

Barking and Dagenham



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Wednesday June 14, 2017

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Burglar has jail term increased

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INSIDE TODAY

TV & Lifestyle section

Includes gardening and home interiors Folk festival is a big success



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Memorial bench is a permanent tribute to Ricky

A cemetery bench has been installed in memory of a bouncer who was stabbed to death metres from his house.

The permanant tribute to Ricky Hayden, from Chadwell Heath is in the grounds of Forest Park Cemetery and Crematorium in Forest Road, Hainault.

The 27-year-old, who worked at Kosho in South Street, Romford, was attacked outside his home in Gibbfield Close, on September 13 SEBASTIAN MURPHY-BATES

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last year. His dad Paul was also seriously injured.

Sue Hedges, Ricky's mum, will lay Ricky's ashes at the site today (Wednesday).

She hopes it will be a peaceful place for friends to remember him once the plot is prepared.

"Ricky had so many friends

and the bench is in such a beautiful place," the 50-year-old said. "Anyone who knew Ricky will be welcome to visit."

The bench was funded by kind donations from Ricky's friends, families and members of the public.

Three men face trial next week at the Old Bailey in connection with Ricky's death and the injuries his father sustained.

Full story - See page 2

School's newspaper club is popular with young writers



Greatfield School students affected by the recent stabbing and shooting on the Gascoigne Estate have put out a special newspaper edition which talks about the dangers in the community and advice on how to keep safe.

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NEWS



Greatfield School students affected by the recent stabbing and shooting on the Gascoigne Estate have put out a special newspaper edition which talks about the dangers in the community and advice on how to keep safe.

Pictures: KEN MEARS

Budding reporters explore crime in new special edition

On a sleepy corner of Barking's Gascoigne estate, a modest shrine remembers the life of teenager David Adegbite who was gunned down as he cycled through to visit friends one night.

Shockingly, the 18-year-old's murder in St Ann's in March is not an isolated case in a borough where gun crime convictions have doubled in the past year.

A few minutes walk away in The Shaftesburys, members of the newspaper club at the new Greatfields School have put together a special edition to explore a different way to confront the crime happening on their doorstep.

Hadiya Mohammed has chosen to inform fellow students about knife crime.

"Students shouldn't be hanging

to advertise in the Barking & Dagenham Post

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around outside, it isn't safe," she said. "I think it's a big problem if people are carrying sharp instruments into school. People might be encouraged not to do so if they listen to us.

"We want students to take care and be cautious when they walk around the estate."

This packed edition of the Greatfields Gazette – which usually focuses on sports and community news – also includes an interview with teacher Lauren Leach on staying safe, tips on how to deal with strangers, and thoughts on gang culture.

In her piece on gangs, student Nawras Salum references Adegbite's murder. "No one should be carrying any kind of weapon which could harm someone else," she writes.

"This incident happened in the evening at a time where any one of us could have been out and about...near our school, in our community... SHOCKING!"

Fellow reporter Imogen Bartlett-Cruz's article addresses the "very vulnerable" 12-15 age group at risk of peer pressure.

"Most people don't know the effects of drugs, or that it could actually kill them," she explained. "They think they should do it because other people are."

Headmaster Richard Paul says he's "very proud" of the Year 7s.

"They are researching and writing articles which address extremely important issues for our community, and approach them with a level of maturity which belies their years."

0845 671 4460



Factfile

Thoughts from the editor

English teacher Amila Sarwar oversees the fortnightly paper:

"The incident where a teenager got stabbed really got them thinking about how kids at our school could be affected, so we decided to run a special issue on crime.

We've had such positive feedback from parents. I really want the paper to be a powerful voice for the school.

It's a really good record for the school too, it has all their activities in. It's quite rare, I've never come across a group so positive and supportive of each other, they are really excited about each other's achievements.

They've been fantastic since we started the club at the beginning of this year. I really wanted a good newspaper club and I couldn't have asked for a better one.

It's all their hard work and their writing, I hardly touch it."



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