

# Lap dancer murder: court

TWO men, including one from Hackney, denied murdering teenage lap dancer Adele Hamilton when they appeared at the Old Bailey this week.

Miss Hamilton, 18, had been dead for two weeks when her body was found by her father, Michael, bound and gagged with tape, at her home on the Wood Vale estate in Forest Hill, south-east London.

The teenager, who had been suffocated in the bathroom, had last been seen by a taxi driver as she left the Spearmint Rhino club in

Slough, Berkshire, where she worked. Her body was found in July last year.

Yesterday (Wednesday) Rohan Howell, 24, of the Beechholme estate in Prout Road, Upper Clapton, and Paul Edwards, 32, denied murdering Miss Hamilton and planning to steal from her when they appeared before Judge Graham Boal

Both men spoke only to confirm their names and enter not guilty pleas to charges of murder and conspiracy to rob.

A third defendant, Miss Hamil-

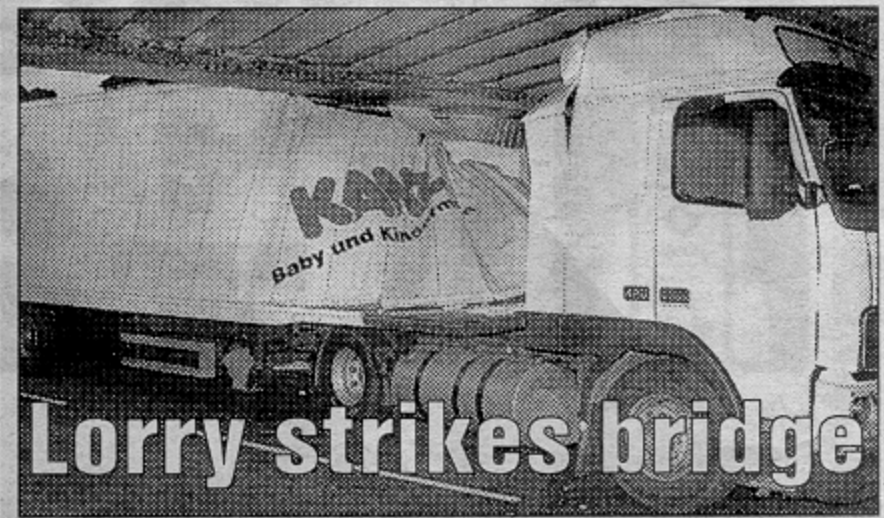
ton's neighbour, Crystal Whilby, 19, is also charged with the killing, but was not in court for this week's hearing.

Whilby, who does not face a murder charge, has entered not guilty pleas to manslaughter and conspiracy to rob.

The three had allegedly plotted to rob Miss Hamilton of £40,000 in cash.

Howell and Edwards, of no fixed abode, were remanded in custody.

● A trial date has been set for September 30.



## Lorry strikes bridge

CRUNCH! The driver of this truck had an unscheduled stop in Hackney after his articulated lorry became wedged under the rail bridge in Kenworthy Road, Homerton, during Tuesday night's

rush hour. The driver of the German-registered Volvo Artic wasn't injured in the smash, but it took salvage crews four hours and special equipment to free the mangled wreckage of the trailer

# Jews blamed in latest attack on synagogue

**A HACKNEY synagogue has been daubed with the Star of David in a hate attack - prompting fears that the vandals responsible are neighbouring Jews.**

Monday night's attack on the Alkham Road synagogue in Stoke Newington was the second on a Hackney synagogue in a fortnight.

The Finsbury Park synagogue in Green Lanes was daubed with a swastika after vandals broke in and wreaked havoc on April 27.

Police say the two attacks are not linked, but in the wake of the latest incident they are investigating the possibility that political Jews in Stamford Hill are terrorising religious Jews on their own doorstep.

Frightened residents claim militants in the Jewish community have been terrorising

## Rabbis threatened by telephone calls

by STEPHANIE CONDRON

rabbis with phone calls and threatening to burn down their homes.

One rabbi woke on Tuesday morning to find vandals had daubed his home and his car with a Star of David - a symbol of Judaism - in an attack which mirrored that on the Alkham Road synagogue.

The synagogue is popular with anti-Zionists who are against the idea of a state of Israel and disagree with battles over territory in the Middle East.

The rabbi uses the synagogue and also belongs to a group, Neturei Karta, which staged a public burn-

ing of the Israeli flag in Stamford Hill.

He was with a 40-strong party from Hackney who were in Trafalgar Square on Monday campaigning AGAINST the 40,000-strong pro-Israeli protest taking place there.

The rabbi fears for his family's safety and does not want to be named. He says he has been receiving threatening phone calls for the past two months.

"We have had a number of threatening phonecalls," he says. "What they say is amazing - 'You will be burnt; your house will be burnt; we will destroy your house'."

lished that the phone calls were made locally.

