MORE than 500 young performers from

festival in Finsbury. LSO St Luke's in

Old Street is the venue for the Music

for Youth Regional Festival on March

Twenty-two groups, including choirs

from Islington's Copenhagen Primary

School, St Joan of Arc Primary School

and Elizabeth Garrett Anderson School

will perform at the festival. It is one of

59 Music for Youth events across the

country involving 40,000 young

music festival.

musicians, singers and dancers -

making it the world's largest youth

across London will take part in a

**Estate** 

### GISLINGTON LEGE







## **NERS ESCAPE** RESTAURA

dive for cover when a car rammed into a restaurant doorway as they were

The car had roared the wrong The driver then reversed and hit Mr Neggatu believes the way down Seven Sisters Road, the outside of the restaurant for a horrifying ordeal will driver

charlotte.tamvakis@archant.co.uk

olloway, before mounting the second time, before speeding at customers and staff away.

outside at the time or getting ready to go out. I've never seen such a

and the staff as well, they

see such a thing they wil not come back. We've never had this kind of have been here for 10 years. We have never had

call the police." Fortunately no-one was jured in the incident it detectives are anxiou speak to more

Police Constable Andy Williams said: "Luckily i was quiet at that time of night because driving th reet is extremely

TURN TO PAGE 3

He drove at very high



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# GARDEN 'VANDALS' ARE BLOOMING



■ THE concrete strip before it was tackled by the guerrilla all soup."

He added: "What we're doing is in November last year.

by GEMMA BRIGGS

gardeners GUERRILLA operating under the cover of darkness have illegally turned an abandoned strip of land into a blooming oasis.

A dozen volunteer green-fingered "vandals", aged between nine and 40, took to the streets armed with trowels and spades.

Their mission was to transform a grey and unloved stretch pavement in Regan Way, Hoxton, with yukka plants and lavender.

A nature-loving resident, who vearned for more plants to care for than he could fit in his own tiny garden, called in the gardeners.

But they had to be quick - strictly speaking the operation on February 21 at 8pm was illegal.

Richard Reynolds, who runs the Guerrilla Gardening website, said: "I think it went well. It was quick and colourful. The residents said they couldn't remember when there were last flowers there. One lady cooked us



■ RICHARD Reynolds and guerrilla gardener volunteers tackle Regan Way in **Picture: Dieter Perry** the dark

vandalism. We're not asking for permission but no-one's ever complained. Some councils have even secretly given us money after we've done it."

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Mr Reynolds, by day a freelance advertising planner who lives at the Elephant and Castle, set up his website www.guerrillagardening.org two years ago. The project relies on donations but Mr Reynolds added: "It's about people doing it themselves. People should think 'here's a patch of grubby mud outside my house, why don't I do something about it?'

"I was doing it myself round my tower block. I wanted to share with more people what I was doing."

Guerrilla gardeners also planted 100 red tulip bulbs in Manor House, Finsbury Park,

### A GANG of destructive teenage vobs have found a new way to torment residents - ripping out their intercoms so people have no way of ringing on their doors.

In the last two weeks four intercoms have been torn from the wall in Theseus House, Theseus Walk, Islington.

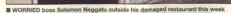
Residents say one has not yet been repaired despite worried calls about the wellbeing of an elderly man living there.

Pat Briggs, who lives in the flats, said: "They take the screws out and pull the whole intercom right out of the wall.

"They've tried to fix our intercom twice now but it still doesn't work."

Doug Goldring, Homes for Islington's director of operations, said: "Our outof-hours team has been present on the estate and a letter is going out to residents encouraging them to help tackle anti-social behaviour by reporting it to us if they are aware of it.

"Workmen have been out to assess the intercom and we expect to have it fixed soon."



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