

# 25 Bedford Row Gang Crime Symposium



Arlette Piercy

Kathryn Arnot Drummond

- There are estimated to be in excess of 250 street gangs operating in London.
- Between April 2013 and April 2014, there were 52 fatal stabbings in London with over 3000 knife related injuries.
- Between July 2013 and July 2014, there were 536 gun related crimes in London.
- Each gang comprises its own hierarchy of members, associates and affiliates.
- Increasing numbers of youths (both male and female) are becoming involved in gang related offending.
- Why do these often vulnerable groups involve themselves with known offenders?
- **Are they naive, do they hunt glory or are they so disillusioned by the establishment that safety comes from a known threat?**

## Evidence often relied upon by the Prosecution to demonstrate gang membership / affiliation

- Association with co-defendants / 'known gang members'
  - BBM / SMS
  - Social media
  - Photographs
  - Music videos / Lyrics
  - Street Names
  - Cell site of phones
  - Friends / Girlfriends in common
  - Geography of homes / Schools
  - Tattoos / Clothing / Insignia (opinions of police officers)
  - Previous convictions
  - Stop and Search records

# Cases

1. R v Lewis & Others [2014] EWCA 48
1. R v Elliot [2010] EWCA Crim 2378
1. R v Saleem [2007] Crim 1923
2. R v Twist [2011] 2 Cr App R 17
1. R v Braithwaite [2010] 2 Cr App R 18

# R v Lewis & Others [2014] EWCA Crim 48

- Judge must consider whether the evidence of membership or association with a 'gang':
  - a) is relevant to an important matter in issue between a defendant and the prosecution;
  - b) is proper evidence of the existence and nature of the gang;
  - c) shows that the defendant is a member of, or is associated with, a gang which has links with firearms or exhibits violence or hostility towards the police;
- a) would have such an adverse effect on the fairness of the trial that it ought to be excluded, *R. v Smith (Dean Martin)*, [2009] 1 Cr. App. R. 36 and *R. v Elliott (Nathan)* [2010] EWCA Crim 2378 followed.



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# R v Elliot [2010] EWCA Crim 2378

- In relation to the existence and criminal activities, territories and insignia of the relevant gangs, the evidence of a Trident officer had been properly admitted as expert evidence.
- Multiple hearsay was admitted as evidence of gang association. The DC referred to a letter to the accused which he had seen in a search but had not been seized. He stated that it *"made reference to the fact that when the PYG were in HMYOI Feltham they ran the wing. However now that he is in Reading, he's not having so much control of his surroundings."*

# Signs and Insignia

- “DC Whiteway gave evidence that the PYG was a violent gang whose members would use firearms if they thought it necessary. As to the latter, DC Whiteway gave evidence that a **black and white bandana** was an emblem of membership of the PYG.
- He also gave evidence that another indication of such membership was the **forming of a letter “P” which the thumb and first two fingers.**”

# SN1

www.trendstarclothing.co.uk/sn1-wear/mens/clothes/

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**SN1 Wear - Menswear**



SN1 Wear clothing formed from the UK rap group SN1, this brand was thrust into the limelight by being worn by the groups co founder and rapper Giggs.  
Frequently searched words/phrases: urban apparel, street wear, london fashion, SN1, Clothes, gigs clothing, trendy clothing, Wear,

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LDN by ENDZ clothing Patrick Kevin PXL Clothing Rico and Aurora

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SCREENFACE Shining Heroes

**Mens (7 Items)** **Womens (0 Items)**



SN1 Wear Monsta Man T-shirt  
£27.99 ~~£30.00~~



SN1 Wear Mens Navy Polo Shirt  
£34.99 ~~£40.00~~



SN1 Wear Let Em Av It T-shirt  
£21.99 ~~£24.99~~







Tulisa does 'C' for Camden Gangs?



Danny Haynes does 'P' for Peckham Gangs?



# R v Saleem [2007] Crim 1923

- The photographs and rap lyrics evidence were relevant to rebutting the case of **innocent presence** put forward by S, however the rap lyrics were **not sufficiently connected in order "to do with the alleged facts of the offence"** under **s.98** of the 2003 Act, as there was insufficient connection in time with the facts of the offence due to the point in time they were written.

