

SKY HIGH
DOZENS OF HOT AIR
BALLOONS TAKE OFF

See page 3



TOP COPPER
TRIPLE JUMP VET
WINS GOLD

See page 6



FEEL THE FORCE
STAR WARS ACTOR
POPS IN

See page 3



Lewisham & Catford News Shopper

newsshopper.co.uk

June 22, 2016

60p

REPORTER

HELEN CORBETT

helen.corbett@
london.newsquest.co.uk

A HITHER Green mum is calling for Mayor of London Sadiq Khan to start an inquiry into the impact of pollution on child asthma after her nine-year-old daughter died from an extreme attack.

Rosamund Kissi-Debrah and her daughter Ella were living close to the busy South Circular Road when she suddenly developed severe asthma three months before her seventh birthday.

The attacks were so severe that Ella ended up in intensive care at Lewisham Hospital five times.

Ms Kissi-Debrah says her daughter was fighting fit most of the time and continued swimming, dancing and playing football – but on February 15, 2013, she was rushed to hospital, where she died following an asthma attack and a seizure.

She told News Shopper: “Her final attack didn’t seem worse than attacks she had had before when she went to hospital – it came as such a shock.

“At the inquest they said that airborne triggers played a role.

“Where we live there is evidence of the pollution, evidence linking it to asthma.”

An air quality report “buried” by former mayor Boris Johnson, which was leaked last month, showed eight primary schools in nearby Greenwich borough were in areas with “illegal” levels of air pollution in 2010.

Haimo Primary School in Eltham was one of them, and is less than three miles from Ella’s home in Hither Green.

The most affected school in Greenwich according to the report was Invicta Primary school, which had nitrogen dioxide levels of 46.61, breaking the EU limit of 40 micrograms per cubic metre of air.

By 2015, the levels of nitrogen dioxide around all but one of the eight schools had dropped below the EU guidelines, with all of the primaries predicted to be under the limit by 2020.

Human rights lawyer Jocelyn Cockburn, from the firm Hodge Jones & Allen, is working with Ms Kissi-Debrah to secure a second inquest and push for an independ-

● Appeal to Mayor Sadiq over pollution levels after daughter dies of asthma attack

WE NEED ANSWERS

ent inquiry into the effect of pollution on Ella’s health.

She is looking into whether the government and the mayor of London are in breach of Article 2 of the European Convention on Human Rights – which protects the right to life.

She said: “Rosamund needs answers. The coroner’s court isn’t looking into this.

“We would say this is a breach of investigative duty under the human rights act and that they need to investigate immediately the im-

pact of pollution on Ella’s life with a view to putting in place steps to protect life. It is shocking that such a dangerous health impact is so overlooked.”

Ms Kissi-Debrah added: “I can’t sit here and boldly make a claim that pollution caused this but someone needs to look into it.”

The pair are looking for other similar cases in the area where people have been affected by pollution and they want to look into the Mayor of London’s plans for an ultra-low emissions zone in

Lewisham.

The Mayor of London, Sadiq Khan, said: “I would like to extend my condolences to Ella’s friends and family, whose death is truly tragic.

“I am determined to get to grips with air quality – something that has not been a high enough priority until now.

“I was elected with a mandate to tackle London’s dangerously polluted air and make sure that breathing clean air is a right, not a privilege.”



Rosamund Kissi-Debrah with Ella

THE HEATHERS

RESIDENTIAL HOME FOR THE ELDERLY

- Beautiful victorian house with mature gardens
- Family run for over 30 years
- Excellent home cooking
- Full activity programme
- Elderly frail & EMI
- Lift to all floors
- En-suite rooms

Book a free trial:
020 8460 6555
www.theheathers.co.uk

Beautifully Fitted Bathrooms At Discounted Prices..

DESIGN • SUPPLY • FIT

SBS SIMPLY BATHROOM SOLUTIONS | www.simplyps.co.uk
0208 697 7123
455-457 Downham Way, Bromley, Kent BR1 5HS

BUY ANY MAIN GET THE SECOND FREE!
MONDAY - THURSDAY

CITRUS
INDIAN RESTAURANT
Burst Your Senses

BANQUETING
EVERY WEDNESDAY £12.95

10% OFF ON DELIVERY ORDERS OVER £20
FREE DELIVERY ON ORDERS OVER £15

13 Lingfield Cresent, Falconwood,
London SE9 2RL **020 8850 3179**

NEWLY OPENED