION

Great commission

MERCY

Compassion and love

Makes everyone welcome, especially the hurting individual and endeavours to bring love, acceptance, help, hope, forgiveness, guidance, encouragement, purpose and joy through Christ.

MATURITY

Personal growth

Nurtures, teaches and releases God's people into greater worship of our risen Lord, serving Him wholeheartedly, living lives that reflect His life and values.

MINISTRY

Every believer

Equips/releases every believer for the works of service God has called them to, empowered and led by word and spirit. Seeing many ministries flourish within our church, town and even further afield.

Shares the good news of Jesus Christ with the people in the community around us, each one precious to God.

# A BRIEF HISTORY

Baptist Christians have been traced in Amersham from as early as 1626. However, the founding of the congregation that now meets at Raans Road, began with the arrival of an ex-army man, Richard Morris.

Morris was ordained as a Baptist minister in June 1776 and began preaching in his home and then from his workshop. In 1784 a new Chapel was opened on a site close to this workshop, the beautiful red brick building in Amersham Old Town

Richard Morris died in 1817 and following his death there was some division in the church. Unity was restored by 1828 and the church continued as a trust, with various ups and downs, until 1942 when it was agreed to transfer the church deeds to the Baptist Union Corporation.

In 1969, the then pastor, Rev Eric Chambers, felt the Lord declare that the church should be 'Like A Beacon On The Hill', shining light and the Good News of Jesus, over Amersham and the surrounding areas.

Many possible sites were explored over many years, but objections, practical difficulties and the presence of wealthier property purchasers meant that none of them were suitable.

Then in May 2006, the church learned that Cala Homes had agreed a deal with the County Council to build a housing development on the vacant Raans Road site. In July 2006 a team from KCA met with Cala Homes, to open discussions about the possibility of including a new church building on the site.

Due to generous giving by church members and the amazing agreement by Cala Homes to transfer the land to us for only £1, KCA finally had the funds to get started. 42 years after Rev Eric Chamber's prophecy, on the 6th November 2013, the new KCA building opened and the next stage of KCA's history began.



## GUEST SPEAKERS



**PAUL LYNCH** | SUNDAY 12TH SEPT

Paul & Liz are passionate about bringing the Father heart of God to the people of God, through the Word of God, the prophetic word and personal prayer ministry. We have such a passion and a desire to encourage, equip and inspire local church leaders and the local church to reach their full potential in God and in their destiny with Him. After 35 years serving the local church we have, under God's guidance, established the ministry 'Encounter - Heart to Heart'.



**GAVIN CALVER** | SUNDAY 17TH OCT

Gavin Calver is the CEO of the Evangelical Alliance. He has a burning passion to see the church working together to share the Gospel throughout the UK. Formerly the leader of Youth for Christ and chair of Spring Harvest, he's an ordained evangelist and regular public speaker, and has authored six books. Married to Anne, they have two children, Amelie and Daniel. He loves new challenges, is a passionate AFC Wimbledon supporter and was part of the team that broke the World Record for the longest 5-a-side football match.



**NICOLA NEAL** | SUNDAY 28TH NOV

Nicola Neal is CEO of Every Life International, a charity that serves some of the most disadvantaged communities in Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda and the UK. Nicola and her husband Simon work with the International Office, guiding and overseeing Every Life's mission bases around the world. Nicola regularly speaks at churches and conferences around the country.

For more detailed information about the history of the church, please visit [www.kca.church/our-history](http://www.kca.church/our-history)

# INTRODUCING NEWCOMERS

## Would you share a little bit of background about you and your church background?

**Nicolai:** After a decade in the corporate world and the last three years as an entrepreneur I recently joined a fast growing London FinTech company as Head of Revenue. Our son Gus is 5 months old now so the adjustment to being away from home is pretty difficult.

I grew up in South Africa but did most of my schooling here in the UK and went to Sunday School until age 11 as I lived with my Mum. From then on until I became a Christian at 23 in my new home Wellington, New Zealand. I didn't have any Christian influence, though looking back I can always say I have known of God, but never known Him. My early years as a Christian contained a lot of 'oh right' moments as I learnt from the Word and others around me about what it meant to say 'No' to various things.

It's an experience I need to keep remembering today that my actions could influence others whether I intend them to or not.

**Charlotte:** I'm currently on maternity leave from my job running the finance and operations of a real estate development company in Oxford. I grew up in independent charismatic churches in New Zealand, with a close-knit Christian extended family and missionary grandparents. My key faith influences as a child were very legalistic though, so my faith journey as an adult has been a slow process of 'deconstructing' and finding a bedrock where I am less certain about many things and much more certain about a few things. I really appreciate the influence and intellectual engagement of Christians from university ministries that I became involved with for providing a safe space to robustly debate, question and not be afraid of doubt.

*Nicolai, Charlotte & Gus*



# THIS IS WHO WE ARE

## How and when did you start 'coming' to KCA?

We moved to the UK three years ago and were living in Oxford and Maidenhead previously. In August 2020 we made an offer on a house in Chesham, so we looked up websites and online services for all the local churches.

KCA's website information resonated with us, in particular the community engagement ministries and openness to the gifts of the Spirit, and we really enjoyed the quality of teaching in the services. After a few sessions watching live on YouTube we knew this was the place for us - and we finally moved to Chesham in December.

## How have you been able to be involved in church since you found us?

Despite lockdown limiting much involvement, we joined the Newcomers small group shortly after arriving, helped deliver Christmas packages and received amazing support from KCA via Julian when our first baby Gus was born in March. Charlotte thoroughly enjoyed meeting people in person at the recent Flourish event and it's been great to get along to a couple of services in person now that Gus is a bit older.

## What have you enjoyed most about joining KCA?

We only intended to live in Maidenhead short-term and didn't go to church locally so after two years there we had no local roots, and that was really tough. Joining KCA has been a massive contrast. We really like the size of the church and the close community - it's small enough that people notice when you're new, but big enough to have stable leadership, membership and ministries to get involved with. It's lovely to get to know familiar faces and feel like part of a community after only six months!

## What has church meant to you during the Pandemic?

Going online during the pandemic, moving house and town, becoming parents and switching church and bible study group has been a lot of change. We needed a lot of support and the members of KCA have really helped and welcomed us. Now things are opening up and we've got through the first three months with Gus, we look forward to joining a team and serving.

