Innocent teen killed in crossfire

Grassy Park police are on the hunt for a group of heartless skollies who gunned down an innocent 15-year-old boy on Friday, leaving him to die in the street.

Heartbroken relatives of Shahied Abels say they watched in disbelief as paramedics declared him dead after he was shot four times in the crossfire of rival gangs in Frank Way. According to a police source, members of the Mongrels and Yuru Cats gangs are behind the shooting on Friday which saw a frenzy of messages flood social media as Ottery residents warned Capetonians to stay out of the area.

Shahied's relative, who asked not to be named, says the Grade 7 pupil from Stephen Road Primary School had gone to the shop to buy chips shortly after 10pm. "The school had a concert on Friday and his 12-year-old sister was performing. So he walked with us to go and get her to make sure she was safe and he just came in the house. He wanted chips and walked to the shop just around the corner and that is when he was shot. They shot him in the chest, arm and leg."

SAPS' André Traut says: "On Friday at around 10.20pm, a 15-year-old boy was shot and killed in Frank Way Ottery by an unknown suspect who is yet to be arrested. The circumstances are being investigated". Shahied's janaazah was held the next day and he was laid to rest at Klip Road Cemetery. On Sunday residents continued to gather at his home to sympathise with the family.

Relatives described the teen as a child who spent most of his time at home. "He was going to high school next year and he loved to build things with wood and so on," says his relative. "We enrolled him at the Mitchells Plain School of Skills because that is where he wanted to go."

Grassy Park cops urge witnesses to step forward and identify the shooters. Anyone with information is asked to call Detective Sergeant Hakiem Abrahams on 082 302 3776.