



SAFEGUARDING LONDON'S CHILDREN

Speaker profiles - plenaries

.....

Commander Rod Jarman

Commander Rod Jarman is a senior officer within the Metropolitan Police Service with specific responsibilities for eight North West Link Boroughs, Stop and Search, Safer Neighbourhoods to name but a few.

Rod has had a varied policing career to date, having spent time on response teams, the Territorial Support Group, public order, a trainer at the Management and Development school, specialising in Leadership training, sector policing and Borough Liaison Officer. Rod became the Borough Commander in Southwark in 1999. During this time he led the community and long-term response to the murder of Damilola Taylor; a number of multi-agency initiatives tackling hate crime; supporting young people [receiving national awards]; and developed for the MPS a range of policing initiatives focusing on call handling, detection of crime and intelligence. On leaving the Borough he was awarded a civic award for his contribution to Community and Race Relations.

In March 2003 Rod was appointed to the Diversity Directorate. In this role, he had lead responsibility for the MPS response to Race Hate Crime and Domestic Violence. In October 2004 Rod successfully completed a Strategic Command Course, and was promoted to the role of Commander. His first role was to lead a team working to AC Browne to review the structures, processes and approach by the MPS to make recommendations to improve Effectiveness and Efficiency. These recommendations and the service review were the basis of the Met Modernisation programme affecting all parts of the MPS.

Since October 2005 Commander Jarman has been the Commander for NW London in Territorial Policing during which time he has led on Immigration policy, Turkish and Kurdish organised crime and TP Diversity. He is currently the MPS lead for Safer Neighbourhoods, including Front Counters project, Youth, Stop and Search and Volunteers and the ACPO lead for Mental Health and Disability.

Tink Palmer

Tink Palmer is the Director of Stop it Now UK & Ireland. She has been in social work practice since 1973 and gained her professional qualifications in 1975. She has worked with children and their families for the past thirty three years. In the past twenty years she has specialised in child sexual abuse and is an experienced clinical and forensic practitioner, manager, policy maker and strategist. She has written widely on issues pertaining to the sexual abuse of children, including children abused via the new technologies, and is a member of various government committees and steering groups. She is a board member of the Internet Watch Foundation, Chair of the ECPAT Board of Trustees, a member of the Home Office Task Force for Internet Safety, the Government's Sexual Violence Stakeholder Advisory Group and of the Home Office Steering group for Vulnerable and Intimidated Witnesses, including Children. Tink is also a specialist advisor to the Victims of Violence and Abuse Programme which is a Department of Health initiative directed by Professor Catherine Itzin.



Ferzanna Riley

Ferzanna Riley was born in Pakistan and brought up in Lancashire where she attended a sixth form convent. Having studied journalism for two years, she did work experience on the Ealing Gazette and Harrow Observer before returning to university to do a law degree in London and studied Public and International Law at Copenhagen Business School in Denmark. Following major heart surgery in 2002, Ferzanna has now become a full time writer, campaigner, broadcaster and after dinner speaker.

Ferzanna's debut book, *Unbroken Spirit* which details her harrowing early life, has generated enormous media interest, following serialisation in the Mail On Sunday. As author and campaigner, she has been in demand for interviews in newspapers, magazines and BBC and independent radio where she frequently participates in live phone in debates, being a repeat guest on the hugely popular James Whale TalkSport, Her television appearances include ITV's This Morning and Sky News.

Having suffered first hand experience, Ferzanna is at the forefront of raising awareness of 'honour crimes'. Outspoken and controversial, never fearing to say what others only dare to think, she is often called upon for her opinions upon subjects that range from Islam, school bullies to domestic violence, all of which she has first hand experience of and which she writes about in her book. Furthermore, as a female who converted from Islam to Christianity some years ago, her public opinions stir up both support and controversy from within the British Muslim communities

Emerging as the UK's foremost campaigner for ethnic victims of child abuse, Ferzanna is now a director and international representative of Roshni (Urdu meaning light) a charity that highlights abuse in all its forms within the ethnic minority communities (see www.roshni.co.uk)

James Kempton

James Kempton is Leader of Islington Council. Previously he served for six years as Deputy Leader and lead member for Children and Young People.

