

# Dreaming of the high seas

By **Kamil Boriel, 13**

**A**S a young person, I have always had my ambitions and dreams.

When I first went on holiday, I thought I wanted to be the pilot of a plane, but that all changed when I went on my first cruise at the age of six.

Then I decided that I wanted to be the captain of a ship. For many years I searched for places I could go

to help with my dream. My teachers knew that I wanted to be a captain, so they asked me if I would like to join Clapton and Hackney Sea Cadets.

I was thrilled with the suggestion, and it has taken me many stepping-stones closer to where I want to go.

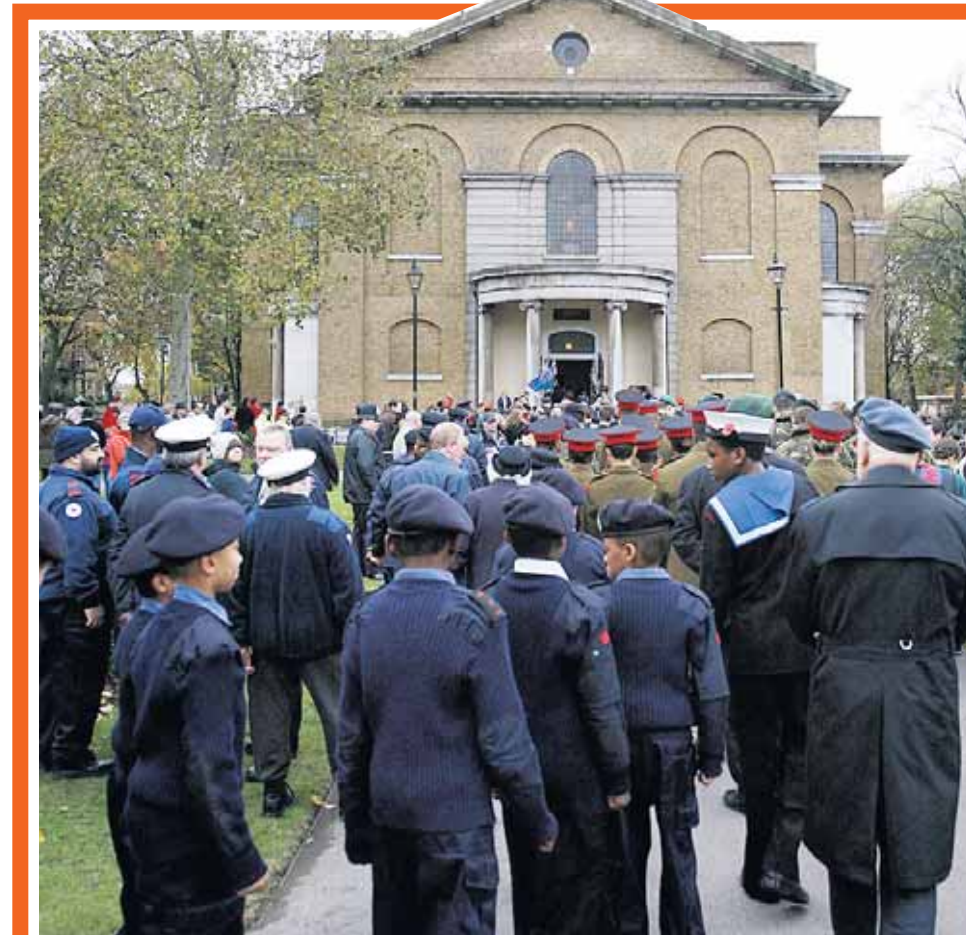
That happened seven months ago, and now I have achieved many more things, such as learning air rifle

techniques. I went to Enfield Sea Cadet Unit and trained with a lieutenant who gave me instructions on how to be accurate with my shooting.

At first it was really tricky because all my shots did not hit the target. But as they say, practice makes perfect.

My commanding officer sent me on my first weekend away to Plymouth. Not only did I participate in many activities, I came back to my unit with my head held high – I won Cadet of the Week for excelling in all my activities.

However, even though I have had great times, there are certain things that leave you with aches and pains. As I write this, I am recovering from a boating session I took part in last night. For a little guy like me, those oars are heavy! Not only that but we were also fighting against the wind, which



Kamil (left) dreams of becoming a sea captain, and (above) Hackney Sea Cadets on the way to take part in a Remembrance Sunday service last year



made our jobs a lot harder.

Although things can be challenging, I think Clapton and Hackney Sea Cadets is a good opportunity for young people to have fun and make friends. Like me you may find something that you enjoy – and maybe even a future career.



## My opinion

# Why not surprise yourself with a visit to the woods?

By **Saul Howard, 10**

**IN my area, my favourite place is the community woods in Hackney Wick.**

It looks like a small wood from the outside, but is like a tardis when you go into it because it is really big. At the entrance to the woods there are three big stones. In one stone there are

fake crystals stuck inside. In the second big stone there are veins of false silver. In the

third big stone there are veins of fools' gold.

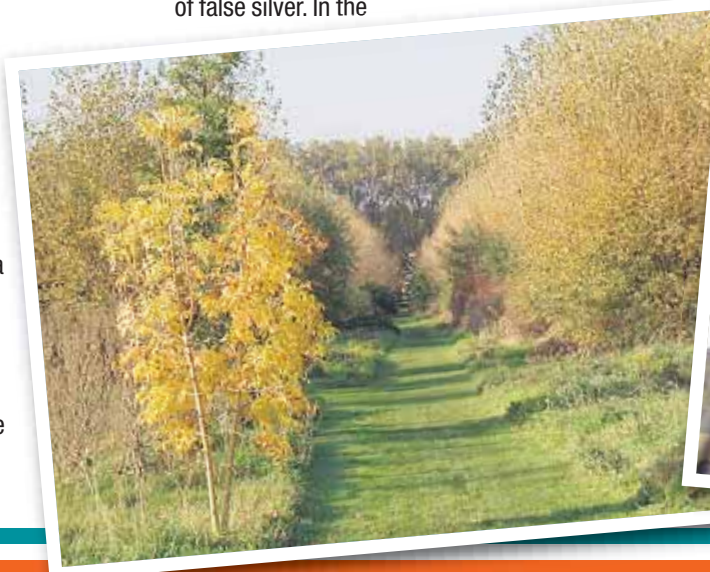
Wick Community Woods are connected to the marshes by an offshoot of the River Lee.

The marshes aren't really that marshy. At the weekend people can play football and rugby because there are football pitches and rugby pitches there.

At the opposite end of the marshes from my house

there are goal posts and a bunch of trees.

If you go through the trees there is the main body of River Lee.



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