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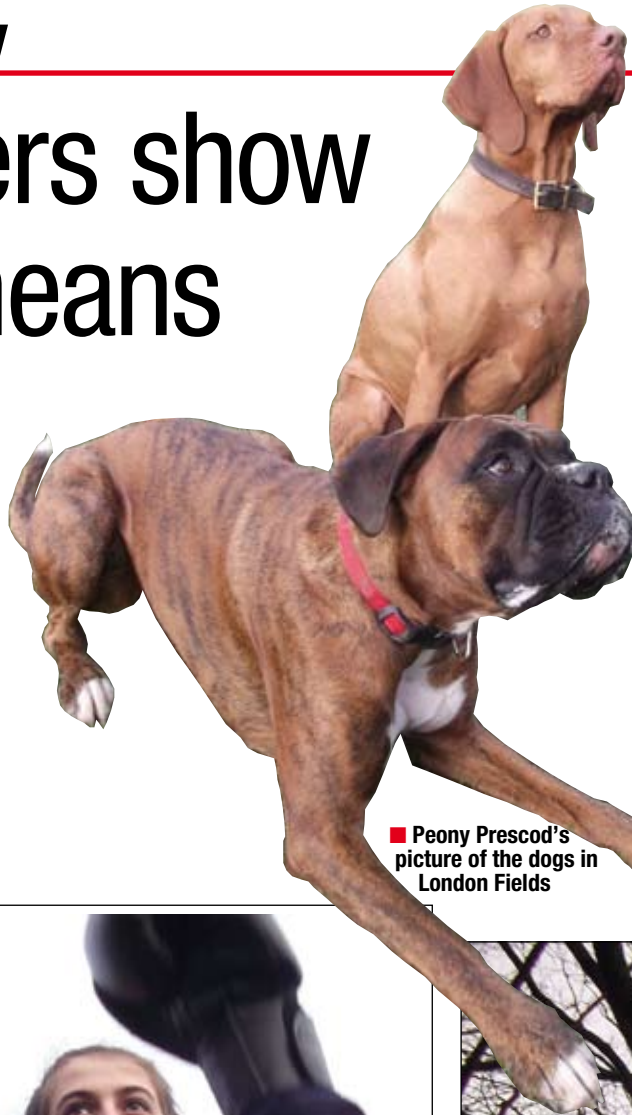
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Media Trust | Stories from the City

Academy youngsters show what our capital means to them in photos

London24 and the Media Trust have teamed up for Stories from the City – a project where young people from across the capital tell us about their London through pictures. This week, we show the work of four young people from Boxing Academy Hackney. The project is supported by media professional mentors, funded by The Jack Petchey Foundation.



■ Peony Prescod's picture of the dogs in London Fields



by Sarah Shaffi

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It may be cold outside, but the weather failed to stop a group of young people from Boxing Academy Hackney heading into the elements to capture images for Stories from the City.

Gulsum Hasan, Peony Prescod, Taylor Farrell and Tayo Ogbaro each came up with their own projects to show a glimpse of their London.

The group all go to Boxing Academy Hackney – an alternative to mainstream schooling – and Gulsum used the academy as her subject.

She said: “Boxing Academy is where I go to school, we do boxing lessons four times a week.

“Every time a student does something bad or misbehaves they are getting punished. Some of the punishments are doing push-ups (it can get up to 500), sparring with a pod leader, cleaning the gym after school or getting sent home.”

Peony went to Broadway Market and London Fields to take pictures of some of her favourite animals – dogs. She said: “I asked one of the owners a question: “What do you like best, your dog or diamonds?”

“She said her loving dog.

“Dogs can be comforting and this shows that they can also keep you active and fit.

“But there is also a down side to owning dogs, for ex-

Acknowledgements

Stories from the City was run by London24 and the Media Trust.

Media Trust believes in the power of media to change lives and runs a number of youth media projects that provide disadvantaged young people with training, mentoring and the opportunity to get their voices heard. For more information visit www.mediatruster.org.

The Jack Petchey Foundation gives grants to programmes and projects that benefit young people aged 11-25. The foundation exists to raise the aspirations of young people, to help them take advantage of opportunities and play a full part in society. Visit www.jackpetcheyfoundation.org.uk



Department for Education

Funding came from the Department for Education through the Improving Outcomes for Children, Young People and Families Fund.



■ Gulsum Hasan tries to improve her boxing skills as a student of the academy



■ Tayo Ogbaro's image of bare branches in London Fields

Taylor focussed on food and culture, and said: “My pictures show restaurants, shop keepers and their owners after the breakfast rush.

“Broadway Market and Hackney in general has a

vast variety of food and culture from across the world.

“One of these business – H. Tidiman Butchers and poultryers – is a traditional butchers where people go to get their meat for breakfast and

Sunday roasts.”

Freezing temperatures provided the stunning scenes in photographs by Tayo Ogbaro, who went to London Fields to take his snaps.

He said: “My pictures show

that Hackney hasn't escaped the freezing temperatures.

“In London Fields Park a frozen pond showed how winter had arrived and the tree needed a coat in the arctic weather conditions.

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■ Students Tayo, Gulsum and Peony doing push-ups holding on to weights in the Boxing Academy gym



■ Taylor Farrell focussed on shops and shopkeepers in Hackney, a hotbed of varied cuisines and cultures

“A touch of frost had hit the leaves as they were scattered across the park after they had fallen. “Elsewhere in the park bare branches did not look

inviting. The grey sky in the background shows that winter is surely upon us.” The group from Boxing Academy Hackney were mentored by photographers Giul-

ietta Verdon Roe and Greg White, and London24 reporter Luke Jacobs, and advised by trainer Jenny Matthews. ■ For more of their photos see www.london24.com.

Help is at your fingertips...

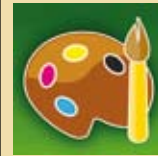
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» LONDON24 Reader review



■ Carom offered tasty food and great service, says reader Espindula Theodosiou

Reader Dalilia Espindula Theodosiou won a meal for two at pan-Indian restaurant Carom in Soho through London24. Here, she shares her experience.

My husband and I are big fans of Indian food, so we couldn't wait to try the offering at Carom.

The menu is inspired by Indian street food and varied regional influences of India.

We had a three course meal from their set menu. There are three options of starters, main courses and

desserts, including vegetarian options.

We had an early dinner, as we were aware that the restaurant would get quite busy in the evening.

They have a two hour turn-round policy on Saturdays, but the time was more than enough to enjoy our meal without having to rush.

It was our first visit to Carom, I loved the idea of having a candlelight dinner in one of their booths. It felt quite private and intimate.

As a main course, my hubby and I ordered the

same dish, tandoor grilled chicken breast with garlic and black pepper marinade. We usually order different dishes when we go out, so we can try each other's, but there was no way I would share mine with him this time.

Overall, we thoroughly enjoyed our meal, it was very tasty and full of flavour, and the staff were friendly and helpful. We look forward to going back.

Thank you very much to Carom and London24 for this wonderful dining experience!