



Sold on the big revamp

By **Ola Adeniran, 12, Rhasan Brunner, 14, & Ziyad Said-Wardell, 10**

This year work is due to start on a £8.9million revamp of Clissold Park.

The project includes the restoration of the Grade II listed Clissold House to its former 19th century glory. A section of the New River is also set to be extended through the park, the animal enclosure renovated, and a new play and sports area created.

We went to the park to find out what young people thought of the plans.

Although many of the young people we spoke to didn't know about the project, it didn't stop them liking the idea:

"It's fantastic news," said one girl. "Loads of people



come to this park," said another, "so they should enjoy it." We asked what



(L-R): Rhasan, Ziyad & Ola on assignment on Clissold Park

could be changed and most people agreed the river needed cleaning, including Talia, 13: "There's rats in it," she said.

"There's green stuff in it," said her friend Ayesha, 14. Lily, 12, agreed: "I think the ponds are lovely, but they get dirty and I think it would be

good if somehow all the water could be cleaned and filtered."

Everyone wanted their favourite parts of the park to remain unchanged. "I think the new playgrounds are really nice.

"All the animals and the green space area should stay the same," said Matt. Other people we met agreed. "I love the deer and all the other animals," said

an eight-year-old with his mum. Ayesha felt the play area needed redoing and the basketball court needed

Astroturf. But they both wanted to keep the fields and tennis courts as they are.

Overall everyone was excited about the 'new' park and so are we.

“ Loads of people come to this park, so they should enjoy it ”

MORE INFO

For project details visit: www.hackney.gov.uk/clissold-restoration-project.htm

My Opinion

Is there enough to keep you amused in Hackney?

By **Ola Adeniran, 12**

SOME young people in Hackney say they'd like more to do locally, but are



they aware of what's on their doorstep?

Why are some young people leaving the borough for their entertainment?

Some cite the fact there is only one cinema in

Hackney, The Rio, which 'mostly shows old or foreign films'. This results in young people having to go to Wood Green or Angel Vue to see films they want to watch.

Dowa, 18, from Hackney, said: "There's no local cinema, so I have



to go to Holloway in Islington." Other young people do not feel safe leaving their borough as they might not understand their surroundings as well.

Dowa added: "I think all the entertainment we have access to is too expensive which just puts us off. I normally go to Hackney Empire and Queensbridge sports centre."

Jamila, 14, agreed and

said: "I don't think Hackney youth clubs are really publicised anywhere. I think they should be promoted more."

However, Rhasan, 14, completely disagreed. He said: "I have enough to do because I go to different youth clubs. I also walk around, go to different places, explore, and take bus journeys.

"Hackney supplies enough leisure because there are many clubs and parks."

MORE INFO

Find something fun to do at: <http://www.hackney.gov.uk/whats-on-cyp.htm>

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