

Cops quiz teen after murder outside top night spot

By Chris Britcher

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A MURDER probe has been launched after a 25-year-old man was subjected to an unprovoked attack outside a late night venue as he stood with friends.

Hours later he was pronounced dead as a result of the attack.

Richard Collier, a former student at the Harvey Grammar School in Folkestone, had been standing with friends outside the Kabuki bar in Marine Gardens, Margate, in the early hours of Saturday morning when he was approached and seriously assaulted.

The group had been out in Margate during the evening.

He was rushed to the Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Hospital, but died as a result

of his injuries that afternoon.

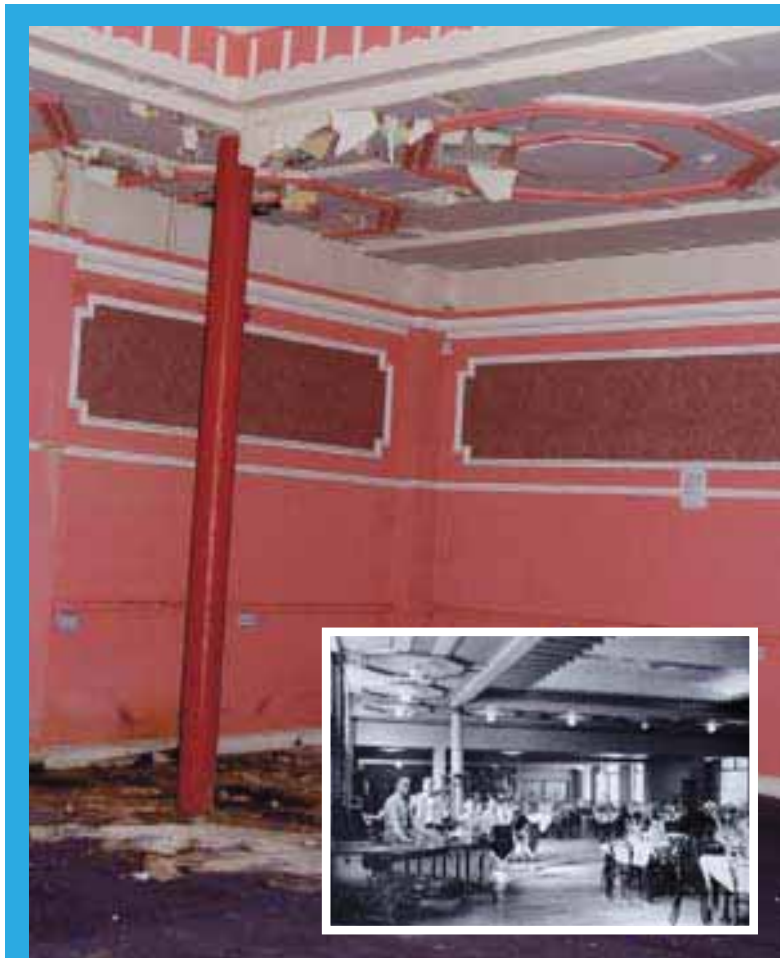
On Monday, a 19-year-old walked into Margate police station and was arrested. At the time of publication, he was continuing to be questioned by officers.

Police say there could have been as many as 40 people in the vicinity of the attack, and are appealing for anyone who believes they may have seen anything to help the enquiry to get in touch urgently.

Det Chief Insp Rob Vinson, who is leading the investigation, said: "The victim had been out with friends in Margate during the evening and at around 2am was standing outside Kabuki when he was approached and seriously assaulted."

"At this stage it appears to be

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Restoring Dreamland

FULL STORY - SEE INSIDE

POLITICS

Minister pays visit to Turner

COALITION Government minister Ed Vaizey was in town last week to visit Margate's Turner Contemporary.

The Minister for Culture, Communications and the Creative Industries, joined a forum to discuss the wider impact of the gallery on the town and the region. **PAGE 3**

CRIME

Duo in money launder case

TWO men have been found guilty of laundering the proceeds from a bogus electronics company which swindled more than 3,000 people out of more than £200,000.