If you are new to KCA and would like to connect with others please email [julian.dagnall@kca.church](mailto:julian.dagnall@kca.church)

# NEW WINE DISCIPLESHIP YEAR

The New Wine Discipleship Year (DY) runs annually from September to July and is an opportunity for Christians aged 18-24 to grow as disciples of Jesus, learning how to serve God and His Kingdom, whilst growing practical experience working for a church. There are 14 hubs across the UK and KCA is a placement church for the Ealing hub.

This year Fizzy Dagnall and Jack Stringer will be joining the KCA team 3.5 days a week. Fizzy will work closely with Adrian (0-25's Pastor) and will have a focus on Youth ministry. Jack will be taking on a variety of duties, with a focus on helping with the Furniture Project which he feels passionately about.

JACK

## Jack

"I witnessed my older brother Rory doing DY and I could see how much the year benefitted him, so it inspired me to follow in his footsteps. I'm particularly looking forward to being plugged into other young Christians at the Ealing hub and the routine of working. I didn't want to jump straight from school to University, so taking a gap year is a nice opportunity to have a bit of an education pause. Living in a very affluent area and being aware of the privileged upbringing that I've had, I feel passionate to get involved with the Furniture Project. I want to make a difference to others who are less fortunate."

Jack has a deferred place at the University of East Anglia where he will be studying 'History and International Relations.'

## Fizzy

"I didn't plan to take a gap year, but I was in the church office one day and got the word 'DY'. I fought against the idea initially, but I prayed about it and felt God say 'this is where I want you'. I'm really looking forward to having time to grow my relationship with God and meeting other young Christians. I'm a little nervous, but excited to be pushed out of my comfort zone and I think the year will really help me to grow through new experiences."

Fizzy has a deferred place at Portsmouth University where she will be studying 'Childhood and Youth Studies.' She would ultimately like to work with young people, in social work or youth work. She feels that the DY placement will be of huge benefit to her future career goals.

FIZZY

The church pay the DY course fee, which will enable Fizzy and Jack to spend a day a week in Ealing with other students, where they will get teaching and training to help equip them to grow as disciples of Jesus. There will be the opportunity to learn from some very inspirational and experienced Christian leaders as well as mentoring, Bible study and much more. Subject to COVID restrictions, there may also be a trip abroad.

Anyone in the 18-24 age group who might be interested in this opportunity for next year, can find out more information here: [www.new-wine.org/discipleship-year/](http://www.new-wine.org/discipleship-year/)

# DREAMING THE IMPOSSIBLE

From the 2nd – 5th August 2021 our young people and their leaders went away for a few days to DTI in Nottingham to connect with God.

Dreaming the Impossible (DTI) is a youth movement for young people aged 12–18 from churches and youth organisations. Their aim is to inspire and equip young people to love God, love others and change the world. The hope is that the young people would encounter God at DTI and leave knowing his love for them in a deeper way, and be ready to live out their faith back home in their church.

The theme of the week was 'fix your eyes on Jesus', and having had a tough time in COVID, DTI helped create a space for the young people to re-focus and put their eyes on Jesus, who has the power to help, no matter what they face!

The programme was very busy, but what was most important was seeing what God wanted to do over the 5 days. Every morning and evening they came together as a whole group to worship Jesus, hear some great teaching from the Bible and spend loads of time learning how to pray for each other and hanging out in God's presence.

Outside of the main meetings the young people were able to hang out with their friends and make some new ones. There were seminars covering lots of different topics to attend, as well as exploring cafés, sports, music, films and other fun activities that go on late into the evening!

The feedback from our young people shows the impact that these few days had, and the importance of enabling our youth in their walk with God:

'What an adventure' Emily Barrett

'Living the dream' Fizzy Dagnall

'A transformational 3 days' Emily Harding

If you would like to know more about our Youth work or DTI, please speak to Adrian Abramian ([adrian.abramian@kca.church](mailto:adrian.abramian@kca.church)).



# THE BIG BREAKFAST...

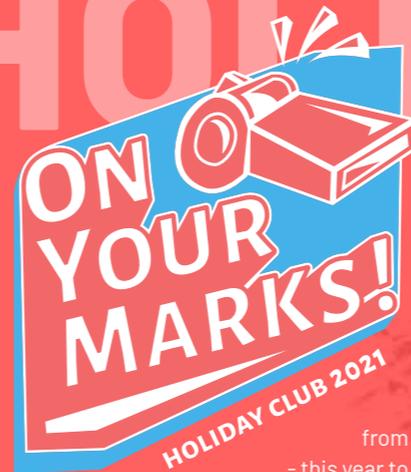
is a launch event for the KCA family tree initiative and whether you've only just started attending here or if you've been here for years, we hope this will help to bring church families closer together. The event will include a cooked breakfast (expertly prepared by head chef Paul Thomas and team) followed by 2 half an hour sessions. The first session will see the dads take the kids into the auditorium for some surprise activities while the mums stay in the chapel room for more information on the Family tree initiative and the new 0-25s vision. After half an hour the mums and the dads will swap, and it'll be repeated.

We are really excited about this opportunity for families to connect deeply with one another and find the support, encouragement, and friendship that we all need especially when growing up as a child or trying to run a family! So, if your child is between 0-16 please sign the family up so we know who's coming and so we can order in the right amount of food!

16<sup>th</sup> October  
9:00 - 11:00am  
at KCA

Sign up via ChurchSuite

# HOLIDAY CLUB



For one week... during the summer holidays, KCA flung open its doors, welcoming 180 primary school aged children from the local community - this year to an Olympic inspired summer holiday club called 'On Your Marks!'

singing, dancing, drama and teaching about Jesus. The atmosphere in the auditorium was electric, with so much joy and excitement and a lot of noise!

And of course, the infamous 'gunge tank' was rolled out. The daily 'gunging' brought shrieks of delight to the children and volunteers in the auditorium, as their leaders were plucked out of the audience and covered in slime!

The team worked tirelessly behind-the-scenes for many months in the run up to holiday club and a special thanks goes to all of the volunteers who made it such a fun and memorable week for the children.