James has been a councillor since 1994, representing the area of Islington where both he and his mother were born. Now in his third career, as a full-time politician, James brings the senior management experience of having been Chief Executive of the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health. And after this he retrained to teach history, working in an East London comprehensive school.

James leads on education and children's services issues in London as Executive Member for Children and Young People for London Councils. He is also a governor of St Mary Magdalene Academy and a member of the London Child Poverty Commission.

Jeanette Pugh

Jeanette Pugh has worked for the Department for Children, Schools and Families / Department for Education and Skills / Department for Education and Employment since 1991 following an earlier career in academic research. Since June 2006, she has been Director of Safeguarding Group in Children and Families Directorate, having previously been Director of the Children's Workforce Unit.



Reverend Jean Bosco Kanyemesha

Jean Bosco Kanyemesha is a key minister in the Congolese Pastorship, which is helping to raise the standards of ministry in the Francophone churches. Pastor Jean sits on the board of Minority Ethnic Church Affairs (MECA, a Churches Together in England initiative), and is a member of the African Caribbean Evangelical Alliance.

Jean has a national diploma in mathematics and physics and a diploma in Bible studies, and is currently studying international development and NGO management at Degree level at the University of East London.

Founder and director of Action Mondiale Jeunesse Pour Christ (World Action Youth for Christ) in 1994 in Congo Kinshasa, Jean has worked in the evangelistic ministry for over eight years and is the senior pastor and founder of the London Fire Church International Fellowship, established in Walthamstow, London, in 2002. Born In Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of Congo, he was ordained into the Pentecostal church in 1996 and continued his work throughout southern Africa, mostly in Zambia and South Africa.

WAC Performing Arts and Media College

WAC Performing Arts and Media College provides training in the arts for children and young people up to the age of twenty-five. We also offer a range of career and personal development projects for the eighteen-plus age group. Based in London, we have a national and international reputation for our pioneering work.

A group for year 8, 9 and 10's who attend Junior WAC Drama classes on a Saturday chose to work together to devise a performance piece for the conference.

Their improvisations work has been based on the following storylines:

1. Looking at how one mobile phone could be the source of causing so many problems, when they are given to them by their parents in order that they may be kept informed of their whereabouts and in case of emergency.

In this case:

A group of young people mug another young person for their mobile phone. The dilemma a member of the group, with a guilty conscience has is; whether to persuade the group to give the phone back and take the consequences from the group or do nothing.

2. A young person is being bullied at school because they smell and are always wearing dirty clothes.

In this case:

It transpires that the young person takes on a great deal of responsibility at home and is suffering the effects of neglect by the adults at home who should be responsible for the child wellbeing.



DCI Gerry Campbell

DCI Gerry Campbell currently leads the Metropolitan Police Service's Violent Crime Directorate's Community Safety Unit Service Delivery and the Critical Incident Advisory Teams. He is responsible for Domestic Violence, Hate Crime and Critical Incident policy development, implementation & review. Gerry is also accountable for improving service delivery and performance outcomes at the front end across London's 32 Boroughs and manages high risk operations relating to these generic crime groups. Gerry is a qualified Senior Investigating Officer and a qualified Security Operations Security Coordinator. In addition he is also responsible for the strategic management & development of the MPS' 155 Lesbian Gay Bisexual & Transgender (LGBT) liaison officers.

He has 21 years police service, the vast of majority of which has been focussed on policing the diverse communities of Hackney, Stoke Newington, Waltham Forest, Barking & Dagenham, Newham and a 4-year posting to the Territorial Support Group. DCI Campbell has led a number of Community Safety Units and has a wealth of practical experience in risk management and working effectively with statutory & NGO partners committed to making a difference and saving women and children's lives.



