



## younghackney

Written by young people  
in Hackney

# Rocky road to stardom

By **Ola Adeniran, 12**

**Y**OUNG Hoxton musicians are hoping for great careers – and say the Spice Girls better watch out because the Rocky Body Builders are coming through.

The young musicians are part of BAM! for Teens

which is a music workshop for Special Needs teenagers and youths, and have started a band called the Rocky Body Builders. The band members say they will do anything to get to the top.

Paul, 15, the lead singer says “Next year we will practice for Britain’s Got Talent... we will get Geri to do for us what she did for the Spice Girls.”

Barry, 18, who’s the drummer, has already performed at the Hackney Empire, Hackney Tangle and the 02. He says, “I love to play music, listen to it and perform.”

The other band members are, Danny aged 14 on percussion and Saul aged 14 on drums. They all say



The band run through one of their songs at Hoxton Hall’s music studio

they would be ecstatic if they became even more successful.

The group was set up three years ago and Tina Pinder who now runs the group told us how it got started. “Most kids, teenagers in particular, seemed to have nowhere to go regularly where they

could learn how to play instruments, and so it was set up in response from calls from parents who were looking for a good musical activity for children with special needs.”

After the first year Tina set up her own small not-for-profit organisation called Kimnara Music, to

try to get ongoing funding for the group. It is currently funded by the Jack Petchey Foundation.

The young musicians meet every week to practice in Hoxton Hall music studio which has two drum-kits, electric and acoustic guitars, bass guitars, keyboards and microphones. At the end of every term there is a special performance. The group also makes their own CDs.

Barry joined the Rocky Body Builders three years ago and Paul joined the project last September. He wanted to learn skills that are part of his ambitions to be a famous singer.

I found their music surprising. I thought it was great and full of energy. It

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had a lot of charisma. I would have never expected it to be that good. Their music had personality and allures you to listen to more of it. It was truly amazing.

### MORE INFO

Call Kimnara Music on: **020 8985 8090** or e-mail: **kimnaramusic@yahoo.co.uk**

## My opinion

### When it’s good to live in a wild place

By **Rhasan Brunner, 13**

SOME people think Hackney is a wild place to live in. But there are places in Hackney where wildlife isn’t a bad thing.

I think Hackney is a cool place because of all the parks.

Clissold Park is magnificent because you get to see friendly, cute animals in the enclosure. When

I’m in Clissold Park it feels like I’m at

one with nature because of the green spaces, ponds and animals.

It’s a really interesting park to be in and holds events like Stokefest where there are lots of activities.

Other parks I find interesting

are parks like Hackney Downs and Butterfield Green.

Butterfield Green is a local park near my house and it’s really lovely because it’s been there longer than I’ve been around. There are birds like crows and pigeons. When I was a baby my parents took me there for walks. Every time I go to Butterfield Park I have good memories.

I sometimes go to Hackney Downs and used to go when I was a toddler. I used to think it was really unique because the playground was really good. It was busy with older and younger people as well as flies and wasps! I used to like the roundabout and the slides. It was a place where local children could meet.

Nearby Victoria Park is really spacious and has lots of greens, like the grass and trees. It also has a duck pond. It gives me a lot of happiness when I go there because I meet different people who are really

friendly and I can make friends. I also like it because it’s a great place to have a wonderful picnic or to just play and relax.

So if you like parks like these I strongly suggest you go and see all the great wildlife in Hackney.



### WHAT’S YOUR OPINION?

Or what issue do you want to discuss on this page? Let us know at: **htnews@hackney.gov.uk**



Ola interviews singer Paul during a break from rehearsal

