

Trees of Reflection



KAREN KING

Beech (*Fagus Sylvatica*) planted in 2019

1 August 1968 – 1 December 2018

Karen was not a participant at The Cart Shed but her widower, Mike King, who wrote the following, generously supported the charity as a volunteer.



Karen was born, Karen Louise Tootell, 1 August 1968, in Chorley Lancashire. She grew up with her parents and sister, Michelle, in the village of Adlington, Lancashire. Karen studied Economics at Leeds University and went on to qualify as a Chartered Management Accountant.

Karen met Mike in 1998, married the following year and moved to Herefordshire where they lived initially in Woolhope and then Bartestree. Karen worked for 18 years in the accounts department of PGL Travel in Ross on Wye where she became a very popular and highly valued employee.

Mike and Karen had two children, Toby and Hannah, born in 2002 and 2003 respectively. Outside of her family, Karen had two great passions, music and football. She had an eclectic taste in music but particularly liked 'indie' music

'90s. She also loved live music, especially festivals, and she was an enthusiastic dancer.

In her 20's Karen played football for Chorley ladies and was a keen fan of Nottingham Forest. She encouraged both Toby and Hannah to play and they both had successful youth careers. Once moved to Herefordshire, Karen became a season ticket supporter at Hereford FC.

Family life was central to everything and many joyful weeks were spent camping at the seaside as the children grew. Karen was actively involved in Mordiford Primary School and became a parent governor.

In 2014 Karen was diagnosed with breast cancer. She died on 1st December 2018 at St Michael's Hospice. During Karen's illness, Mike had become a volunteer with The Cart Shed where he was able to find both respite and support during this difficult time.

Karen is remembered as an intelligent, strong-willed woman who loved to party. She was devoted to her family, particularly her two children whom she loved beyond measure.