# Resources

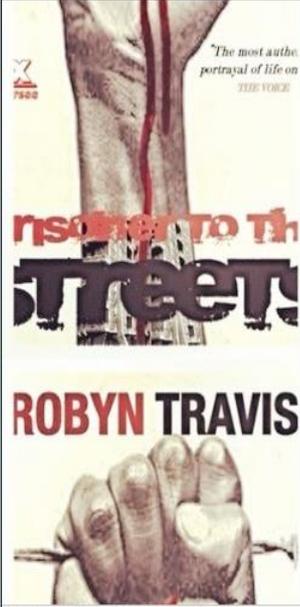
1. Proactive use of the prosecution tools:
  - a) Experts
  - b) Territory and Allegiances
  - c) Social Media and Rap Lyrics generally
  - d) Stop and Search
  
1. Examples:
  - a) [www.LondonStreetGangs.blogspot.co.uk](http://www.LondonStreetGangs.blogspot.co.uk)
  - b) [www.urbandictionary.com](http://www.urbandictionary.com)
  - c) Experts

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This blog is to capture all articles relating to good work including initiatives and successes with regards to gangs (predominantly in London), but also good news stories involving young people more generally.

If you have a good news story or something positive to promote please get in touch at londonstreetgangs@googlemail.com



Thursday, 10 October 2013

### Another Miscarriage Of Justice In The Case Of Asher & Lewis Johnson

From JENGBA (Joint Enterprise, Not Guilty By Association) - see more at <http://jengba.blogspot.co.uk/>

"Five charged with stabbing a suspected gangster, Thomas Cudjoe, to death in the garage forecourt of the Shell petrol station in Ley St, Ilford."

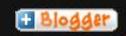
On the evening of Friday November 2nd 2012 Asher Johnson (aged 24) attended an old neighbour's birthday party in Ley St, Ilford.

During that evening Asher decided to meet up with a couple of friends in the Bell pub for a couple of drinks before his friend picked them up later in a car to go clubbing.

Asher Johnson's younger brother, Lewis Johnson (aged 21), arrived later at the pub on his own at 12pm and the idea was to have a few drinks, play pool and wait for their friend to arrive later.

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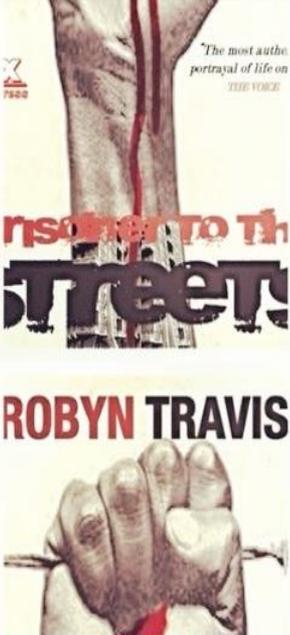
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### London Street Gangs

Pages in this section:

- East London
- North London
- North West London
- South London
- West London
- Inactive and Defunct (post 1950)
- Pre-1950 London Gangs

Please also see Defining Gangs page and Gang Maps.

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Albert Adison 25 March 2014 22:28

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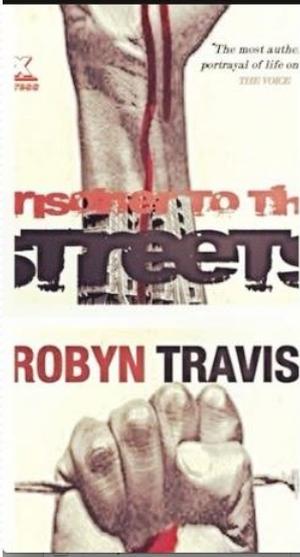
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Tuesday, 1 January 2013

### East London Gangs

Below is a list of gangs, crews, urban street collectives etc. from East London - last updated in mid-2012.

Please read the About Gangs pages in conjunction with these lists, weary of the fact 'Gangs' terminology is hugely ambiguous.

It is important to note that a wide ranging type of predominantly street gangs, or youth groups with collective identities, are listed within the site, some more serious than others. Of all groups listed that are currently active only 35% have been involved in rivalries which have resulted in murders. These gangs are located primarily in inner-city areas.