There was a wide range of exciting activities for the children to enjoy including craft, cookery, games, sports, drama, dance, football, forest school and much more. Each day included a lively upfront section with worship,



# COMMUNITY CARE SERVICES

These services are subject to modification depending on Covid-19 guidelines.

The central focus of our community care and social action here at KCA is our determination to show unconditional love, compassion and practical help to those in need, through the services outlined here.



**TLG Make Lunch**

TLG Make Lunch offers free hot lunches on Tuesdays and Thursdays during school holidays for families with young children struggling on tight budgets, plus a time to play and chat.



**TLG Early Intervention Programme**

TLG train up volunteers from churches who go into a school weekly for 1 year to work with a particular child, identified by the school as having a need for additional 1:1 support. They use fun, creative projects along with TLG's emotional literacy coaching resources to best support the child they are working with.



**Christians Against Poverty (CAP)**

CAP provides sound and robust advice (plus a befriending support service based here at KCA) to people with financial and major debt problems.



**Acts 435**

Acts 435 is an online giving charity, directly connecting those who want to give with those who are in genuine need of their help, through a network of local churches and charities.



**The Furniture Project**

The Furniture Project collects good quality furniture to give away free to recipients in the local area who are in difficult financial or domestic situations.



**Restoring Homes/ Clearing Gardens**

Our team offers a basic house decorating and/or garden clearing service for the elderly and those with mobility or long term health problems.



**New Homes Starter Packs**

For those fleeing situations of domestic violence and abuse, any new home that is offered is often very sparse; bare walls, bare floors, bare cupboards. We provide new crockery, cutlery, glasses, kettle, toaster and other kitchen and domestic products, plus the potential for some new carpeting.



**BabyBasics**

Working with local community midwives, BabyBasics provides vulnerable women facing financial or domestic hardship with a Moses basket full of essential products for starting life with a new baby.



We have connections with various organisations in the local area. If you have a need, please get in touch and we will try to help.

For more information about our community care services please email [info@kca.church](mailto:info@kca.church)

# NEW HOMES STARTER PACKS



Lisa Warren

With our Community Care Services, the central focus of our community care and social action here at KCA is our determination to show unconditional love, compassion and practical help in a number of ways.

New Homes Starter Packs is a service that started in 2019 in response to a need experienced by those who find themselves homeless. The service aims to help vulnerable people who are making a home from scratch, often moving in with just a bin bag of clothes and nothing else – no furniture, cooking equipment or other domestic necessities. The majority of cases involve women moving from a safe house after experiencing domestic violence. Half of these ladies will have children who have been referred to us by social services.

The pack includes a new kettle, toaster, crockery, cutlery, saucepans, washing up bowl, tea towels, tea, coffee, biscuits and cleaning products. All these items are presented in a laundry basket. Carpet for a room is also provided, following Social Services advice after seeing a baby crawl on wooden floorboards with nails sticking out. KCA organizes this together with King's Church Chesham, with Summerlings in Chesham providing this at cost price.

Homelessness can occur very suddenly and often unexpectedly to anyone when tragic or difficult circumstances arise. This might include life traumas such as unemployment, divorce, unexpected pregnancy, abuse and bereavement. In 2019 Shelter, a major UK charity for the homeless, estimated that 280,000 people were homeless in England, meaning one in every 200 people would be without a home or fixed place of residence.

Lisa Warren is part of the team involved in the New Homes Starter Packs project. She volunteered as soon as she heard about this new initiative. It is close to her heart after experiencing homelessness herself as a teenager after her mother died, and then later abuse. She herself was rescued by the church and lived with a church elder and his family, later moving into church shared accommodation. Inspired by the lifeline thrown to Lisa in her youth, since then homelessness has played a key part in the Warren family life. This has ranged from providing Christmas meals at Crisis In London, making food parcels each week with the kids for Mark, Lisa's husband, to deliver whilst he was on 'Street Angels' night duty in Watford, and having homeless teenagers living with the family.

The team works closely with Richard Smith on the Furniture Project & King's Church Chesham who provide longer term support (as all clients live in Chesham). Other team members from KCA are Callie Tomlins, Sheila Paul and Simon Harding.

In addition to the very necessary practical help, being able to understand people's pain, being able to chat with them, and taking positive action is uplifting. In their August 2020 report 'A Perfect Storm' national domestic abuse charity Women's Aid reported that levels of domestic abuse had worsened during Covid-19.

“  
God turns all things for good  
Romans 8 v 28

The need is very significant and COVID has reduced their ability to help people, but as we come through it they have been able to support a number of local families each month. As a church they would appreciate your support with prayers as the team interacts with those whose life have hit a tragic crisis.

Remembering Lisa's story, may we see other instances of God's grace and redemption from desperate circumstances.

If you'd like the help of New Homes Starter Packs or would like to contribute to their work, please call 01494 431882 or email [info@kca.church](mailto:info@kca.church).

# CHRISTMAS HAMPERS

It may seem to be early to be thinking about Christmas already...and for everyone it brings a certain amount of challenge in regards to organisation and forward planning. For many, this planning and anticipation is a time of excitement, laughter and joy. But for some families in need, the prospect of Christmas brings apprehension and even dread as they contemplate the festive season and the demands it may make on already overstretched financial resources.

For the last two years KCA has run the Christmas Hamper project. Working with local partners we have been able to ensure that people in need could sign up to receive a hamper which will provide wonderful food items for Christmas Day. Last year's hampers consisted of over 20 items, including a turkey (with helpful cooking hints), pigs in blankets, chocolates and gifts for the children. A delicious set of treats for those who might otherwise not enjoy anything so special.

This year we are embarking on the project again, with the aim of providing 150 hampers. There are many ways of taking part in this project, whether it is through donating financially to provide a hamper, helping with the packing on Tuesday 21st December, hand delivering the hampers on Wednesday 22 December, or praying for the blessing of God on the whole enterprise as we seek to reach out to the more financially needy in our area.

In this way, we pray that our community will be touched by the love of God and the hope that the coming of Jesus brings, and that what otherwise might be a 'bleak midwinter' be transformed instead this Christmas to a time of 'comfort and joy'.