Speaker profiles – seminars

.....

Seminar 1: Libby Fry, DCI Jonathan Wilson and Joan Semeonoff

Libby Fry is currently Assistant Director, Children's Services at Barnardo's London Sub Region and manages a range of children's services, including the north and south London child sexual exploitation services. Having qualified as a social worker in 1974, in the run up to the introduction of the Sex Discrimination Act, Libby has developed policy and practice to increase the safety of girls across a wide range of settings including managing estate based youth work; the London Gypsy and Traveller Unit and Barnardo's Young Women's Service.

Joan Semeonoff is the Children's Quality Assurance Manager for Croydon, and has held specialist child protection posts for nearly 25 years - Joan also has a long term interest in Sexual Exploitation. Croydon launched the London procedure for safeguarding children abused through sexual exploitation in 2004 but, although there was a lot of anecdotal evidence, there were still no referrals. In 2006, Joan personally invited referrals for planning and, with Barnardos' support, planned for 50 children in the first year. This effectively made the case for a specialist project, and the Police provided match funding for Croydon's Invest To Save bid.

DCI Jonathan Wilson is the Public Protection Manager at Croydon Police. He has been a police officer in the Metropolitan police for 19 years and has worked in Westminster, Lambeth and Croydon during that time. His responsibilities include:

- The highly successful Family Justice Unit, which consists of the police Community Safety Unit, investigating family violence and hate crime, and working closely with 38 other agencies in ensuring victims of family violence are provided with support and civil enforcement advice;
- The Sapphire Unit, which investigates sexual offences and rape;
- The CIPP team, which investigates violent offences and serious crime;
- The Vulnerable Person's Unit, which investigates child sexual exploitation, missing persons and manages data recorded of incidents which are adverse to the five outcomes of Every Child Matters.

Seminar 2a: Asha-Kin Duale and Georgette (Hala) Roro

Asha-Kin Duale is the Community Partnership Advisor for the LB Camden. The Borough is home of diverse and vibrant communities with about 42,250 children and young people living in Camden and apart from English more than 100 languages spoken in Camden schools (Camden Profile 2006). She is based at the Voluntary Action Camden, an umbrella organisation supporting more than 944 voluntary and community groups. Asha-Kin has studied Law in Somalia and in England and has practiced law in Somalia.

Georgette (Hala) Roro is the current Sudanese Youth Outreach Worker at the joint Pilot Project between the Sudanese Women's Association and Voluntary Action Camden. The project aims to raise awareness of the implications of running away and the advice and support services available to children. It also increases the understanding of Sudanese parents with regard to the issues involved in child protection e.g. parental responsibilities and rights. Georgette has studied English and Education Studies in Al- Mansoura University in Egypt. She has also obtained B Ed Honours Degree in Early Years and Primary Education from London Met University and has recently completed her PGCE in teaching in life long learning – Further adult and community education at Birkbeck College.



Seminar 2b: Rebecca Lythe and Habiba Hirsi

Rebecca Lythe is currently working as a Community Partnership Adviser for Islington Safeguarding Children Board. She is on secondment from the Education Welfare Service, where she had worked for six years. Prior to this, she worked as a clinical social worker at a residential treatment centre in Massachusetts, USA, and also worked at a children's home in Romania. Her previous UK experience has been as a therapeutic social worker based with Education Psychologists, and a drug and alcohol worker with the Probation Service.

Habiba Hirsi currently has a dual role, working as a Bilingual Community Officer in the Ethnic Minority Achievement Services CEA@Islington while also acting as a coordinator of an Islington Somali Women and Children organisation. Both of these roles involve a heavy degree of work with children and their parents, and Habiba has a great deal of experience of this type of community working.