London Borough of Hackney  
(E2 / E5 / E8 / E9)

- 925/NTF
- A-Road / Evelyn Court Boys
- Certified Ballance Road

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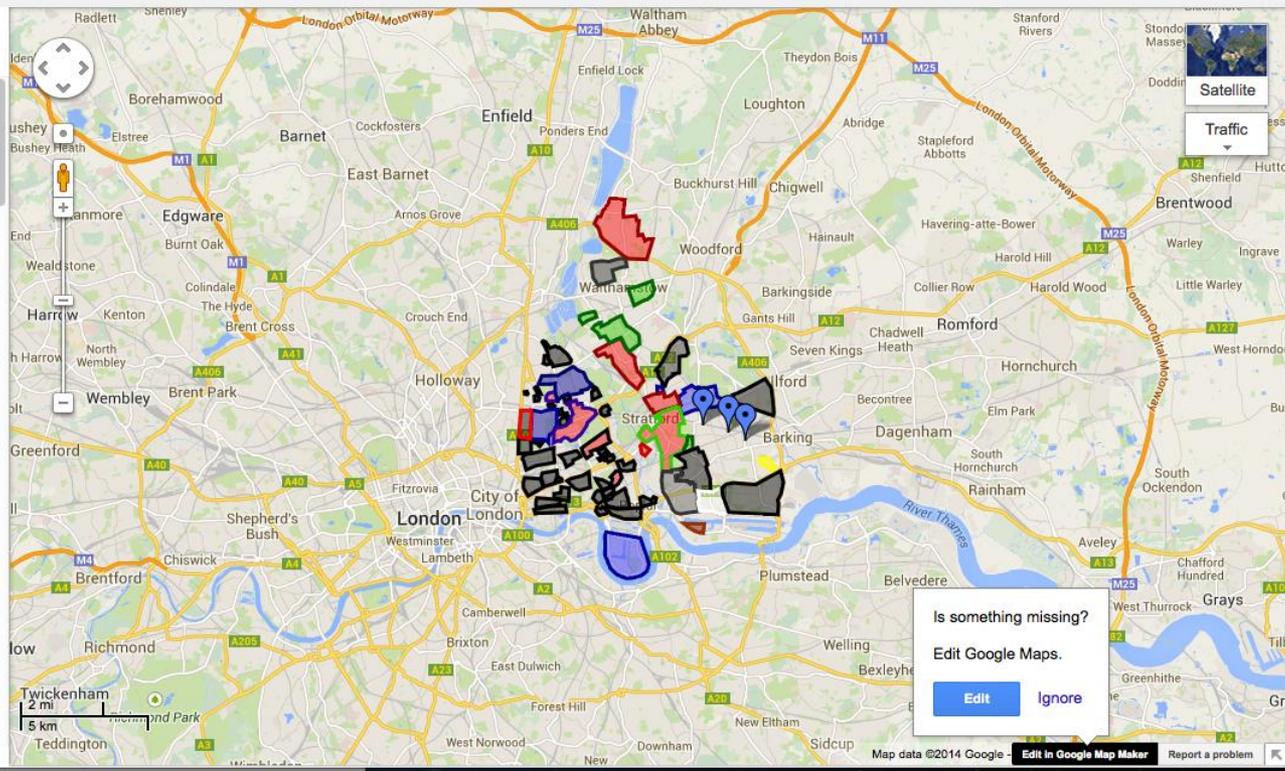
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### East London Gang Regions

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London Borough of Newham, Beckton E6
- Custom House White Gang**  
London Borough of Newham, Custom House E16
- Grey Town**  
London Borough of Newham, Canning Town E16
- Plaistow Mandem**  
London Borough of Newham, Plaistow E13
- Chadd Green**  
London Borough of Newham, Plaistow E13
- Stratford Mandem**  
London Borough of Newham, Stratford E15
- Maryland Bloods**  
London Borough of Newham, Stratford E15 (M15)
- E7 Crips**  
London Borough of Newham, Forest Gate E7
- Abbey Lane**  
London Borough of Newham, Stratford E15
- Yellow Gang**  
London Borough of Newham, East Ham E6
- Manor Park Squad / Robbery City**  
London Borough of Newham, Manor Park E12
- Thatched House Thugs**



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- E5TH Rydaz (Square Blockz)**  
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- Springfield - Southwood**  
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- 925 / 9T05 (Ballance / Homerton / Kingshold)**  
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London Borough of Hackney, Hackney E5
- Holly Street Boys**  
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- London Field Boys**  
London Borough of Hackney, London Fields E8
- Hindle House Thugs**  
London Borough of Hackney, Dalston E8
- Evelyn Court**  
London Borough of Hackney, Hackney Downs E5
- Mountford**  
London Borough of Hackney, Dalston E8
- A-Road**  
London Borough of Hackney, Hackney Downs E8 A-Road refers to Amhurst Road, and were closely allied with the Legends of Stoke

### Holly Street Boys

Last Updated by LSG on Jun 12, 2013

**London Borough of Hackney, Dalston E8**

Holly Street Boys versus London Fields Boys was the first "postcode war" of the new age. The book 'From the Street to Scotland Yard' traces the origins of the beef, written by Gwenton Sloley.