# ROYAL AIR FORCE *in concert*

Thursday 21st Oct | 7.30pm | £16  
The King's Church Amersham

ROYAL AIR FORCE **Music**

*Every life*

[www.kca.church/events](http://www.kca.church/events)

# What's ON

## SEPTEMBER

- Sunday 5  
10:30 | Vision Sunday
- 19:30 | Worship Night
- Wednesday 8  
20:00 | Prayer Evening
- Thursday 9  
20:00 | New to KCA?
- Saturday 12  
10:30 | Guest Speaker Paul Lynch
- 12:00 | Church Family Lunch



**GUEST SPEAKER**  
PAUL LYNCH  
12TH SEPT

- Wednesday 15  
10:00 | Cedars begin again
- Sunday 19  
19:30 | Flourish Women's Event



*Flourish*  
Women's event  
7:30pm, 19th Sept

- Wednesday 22  
20:00 | Alpha Course starts on Zoom
- Sunday 26  
10:30 | Alpha Course starts in person
- Small groups begin!



## OCTOBER

- Sunday 3  
19:30 | Worship Night



**WORSHIP NIGHTS**

SUNDAY | 7:30PM  
5TH SEP | 3RD OCT | 7TH NOV

- Sunday 10  
10:30 | Dedication/Family Service
- Saturday 16  
09:00 | Big Breakfast Families Event



**THE BIG BREAKFAST**

SAT 16TH OCT 9AM

- Sunday 17  
10:30 | Guest Speaker Gavin Calver



**GUEST SPEAKER**  
GAVIN CALVER  
17TH OCT

- Thursday 21  
19:30 | Band of the RAF Everylife fundraiser
- Wednesday 27  
20:00 | Prayer Evening



*Prayer Evening*  
27th OCT 8-9pm

- Sunday 31  
17:00 | Saints & Superheroes

## NOVEMBER

- Saturday 6  
15:00 | Hearts of Love Service
- Sunday 7  
19:30 | Worship Night
- Sunday 14  
19:30 | Baptism Service
- Thursday 18  
20:00 | New to KCA?
- Sunday 21  
19:30 | Craft Evening
- Sunday 28  
10:30 | Guest Speaker Nicola Neal



**GUEST SPEAKER**  
NICOLA NEAL  
28TH NOV

## DECEMBER

- Sunday 5  
19:30 | Pub Carols
- Wednesday 8  
12:30 | Cedars Christmas Lunch
- Sunday 19  
10:30 | Kids Service
- Wednesday 22  
14:00 | Hamper Deliveries Onwards
- Friday 24  
17:00 | Christmas Eve Carol Service
- Saturday 25  
10:00 | Christmas Day Service
- Sunday 26  
There will be no services today

## SANTS & SUPERHEROES



**A FAMILY FUN EVENT**

**KING'S CHURCH AMERSHAM**  
SUNDAY 31ST OCTOBER AT 5 - 6.30PM

FOR MORE INFO & TO SIGN UP VISIT  
KCA.CHURCH/SAINTSANDSUPERHEROES

**FREE EVENT**

**HOT DOGS - BURGERS - INFLATABLES - GAMES - FANCY DRESS COMPETITION - SWEETS**



For more information visit [www.kca.church/events](http://www.kca.church/events)

# KEY WORKER SARA LISTER

2021 marks the 73rd birthday of the NHS, and on Sunday 4th July there was a national day of thanks and recognition to celebrate the incredible work of our NHS staff, key workers and others in our communities who have helped us through this challenging year. Sara Lister is deeply involved in this crucial work & provides an insight into what she has faced during the Pandemic.

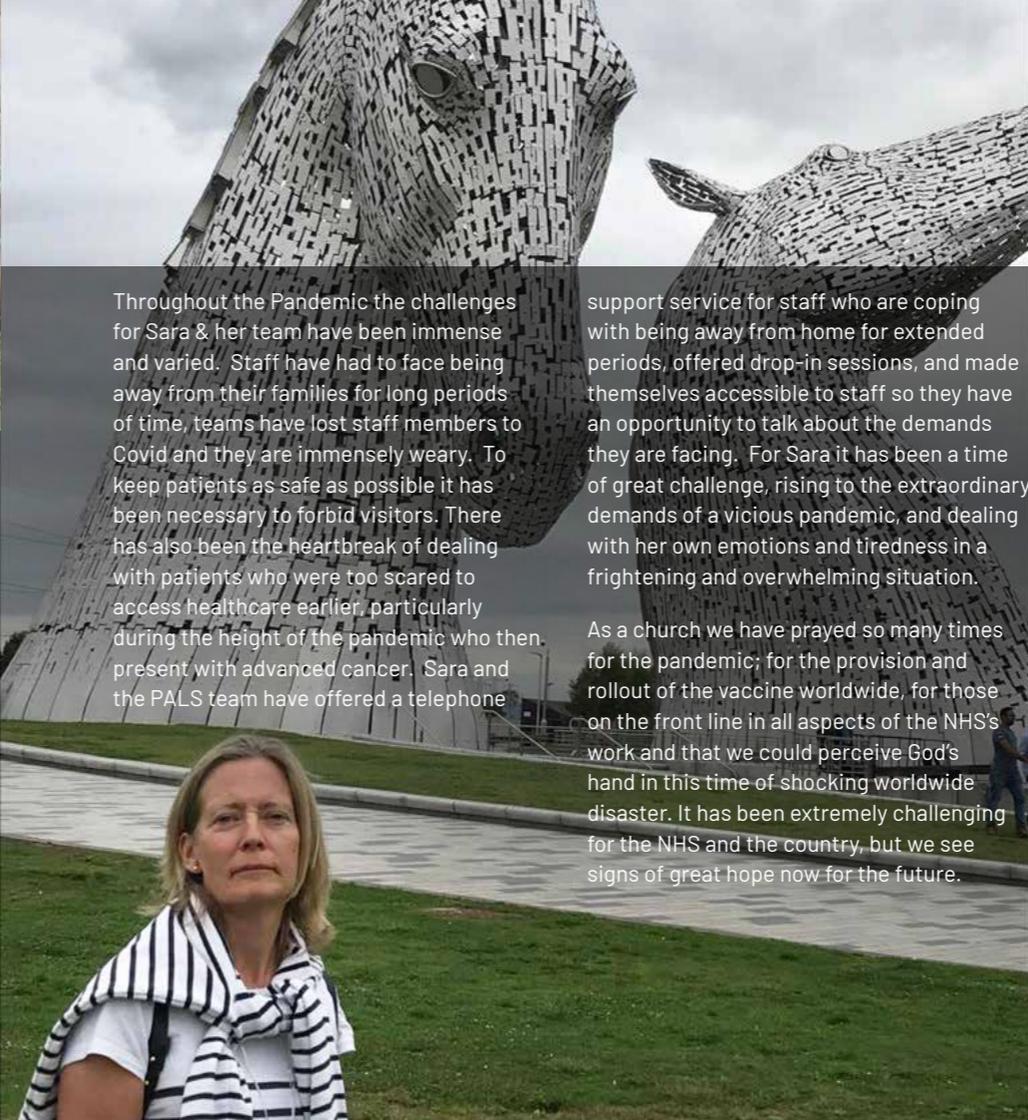
**For four days a week Sara is Head Of Pastoral Care, Psychological Support, PALS at The Royal Marsden Hospital London.**