Seminar 3: Claudette Malcolm and Arvinder Lall

Claudette Malcolm is a trainer for Barnardos providing training to social workers on the Northern Ireland Domestic Violence Risk Assessment Model. She qualified as a Social Worker in 1996 and has a number of years experience in working for children services in the area of child protection. As a qualified counsellor she also has extensive experience in working with Children and young people who have been sexually, physically and emotionally abused. Her past experience also involved training professionals in the voluntary sector and statutory sector.

Arvinder Lall currently works at Ashiana Network as a Community Outreach Worker, where she trains professionals on issues such as forced marriages, domestic violence and cultural and religious awareness. She works with young people by providing workshops and discussion groups on issues such as domestic violence, sexual health, discrimination and forced marriages, and also provides day-to-day advice and support for women experiencing domestic violence. Arvinder is multi-lingual and provides emotional and practical support to women who speak Punjabi, Hindi or Urdu, in their mother tongues. Arvinder is a BA graduate in Education and Maths, is IPD accredited in training and development, and has also studied counselling. As well as working in the domestic violence field for the last 8 years, Arvinder has worked in areas such as teaching, student advice and student support work.

Seminar 4: Philip Gilligan

Philip Gilligan is a Senior Lecturer in Social Work at the University of Bradford. He has 30 years post-qualifying experience as a social work practitioner, manager and educator, and has worked primarily in child and family social work settings in both the statutory and voluntary sectors.

Between 1996 and 2004, he was co-ordinator of Bradford Family Service Unit's Alma Street Project for children and young people who have been sexually abused. His research interests and publications include work on child sexual abuse and Asian communities; social work, religion and cultural competence; practice education; and the relationship between policy rhetoric and practice implementation.



Seminar 5: Gurjit Mann and Debbie Southwood

Gurjit Mann is a Senior Counsellor in Barnardo's Amazon project, a service for children and young people who have been sexually abused, and their families. Gurjit has been working with families for 32 years, and has been counselling children and young people who have been sexually abused since 1998. A Qualified Counsellor, Social Worker and Nursery Nurse, and a trainee hypnotherapist, Gurjit brings a wide range of approaches to the Counselling role. Part of Gurjit's remit within Amazon is to raise awareness of the issue of child sexual abuse with black and minority ethnic community groups in the Birmingham and Dudley areas.

Debbie Southwood has been with Barnardo's as the Children's Services Manager for Amazon Young People's Counselling Service since 1998. Debbie also manages Birmingham Space, working with children and young people abused through sexual exploitation, and SOFAH, a service for families affected by HIV. Debbie comes from a social work and team management background in Birmingham Local Authority children's and families teams, and prior to this, involvement in women's domestic abuse services in Australia.

Seminar 6a: Valerie Sinason

Valerie Sinason is an Adult Psychoanalyst and Child Psychotherapist, currently Director of the Clinic for Dissociative Studies. She is an Honorary Consultant psychotherapist to the Cape Town Child Guidance Clinic, University of Cape Town Psychology Department and External Consultant Supervisor to Respond. She specialises in disability, trauma and abuse and is regularly used as an expert in court cases.

She has written extensively on psychotherapy, disability and abuse, with over 70 published peer-reviewed papers, chapters and books. She is also a widely published and anthologised poet, with two full-length collections. She was a Consultant Child Psychotherapist at the Tavistock Clinic where she worked from 1987 to 1999, a Consultant Psychotherapist at both the Anna Freud and Portman Clinics from 1994-1997, and Consultant Research Psychotherapist / Psychoanalyst at St George's Hospital Medical School, University of London, Psychiatry of Disability Department from 1990-2006, and President of the Institute of Psychotherapy and Disability.

Seminar 6b: Dr Tara Weeramanthri

Dr Tara Weeramanthri is a consultant child and adolescent psychiatrist and family therapist working in the South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust. She leads a specialist CAMHS service in Southwark for child sexual abuse and for child on child abuse and also works in a generic service for children with complex problems. She has been involved in research on the treatment of children and young people who have been sexually abused and is interested in how research findings can be translated into effective practice. She is a member of Southwark Safeguarding Children Board.