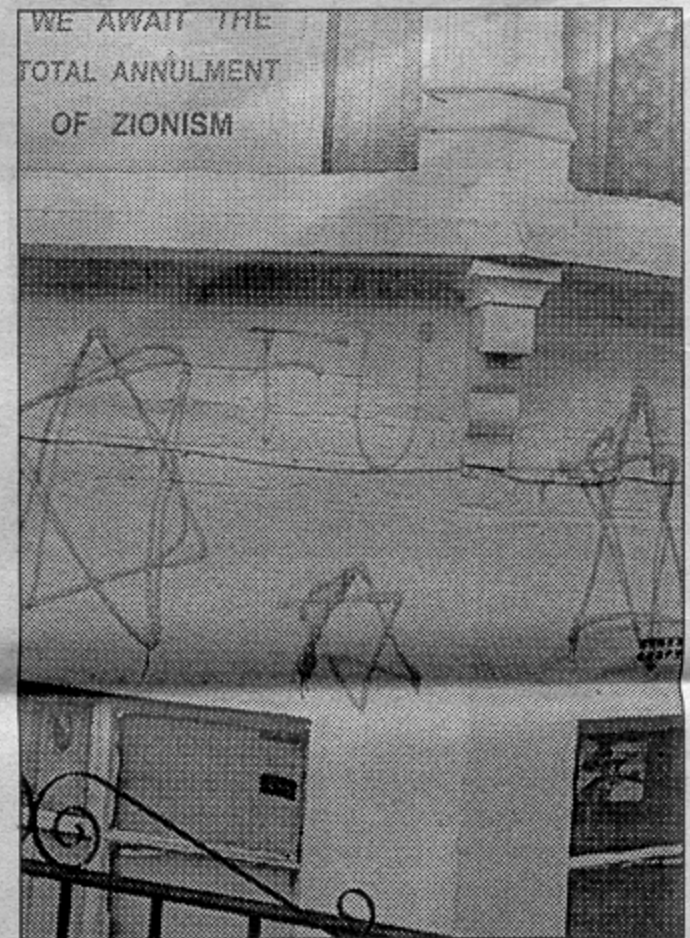
They are investigating the possibility that whoever is behind the phone calls is also behind the attack.

"We do not believe this second attack is linked to the first," says Det Chief Insp Trevor Smith, of Hackney police.

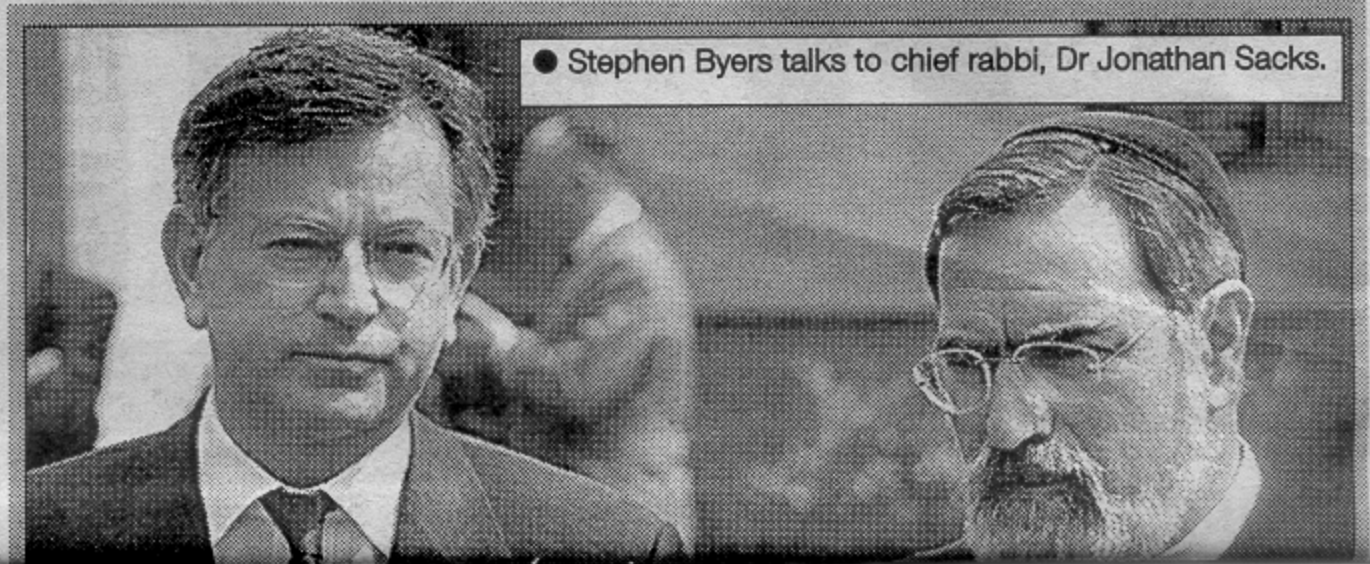
"We believe it may well be linked to rival factions within the Jewish community."

Police have yet to charge anyone over the first attack on the Finsbury Park synagogue.

Anyone with information can contact Hackney police on 020 7275 3673.



● The graffiti on the Alkham Road synagogue.



● Stephen Byers talks to chief rabbi, Dr Jonathan Sacks.