

Fight for Peace ABC



THE Fight for Peace initiative actually began in Brazil a decade ago in one of Rio de Janeiro's dangerous *favelas* or slums. In 2000 Luke Dowdney set up a programme to confront youth participation in crime, gangs and gun violence within disadvantaged communities, combining education and personal development with training and competition in boxing and martial arts.

In 2007 a Fight for Peace branch, following the same model, was set up

in east London. As well as this positive social work the club still aims to be successful competitively. The club hosted its first show on May 28, at its headquarters in North Woolwich. 14 bouts were held, involving local clubs, with three Fight for Peace boxers participating - Claudio Lopes, Khalid Hakimi and Ryan Walker [pictured]. All three won.

A 'Luta' clothing brand has even started up, which shares its profits with Fight for Peace.