The Royal Marsden is an NHS hospital that provides treatment and care for individuals diagnosed with cancer. Sara is responsible for the teams who provide the psychological support for patients, immediate support for grieving relatives and ongoing support for members of staff. As a psychotherapist and nurse Sara helps them cope with anxiety, process their sadness, shock, grief and anger, helping them make sense of what has happened to them. Some have a Christian faith and it is a privilege to help them as they wrestle with their faith in God. She also helps staff to cope with the challenges, sadness and stress of working in a very busy hospital.

**In addition, Sara is also Programme Leader of the MA Counselling at Waverley Abbey College, Farnham.**

At this amazing Christian college, Sara leads a Masters in Counselling for Christians who want to work as counsellors. This important, fascinating, and demanding work involves teaching, marking essays, and providing pastoral support to students.

When the pandemic struck, at the Royal Marsden they required urgent reorganisation of how pastoral care operates. Under Sara's leadership they quickly moved the support offered to outpatients to telephone or online, removing the need for face-to-face encounters. In the first and second wave they continued to go into work to support inpatients and offer vital support to their clinical colleagues, including doctors, nurses, radiographers, pharmacists, physiotherapists, and occupational therapists.



Throughout the Pandemic the challenges for Sara & her team have been immense and varied. Staff have had to face being away from their families for long periods of time, teams have lost staff members to Covid and they are immensely weary. To keep patients as safe as possible it has been necessary to forbid visitors. There has also been the heartbreak of dealing with patients who were too scared to access healthcare earlier, particularly during the height of the pandemic who then present with advanced cancer. Sara and the PALS team have offered a telephone

support service for staff who are coping with being away from home for extended periods, offered drop-in sessions, and made themselves accessible to staff so they have an opportunity to talk about the demands they are facing. For Sara it has been a time of great challenge, rising to the extraordinary demands of a vicious pandemic, and dealing with her own emotions and tiredness in a frightening and overwhelming situation.

As a church we have prayed so many times for the pandemic; for the provision and rollout of the vaccine worldwide, for those on the front line in all aspects of the NHS's work and that we could perceive God's hand in this time of shocking worldwide disaster. It has been extremely challenging for the NHS and the country, but we see signs of great hope now for the future.



May our prayers bless those, like Sara, who have worked tirelessly and sacrificially on behalf of us all during this time.

# You're invited

Join us to explore life, faith, meaning.

**In-Person**  
**Sunday 26th September**  
**10.30am at KCA**

**Zoom**  
**Wednesday 22nd September**  
**8pm Online**



**#TryAlpha**

To register email [alpha@kca.church](mailto:alpha@kca.church)  
[www.kca.church/alpha](http://www.kca.church/alpha)



# BAPTISM

**BAPTISM SYMBOLISES THE START  
OF A NEW LIFE WITH JESUS**

WE HAVE REGULAR BAPTISM SERVICES AT KCA  
IF YOU WOULD LIKE MORE INFO THEN VISIT OUR WEBSITE  
OR TO ENQUIRE ABOUT GETTING BAPTISED PLEASE EMAIL  
[INFO@KCA.CHURCH](mailto:INFO@KCA.CHURCH) OR SPEAK TO ONE OF OUR TEAM

**[WWW.KCA.CHURCH/BAPTISM](http://WWW.KCA.CHURCH/BAPTISM)**

# KCA FOOTBALL CLUB

## Football festival and exciting future plans

The King's Church Amersham Football Club ("KCA F.C.") was set up in 1999 by the then Minister of King's Church Amersham who wanted to give local children who attended church on Sunday mornings an opportunity to play in a Saturday football league which did not conflict with Sunday worship.

KCA F.C. brings football to the community for children aged 4 to 18 years old. Our training and matches take place on Saturdays from September to May each season at 4 sites in Amersham. (Hervines Park, Barn Meadow, DCGS Astro and Amersham Town Football Club's training pitch). Having begun with

one team at Under 10 level, the football club has grown considerably and is now running 20 squads involving over 300 children. This year that has also included a new "Lionesses Team" for girls at U8. All KCA F.C. teams from under 7s to under 18s compete in the Chiltern Church Junior Football League in league and cup competitions. For children under age 6 we run a feeder group where the children have training sessions every Saturday throughout the season. At the end of each season, we hold an end of year awards presentation with trophies & medals for players with a special footballing guest to hand them out.

This July, we held our first football festival with over 67 Five-a-Side matches being played over a day at Amersham Town Football Club (ATFC) with BBQs and bouncy castles. It proved a fantastic success, with the final match being an 11-a-side match of KCA F.C. U18s verses ATFC first team.

This season we have partnered with ATFC to utilise their training pitch and have invested in 3 sets of high-quality movable goals. We have also received substantial funding from the FA's Football Foundation for pitch improvements at Hervines Park and Barn Meadow over the next six years.

In 2020, we were awarded FA Charter Standard Accreditation, prioritising qualified coaching and safeguarding as well as the values of The FA's Respect campaign.