The men, both from Ramsgate, used their bank accounts to transfer the ill-gotten gains. **PAGE 3**

PLANNING

Club tweaks ground plans

MARGATE Football Club has submitted a revised plan for a new stand at its Hartsdown Park ground.

The Ryman Premier League outfit amended previously approved planning permission by Thanet District Council in 2006. The new building plans are smaller. **PAGE 3**

COMMUNITY

Play park boost as equipment is installed at Pegwell Park

THOUSANDS of pounds worth of improvements have been made to a play area in Ramsgate.

New play equipment has been installed in Pegwell Park to enhance the area's appeal to youngsters.

Features include a play unit that includes towers, bridges, ropes, slides, a basket swing and bench seating. It is all built upon a safety surface of environ-

mentally-friendly wood peelings.

The £18,000 to equip the play area came through community funding from Kent County Council, which the Pegwell and District Association was able to access via their local member, John Kirby.

Match funding came from Thanet District Council, which purchased the equipment and gave technical advice

on the scheme, while volunteers from Pfizer also helped out with installation of the equipment and other improvement work on the site.

Cllr Kirby, member for Ramsgate for Kent County Council, said: "This is a wonderful example of the whole community working together, with the local association, Kent County Council, Thanet District Council and volunteers

from Pfizer all playing a part in helping to create this play area.

"In particular, I'd like to thank the volunteers who undertook this work in their own time, which will bring a lasting benefit for the whole community. Already, local mums have told us how much they appreciate this project and I'm sure the youngsters are going to appreciate it as well."

TRANSPORT

Freedom bus pass petition

MORE than 10,000 people have signed an online petition calling for transport chiefs to extend the popular Freedom bus pass scheme to sixth-form students. Costing £100 a year, it is currently only available to 11-16-year olds. **PAGE 2**

CINEMA

Work gets under way on major overhaul at Dreamland Cinema

By Chris Britcher

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URGENT repair work on the Dreamland Cinema building is now under way in a bid to repair damage to the listed building.

The work comes hot on the heels of a compulsory purchase order served on the previous owners of the site, the Margate Town Centre Regeneration Company.

Repairs are being carried out on behalf of Thanet District Council, after a series of Urgent Works Notices were served on the owners of the building earlier this year.

Leader of the council, Cllr Bob Bayford, said: "It is absolutely tragic to see the sad state that the Dreamland Cinema building is in today. It's a beautiful building and one that has rightly been given Grade-II* listed status.

"Photographs of the building in the heyday highlight just how important it was to Margate. We need to ensure that it is preserved for future generations and sadly the current owners have taken no such action to do this.

"Regrettably, today when you visit the building, you're more likely to find leaking roofs and bird mess than the sumptuous interiors that once greeted people. This can't be allowed to continue."

Grade II* status is only granted to

around five per cent of the UK's listed buildings, and denotes particularly important buildings of more than special interest.

The work is expected to be complete by October 2011. Money from the Sea Change Fund is paying for the work to be carried out, with the aim of then working to reclaim the cost from the owners of the site.

The required work includes a full electrical inspection, new lighting throughout, new heating system, repairing and replacing the roofs, refurbish or replacing windows and doors and removing all pigeon fouling and debris.

The Dreamland cinema building was opened in 1935 and contained a 2,200 seat cinema, ballroom, restaurants and lounges.

However, the roof of the cinema has been leaking, leading to damage in the cinema, bingo hall and amusement arcade. Additionally, a burst water pipe in the tea bar of the bingo hall caused further damage to the building.

The council is working in partnership with the Dreamland Trust to create a world first for the site, an amusement park of thrilling historic rides. The project has already received funding from the council, Department for Culture, Media and Sport and the Heritage Lottery Fund.



NEW LIFE: Dreamland Cinema is now undergoing restoration work

MURDER

Witnesses sought to deadly assault

Continued from front page

a completely unprovoked attack.

