

'Lost' artworks found in Streatham

A STASH of old drawings, apparently the work of a 'lost' child prodigy, was discovered this week in Streatham.

The tragic life and work of 13-year-old Gravesend native Naomi Jelish is prominently featured in Charles Saatchi's gallery at County Hall.

The Saatchi exhibition, organised by leading Jelish expert John Ivesmail, details the sad events of the youngster's life leading up to the mysterious disappearance of Naomi and her family over a decade ago.

It features artworks and memorabilia belonging to the young artist that critics and spectators have labelled 'amazing'.

Olive and Jim Nash of local company Nash Antiques visited the

EXCLUSIVE
by ELVIN SHAJOMI

gallery last week and were shocked to find that some of the work on show bore an uncanny resemblance to a drawing they had on their living room wall.

Olive Nash said, "We saw the (Saatchi) exhibition and both mentioned that (Naomi's) name sounded familiar."

"When we got home we realised why it was so familiar!"

Jim Nash added, "We have so many pictures on our wall at home but the drawing of a flower is one of Olive's favourites so it stuck in her mind. To think we've had it there for so long

without knowing who it was by and what the story behind it was."

The couple also discovered a folder full of drawings by the child prodigy. Despite the find, Mr. Nash has no idea where the folder came from.

"As antique dealers we have things coming in and out all the time so it's not uncommon for us to have things around for years without realising. It just makes you wonder what else we might have buried under the boxes and papers."

The South London Press contacted the Rifleman Gallery in London, leading experts and representatives of the Naomi Jelish body of work.

A gallery spokesman said, "This is quite a find and these drawings indeed bear all the markings of being

work by Naomi."

"Many of the drawings contradict some of Mr. Ivesmail's conclusions regarding the life and work of Miss Jelish, so we'll be taking a closer look and see about the possibility of creating an exhibition from this recovered collection."

The Saatchi Gallery refused to comment.

Do you have any of Naomi Jelish's artwork?

Write to South London Press,
2-4 Leigham Court Road,
Streatham, SW16 2PD
Or email
letters@slp.co.uk

South London Press

Win tickets
to THE
SPORT SHOW



20 pairs up
for grabs.
See Friday's



Sleep-in at the ice rink

STREATHAM: Ice skaters staged a sleep-in at the Streatham High Road rink on Friday to try to secure the future of a popular leisure venue. The group Skaters 4 The Hub argue that the multi-million pound Streatham Hub regeneration programme has been held up for too long. The plan, led by Tesco, includes an ice rink, swimming pool, supermarket and 250 flats. Lambeth council gave the development planning permission in March last year but it was overturned the following month by Ken Livingstone who said he was not satisfied there was secure funding to replace the facilities.