KCA F.C. is run by a committee who endeavour to work towards the running of an efficient club and whose aim is to provide football that can be enjoyed by all players, parents, coaches and supporters. Each of our head coaches is qualified to at least FA level 1 standard ensuring that we offer constructive and efficient training for all our players. All of our coaches and committee members are required to

have a current DBS and to attend the FA's Safeguarding Children course. Our coaches also attend the FA Emergency Aid course.

We see KCA F.C. as playing a valuable role in the local community by providing a professional, friendly club for boys and girls in the area, who can both learn to develop their football skills and enjoy playing in various League and Cup competitions.

**For more information about the football club and how to join please go to [www.kcafc.co.uk/howtojoin](http://www.kcafc.co.uk/howtojoin)**



If you are interested in finding out more about becoming a coach or getting involved in the running of the club please visit the website [www.kcafc.co.uk/contact](http://www.kcafc.co.uk/contact)



# SIGNPOST

The focus of this term's signpost is "mind and soul" who are a Christian organisation focused on supporting emotional and mental health. This last 18 months has been so difficult for many of us with so much illness, isolation and uncertainty. Mind and soul have compiled a number of resources to help work through some of the many lasting challenges that Covid-19 has brought.



**Professor Andrew Sims:**  
Emeritus Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Leeds and Past President of the Royal College

of Psychiatrists. "There is so much on the internet about our minds and souls, and sadly a lot of it is quite unreliable. This site, however, will give good quality information as it is produced under the surveillance of a consultant psychiatrist. I have known Rob Waller for several years and I am impressed with the excellence of his work, his energy and his consistent intention to relate his professional work as a psychiatrist with his Christian faith."



**Mike Pilavachi:**  
Leader of Soul Survivor, and a regular speaker at conferences. "We need to understand the issues and have the

tools to support people who are struggling. The Mind and Soul Foundation team are excellent communicators, and you will come away refreshed, blessed and informed."

Web: [www.mindandsoulfoundation.org](http://www.mindandsoulfoundation.org)  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/mindandsouluk](https://www.facebook.com/mindandsouluk)  
Instagram: [www.instagram.com/mindandsouluk](https://www.instagram.com/mindandsouluk)  
Twitter: [@mindandsouluk](https://twitter.com/mindandsouluk)

## Vision – Mind and Soul

We believe in a God who loves us AND cares about our emotional and mental health.

Often our faith and emotions are kept separate. Mental health is seldom discussed in churches and Christian spirituality is sometimes seen as having little to offer the world of psychology. We want to bridge that gap.

- **To Educate:** Sharing the best of Christian theology and scientific advances.
- **To Equip:** Helping people meet with God and recover from emotional distress.
- **To Encourage:** Engaging with the local church and mental health services.

Our core leadership team of a psychologist, a priest and a psychiatrist have developed high-quality, integrated resources and bring a powerful message that BOTH are important.



# WORSHIP NIGHTS

SUNDAY | 7:30PM

5TH SEPTEMBER | 3RD OCTOBER

7TH NOVEMBER

## Brian Wiseman — 90 not out



In April I reached the age of 90. I never expected to get this old! I have had a most interesting life. I have visited 62 countries and had four jobs as a Chartered Accountant. My main job for 19 years was at Oxford Polytechnic, (now Oxford Brookes University) where I was Head of Accounting and ran various courses in Accounting and Management. Whilst there I filled in the vacations with a small Accountancy practice and some overseas lecture tours teaching Finance to non-financial managers. At 55 I went freelance and ran courses in Belize, Jamaica, Bangladesh, Sierra Leone, Vanuatu, Italy, Poland and Russia as well as all over the UK, including for Ashridge Management College.

As a young man, I had to leave the army during my National Service with lung problems and never fully recovered my health and stamina. I have also suffered with migraines all my life. My wife married me when I was on my army disability pension and after 67 years is still with me.

# THIS

# IS

# WHO

# I AM

*This is  
who  
I am*

## “

I try to live as he said we should.  
Treating all people as I would like to be treated.

We both came from the same village in Suffolk. We started off in the village Methodist Church where I played the organ for ten years then moved several times for work. While working at The Atomic Energy Establishment at Harwell we lived in Drayton, then Didcot and went to the Methodist Churches there and I qualified as a Lay Preacher. We moved to Oxford when the children left home and had six wonderful years at St Aldates Church - the spiritual highlight of our lives, where we were both in leadership roles. When I went freelance we moved to Barton on Sea. God led us to a small church of 15 people where we stayed members for 30 years. I ran the

She is a great blessing. She claims she married me for my money and was shocked to get it all in the first week of housekeeping!!

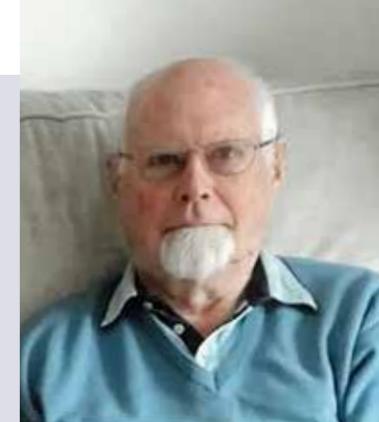
financial side of things and for many years the musical worship, while Marion guided the ladies group. By the time we left, the Church had grown to 300 members.

I have been a Christian most of my life. I am a follower of Jesus and his teachings, not of a denomination. I try to live as He said we should, treating people as I would like to be treated. Of course, I cannot manage this all the time, I am not a saint. I think it boils down to being a kind person. Just think what the world would be like if all the spite in the world was replaced by kindness. Many non-church goers live in a Christian way; the Christian way of life is a good one. We have better health and happier lives. We believe in God helping us through the bad times.

What have I learned from all these years? As we get older our lives become smaller. We cannot change the world but we can and do influence our little part of it. We can spend our time complaining or we can count our blessings. My wife says we can choose each day to be cheerful or grumpy but I find that people are kind to me as an old man.

The Christian way of life is a cheerful,  
positive, kind way and I can recommend it.