"There were some 30-40 people in the area at the time. Although many may not have been aware of the attack until afterwards, we would like to hear from anyone who may have information."

It is not believed any weapons were used in the assault or that there was a fight.

Hundreds of friends have already signed an online memorial page set up on social networking site Facebook.

Anyone with information should call police on 01622 690690 or Crimestoppers, anonymously, on 0800 555111.

POLITICS

Minister visits the Turner gallery

ED Vaizey MP, Minister for Culture, Communications and the Creative Industries, paid a special visit to the Turner Contemporary in Margate on Friday. At the gallery the Conservative politician met with gallery staff and joined a forum of representatives from regional government, arts, tourism and business to gather a range of perspectives on the importance of the gallery to the town and the wider region. He then travelled to Folkestone to see it launch its Triennial arts event which began that day.

FOOTBALL GROUND

Club revises stand plans for stadium

MARGATE Football Club has submitted a revised plan for a new stand at its Hartsdown Park ground.

The Ryman Premier League club amended previously approved planning permission by Thanet District Council in 2006.

The original application was for a football stadium, 80 bedroom hotel, fitness club, children's club and play area, theme bar, conference and banqueting suites, hospitality boxes, a boardroom, 10 five-a-side and one full size all-weather pitch, along with parking spaces.

The five-a-side pitches have since been built, although work has not started on the rest of the development.

The application, from Hartsdown Properties Ltd, is for a smaller main stand, which would also house the hotel and a range of community facilities. The latest proposals reduce both the width and depth of the building.

Details of the application are available on the council's website using UK Planning under reference number 11/0428.

The plans can also be viewed at Thanet's Gateway Plus in Cecil Street, Margate. The deadline for comments to is July 8, 2011 and comments should be sent to planning.services@thanet.gov.uk

The council's planning committee will consider the plans at its August meeting.

FRAUD

Money laundering scam lands duo with two-year prison term

TWO men have been found guilty of laundering proceeds from a bogus electronics company which swindled more than 3,000 people out of more than £200,000.

Restaurant owners Demis James Farley, 29, of Whitehall Road and Marco Caracciolo, 38 of West Cliff Road, both in Ramsgate, were found guilty of 14 charges of money laundering at Lewes Crown Court and sentenced to two years in jail. They had both denied their guilt.

The website claimed to be that of an electronics company named Zavvi Direct in Old Steine, Brighton. Between May 29 and June 18, 2008, it took orders from customers for electronics gear such as games consoles and laptops. The company has no connection with the legitimate Zavvi.com business.

When police probed the firm they discovered the name Zavvi Direct had been registered by a Paul Clayton from Hove. A bank account had also been opened using the same details. But when Mr Clayton was found, it was discovered his identity had been stolen, most likely from the theft of his mail.

The Abbey account of Zavvi Direct was examined and it was seen that in June 2008 three transfers totalling £74,472 were debited from



NOT SO ZAVVI: Duo were caught after laundering money from a fake electronics company through their own firms' bank accounts

it and transferred to an account belonging to a company named Rosy Importers Ltd, the directors of which were Farley and Caracciolo.

Three transfers totalling £69,000 were then made from the account of Rosy Importers and credited to the account of Rosaria Ltd. The company directors of Rosaria Ltd were also Farley and Caracciolo.

Six cash withdrawals were then made of £10,000 each time from this account by way of cheques made out by Demis Farley. A further £5,000 and £2,000 were also withdrawn.

In November 2008, Farley and Caracciolo were arrested and interviewed and their involvement in the case established.

Detective Constable Nigel Tillings

said: "Others directly involved in this and other similar frauds rely on people such as these defendants to launder the money obtained from their crimes to try and give it an air of legitimacy.

"We were unable to uncover sufficient evidence in this particular investigation to identify the main offenders but we hope this sentence will send a message to anyone tempted to allow their bank accounts to be used by others in return for a small payment, that it is not worth it. They may or may not get away with it but you won't."

Both men were also served with a confiscation order under the Proceeds of Crime Act (POCA) for £74,472, split equally between them.

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