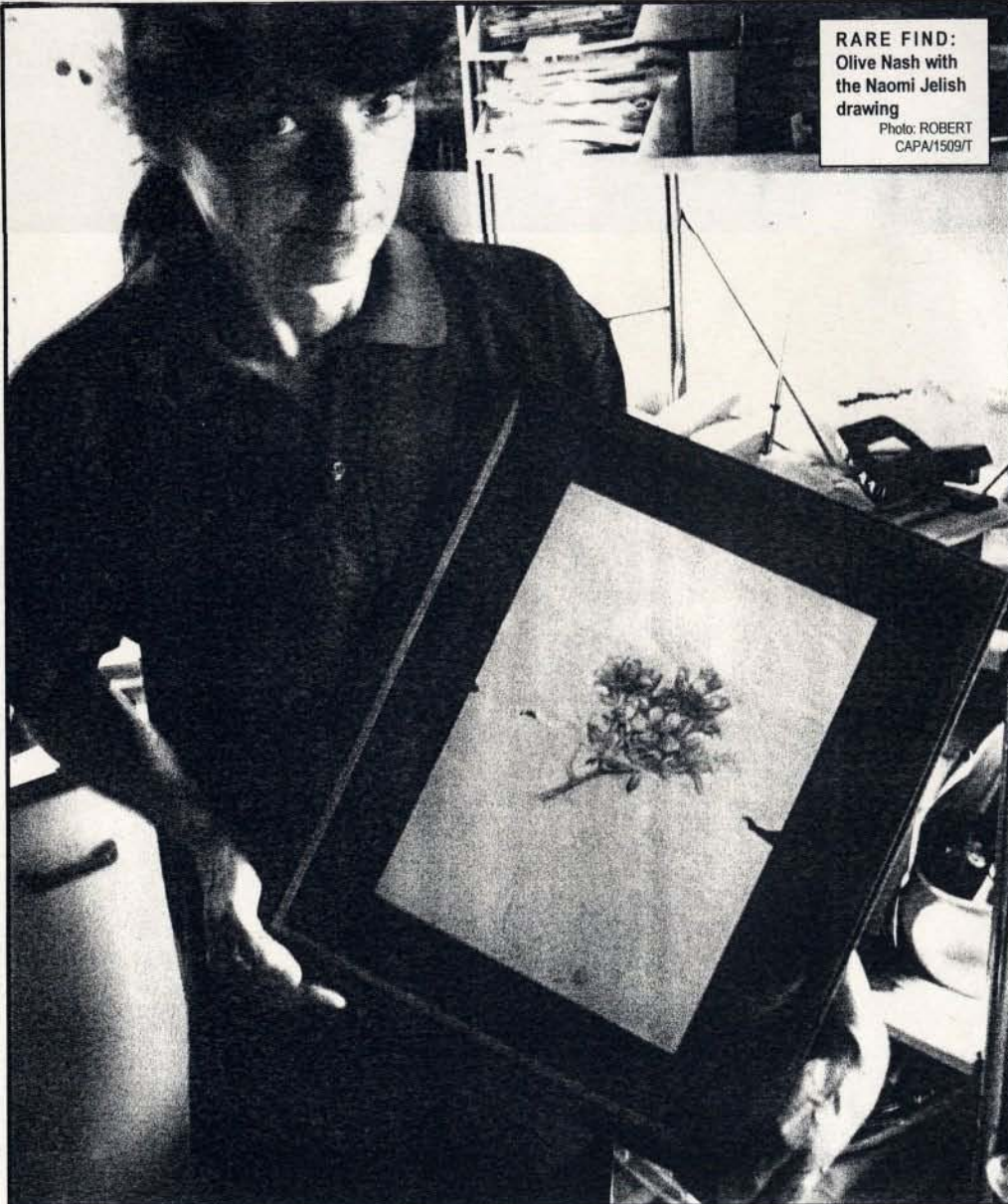
Towering battle ends

A LEGAL battle over plans to build on a prime riverside spot overlooking Tower Bridge draws to a close on Friday.

A Government inspector is set to decide whether Berkeley Homes can build eight towers on part of the Potters Field site. Southwark council opposes the plans saying the development is unsuitable for such a sensitive central London site. But Berkeley successfully called for a public inquiry, saying the council failed to make a decision on the plans in the given time. Once the inquiry is concluded on Friday, the inspector will make his decision within weeks.

RARE FIND:
Olive Nash with
the Naomi Jelish
drawing

Photo: ROBERT
CAPA/1509/IT



EST 1981
SupaGlazing
LIMITED



DON'T JUST GLAZE IT...

SUPAGLAZE IT



Showroom: 13 Lowfield Street, Dartford, Kent
Factory Units: 9 and 10 Deacon Trading Centre, Knight Road, Strood, Kent.

SUPA WINDOW OFFER

7 WHITE uPVC WINDOWS

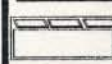
NOW £1,940

OFFERS ENDS
15th June
2004

+ £339.50 VAT
includes
fitting &
guarantee

Includes Energy Saving Glass

ANY SIZE - AS MANY OPENERS AS REQUIRED



20% Off All Conservatories
Offer Extended to
15th June 2004



SWANLEY 01322 667521

Medway: 01634 826238 Dartford 01322 290525

www.supaglazing.com