## ”





# Hearts of Love

**Saturday 6th November 2021 | 3pm  
at King's Church Amersham**

*A service of thanksgiving  
for those who have loved and lost*

*Bereavements Matter*

[www.kca.church/bereavement](http://www.kca.church/bereavement)



"In January, during the winter lockdown, I felt God speak to me about starting something for the ladies of the church and clearly that it wasn't to be a one-off event and would be something where we could get to know each other over time and grow together spiritually. Having missed out on seeing people during a long period of isolation, I think we've all realised just how important it is to cherish each other and our time spent together. I felt that God wanted me to create an evening where the ladies could come and be encouraged and inspired." Jane Thomas

With help from a fantastic core team including Alison Rodda, Callie Tomlins, Juliet Hoar, Rebecca Flory, Terri Abramian, Jane created 'Flourish'.



The first meeting took place in May and 104 ladies joined together inside the church auditorium, which had been beautifully decorated with cheerful colours. Despite the number of covid-safe rules to adhere to at the time, it had a lovely warm and relaxed atmosphere.

The evening was themed 'You Matter' and included plenty of time for much needed chatting. The evening got off to a wonderful start with worship led by Phil Shaw. There was an inspirational talk from guest speaker Anne Calver and one of the core team also shared her testimony, talking openly and candidly about God's love during a very difficult personal time with the breakdown of her first marriage.

Each table was served a platter of yummy cheeses, meats and fruits, followed by sweet treats, teas and coffees. At the end of the evening each guest left with a lovely gift.

"After months of being at home in my jogging bottoms, I found myself dusting off a dress and putting on some make-up - it felt ever so exciting to go to a ladies evening event. I wasn't sure what to expect and I felt a little apprehensive turning up by myself, but I received a very warm welcome and had nothing to worry about. I came away feeling really blessed and uplifted." Guest, Anonymous

**Don't miss the next Flourish, 19th September, guest speaker Hellie Brunt, who's involved in New Wine and the Cinnamon Network. Sign-up early on ChurchSuite to avoid disappointment**

# New Term Teaching Series

## The Mission – Acts 1-8

In our recent series on the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we looked again at the truth that as the church, we together are the body of Christ.

To Paul, it's not an illustration, it's a fact – we ARE his body . . .

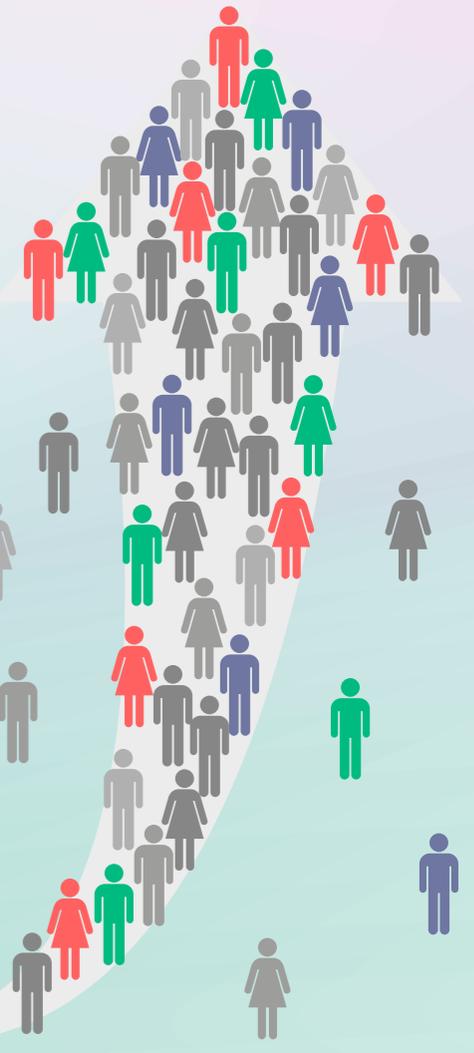
Christ is the head, we are the body-parts, together we are filled with life by his Spirit, and we are here to live as Jesus, to be his living presence on the earth. So we are to be his hands and feet, to go and to do in his name; to be his voice, to speak in his name; to be his heartbeat, to love in his name. In short, we are here to do his will just as he would himself do it, as he lives and works through us – that's the mission of the church throughout the centuries, ever since the first century.

This autumn we will look again at just how they DID do it in that first century, when the Spirit was first given and the church was born. We will read together Acts chapters 1 to 8, and on Sunday mornings we will look at the hallmarks of their shared life together as shown in those chapters. Their mission is also our mission, to live as his body on earth; the distinguishing characteristics of their life then are the things that we too aspire to today. With one exception, you might think – or maybe not?

“  
All the believers were one in heart and mind  
Acts 4:32

- Oneness – belonging together in love and unity
- Boldness – to be, to show and to tell
- Miracles, and the confidence of faith
- Persecution – “you cannot be serious?”
- Salvation – with baptism following

Join us on Sunday mornings this autumn to find out more.



# MEMBERSHIP | A FRESH LOOK

You may have been with us here at King's for some good while, and not have heard us talk much at all about 'membership'. Well, there is a good reason for that – we DID have plans, and then came the pandemic!

But now this autumn we are looking to gather the church once again – to gather physically, wherever possible; and even more importantly, to gather together in heart and mind for the mission that is at hand – and church membership is a part of this.

Now 'membership' for some feels like a loaded word: 'so are you in or are you out?'. Or for others there may be a suspicion – 'what are you trying to get me to sign up to?' – or a reluctance – 'why do I need to do anything, isn't it OK the way things are?'

In Amos 3.3 the prophet writes:

**Do two walk together, unless they have agreed to do so?**

And that, in essence, is membership – it's a decision, a choice to throw in our lot together, to walk the road together in a common purpose, to share the ups and downs of the journey and to encourage one another along the way, knowing that just as I am here for you today, so you will be there for me tomorrow. Because we have agreed to walk together, we belong together. And together we can achieve more than we ever could apart.

Now membership is always a choice, and membership is always a commitment. Membership involves a cost, but membership brings great benefits. And to that extent, church membership is no different. But church membership, we believe, goes further – it gets close to the heart of who you are in Christ, and his call on your life, and it challenges you to embrace it fully.

So if you are asking 'why does membership matter', or 'what does it mean for me?', these are good questions, which we will answer more fully this September – in the hope that we can then decide and agree not only that we are one in Christ, but more than that, that we are called to be members together of his body here at King's.

