



Is the beast of Hackney Marshes?

## The showmen will be appearing

of beast like the fabled Sasquatch.

But let's not suspend all reasoning. What next? The Upper Clapton Unicorn, the Green Lanes Griffin or the Dalston Junction Jabberwocky?

Whatever the university student saw, or thinks she saw, there is a rational explanation.

I suggest a simple case of misidentification. That part of the Marshes is popular with dog walkers.

Something which could easily be mistaken for the

large black hairy animal of the kind described could be a Newfoundland dog which are enormous. Less plausible, but still a possibility, is its a hoaxer dressed in a costume.

Disappointingly there is no Yeti-like creature roaming the Marshes. However, wait a few weeks when "abominable showmen" aplenty will be making a racket at the BBC Radio One pop festival on the Hackney Marshes.

Keith Brookman  
by email

community such as libraries and local further education colleges.

With the prospect of such scant resources, the centre will rely more on a professionally supervised volunteer army of local residents and enthusiastic law students as interns to help keep things going.

Law centres challenge the system by which people face a huge financial barrier to obtain justice. We hope to continue that challenge.

Find out more by contacting us on 020 8985 5236 or at [www.hclc.org.uk](http://www.hclc.org.uk)

Ian Rathbone,  
Chair, Hackney  
Community Law Centre

## » Cycling Two-way traffic return needed

I sympathise with Bruce Spenser's annoyance at people cycling on the pavement in Stoke Newington (Letters, *Gazette*, May 10). The cure, however, is not to taser people but to reintroduce two-way traffic, as 70 per cent of locals agreed in last year's consultation.

Trevor Parsons  
London Cycling  
Campaign in Hackney

pitches known as the Arena Fields.

A fine legacy for footballers and cricketers I must say, but to compensate for that I suppose we will have a massive costly stadium for which a few elitist sports people can use.

Johnnie Walker  
Chairman of the  
Hackney & Leyton  
Football League

## » Campaign Law centre bid to boost its profile

Hackney Community Law Centre has been part of Hackney for more than 40 years. But its existence is now threatened with a 60 per cent cut in our income in 2013 with the government's abolition effectively of legal aid.

We exist to help poor and vulnerable access the justice system. But will we be able to continue to do so?

We have taken on 52 per cent more cases than last year in housing, welfare benefits and debt. This trend is growing ever upwards and the number of vulnerable and desperate people seeking our help will only rise further.

We have decided to raise our profile in the community – popularising the concept of the law centre.

Funded by the London Legal Support Trust, a charity that supports law centres, along with funding received from the London Borough of Hackney, we have appointed a development worker to do the things that our hard-pressed solicitors and caseworkers do not have time to do – run fundraising campaigns, and reach out to potential new supporters.

And we plan to launch Community Law Shops across Hackney, taking our services out to visible places in the Hackney

## » Worry Just don't print Tory's letter

Why not do Christopher Sills a favour (A British Solution in a City's hands, *Gazette*, May 3) and not print his letters?

All they do is give us something to laugh at, whilst worrying that he might get re-elected somewhere, sometime!

Tom Uprichard  
by email

■ Correction: In the letter (Sexist to label Sex workers as vice girls, *Gazette*, May 10) the sentence: "Is he to be described as a "vice boy" and infanticided and denigrated" should have read "infantilised".