...for we are all members of one body – Ephesians 4.25

# KCA | COURSES



## Marriage Course

The Marriage Course is a series of seven sessions, designed to help married couples invest in their relationship and build a strong marriage.



## In-depth Bible Study Course with Ron Lamb

Journey with Ron on a Tuesday evening as he leads a 6-week study through the apostle Paul's letter to the Ephesians.



## Freedom in Christ

The Freedom In Christ Course is a 10 session discipleship course, perfect for small groups.

## CHAPTER ONE

### Chapter One

In a culture that can be lonely, rushed and hectic, we want you to experience a way of life that is rooted in healthy, life-giving rhythms. Over the next 10 weeks, we will introduce this way of life.

# SMALL GROUPS



As Elders, we believe that following Jesus happens best when we are actively engaged in other people's lives. It is in relationship that our faith is truly shaped and sharpened

## When do the groups start?

Groups will start from 26<sup>th</sup> September and run for 11 weeks.

## How do I choose a group that is right for me?

We hope there is something for everyone. If you are new to the church, we recommend you attend the Connect group. If you need any help or advice on choosing the right group for you, please email the Church Office. Some groups have a limited number of spaces, so sign up quickly!

## How do I sign up for a group?

It's really easy... You can sign up via ChurchSuite or email at [smallgroups@kca.church](mailto:smallgroups@kca.church) during the sign-up period.

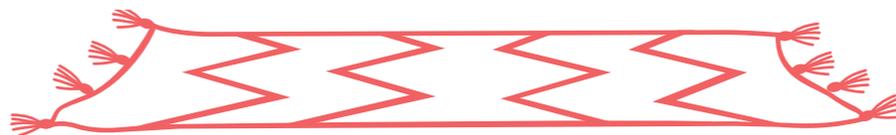
## Does everyone have to attend a group?

Sundays and Small Groups are the heart of life at King's, so we would love everyone to be part of a group.

## What am I signing up to?

The sign-up is for one term at a time. For groups to develop friendships and grow in faith together, we encourage everyone to attend each session, if possible. At the end of the term you have the option to sign up again if the group is continuing, join another group or take a break.

Please note that existing members of any continuing groups have priority for sign-up for the new term.



## Can I join a group part way through the term?

Some groups will not be open after the second week particularly if it is course based.

Other groups will remain open all term so that new people can get involved at any stage.

## Can I join more than one group?

You're free to join more than one group.



Make New Friends  
Grow Closer to God  
Learn Something New

## What happens after I have signed up?

The group leader will contact you to confirm the details of start date, when and where the group will meet and to welcome you into the group.

## Weekly Small Groups

We are planning to run groups across both zoom and in homes, if we are able to, across a variety of days weekly from 8pm. Please see the website for further details.

Sign up start date  
Sunday 5th September

Please sign up via ChurchSuite or email [smallgroups@kca.church](mailto:smallgroups@kca.church)

# SMALL GROUPS



Leader: Adrian Abramian

Due to Covid restrictions not all of our small groups are currently able to run. Please contact the Church Office for the latest details if you wish to attend a group.

## OASIS

A place to meet other parents, carers & toddlers. To enjoy a chat & coffee whilst the children play with exciting toys, bible stories, explore the slides & climbing frames outside.

**When:** Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays (Term time)  
9.45 to 11.15am

**Where:** KCA

**Who for:** Preschool toddlers & parents/carers



Leader: Helen Patterson



Leader: Kathy Nussbaum

## TUESDAY HOUSE GROUP

A Bible study for the older teenagers in our church family. An opportunity to grow in our relationship with God and in fellowship with other Christians.

**When:** Tuesdays  
7.00 to 8.00pm

**Where:** KCA

**Who for:** Year 10+

## THURSDAY HOUSE GROUP

A Bible study for those in the early teenage years. A place to build friendship, play games and explore God's love for us.

**When:** Thursdays  
7.00 to 8.00pm

**Where:** KCA

**Who for:** Years 7 - 9

## LADIES PRAYER

Meeting together to share scripture, pray for global, National & local issues, for the church family & each other.

**When:** Tuesdays  
9.30 to 10.30am

**Where:** KCA

**Who for:** Anyone with a heart for prayer

## STITCH & CHAT

Meets weekly and provides an opportunity to get to know a group of like-minded people whilst you start, continue or finish your own creative project that requires any sort of stitches.

**When:** Fridays  
10.30am to 12.30pm

**Where:** King's Roast Cafe

**Who for:** Anyone

## FOOTBALL @ St Clement Dane's

An informal weekly kick about & fellowship

**When:** Tuesdays  
8.00 to 9.00pm

**Where:** St Clement Dane's School

**Who for:** Anyone



Leader: Sue Brandom



Leader: Phil Shaw



Leaders: Kathy Nussbaum & Liz Ritty

# SMALL GROUPS



Leader: Simon Stringer

## PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH

A monthly group praying for the persecuted church.



Leader: Julian Daughall

## CEDARS (KCA Seniors)

A place for faith, friendship and mutual care to grow as Jesus's presence and love is discovered, experienced and shared. Come and enjoy fellowship, a time of worship, testimony, ministry and a speaker.

**When:** Wednesdays  
10.00 to 12.00pm

**Where:** KCA

**Who for:** 55+



Leader: Jane Knight

**When:** First Tuesday  
every month 7.30pm

**Where:** KCA

**Who for:** Anyone

## CONNECT

For those who are new to the church, finding faith, or just wanting to know more.

**When:** Wednesdays 8.00pm

**Where:** TBC

**Who for:** People new to the church

## KING'S MUMS

For mums with little ones who would like to build relationships with others at church. Worship, prayer and bible study (with the odd cuppa too!) Whilst embracing the mayhem of having the little ones with us - whether they're playing, eating or sleeping!

**When:** Third Friday each month  
9.30 to 11.00am

**Where:** KCA

**Who for:** Anyone with  
young children



Leader: Lindsey Mitchell



Leader: Hannah Shaw

## christmas at KCA

**christmas lunch hampers | pub carols  
nativity service | christmas eve | christmas day**

**[kca.church/christmas](https://kca.church/christmas)  
[kca.church/events](https://kca.church/events)**



King's Church Amersham  
Raans Road, Amersham  
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01494 431882

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