There are several murders which have been linked in the media, and by the police, to the Holly Street Boys and their rivals.

Current generations of young men in this area tend to be aligned with 925, Fellows Court and Hoxton, whilst the Fields Boys were the main rival area.

Historically, the original gangs/groups of the area were known as the Love of Money crew, there was also the Rowdy Bunch, Younger Rowdy Bunch and Yardie Bunch which preceded the Holly Street Boys.

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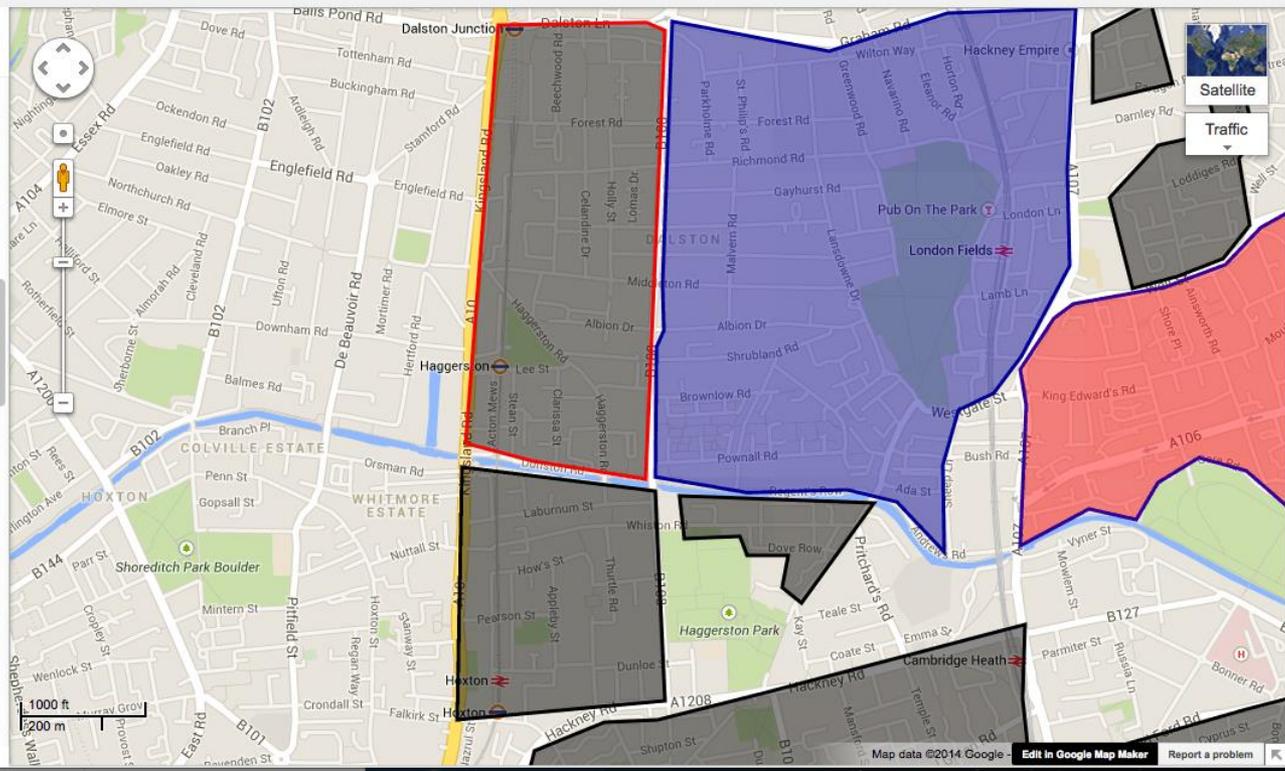


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# www.urbandictionary.com

- ting
- can mean a gun, knife, weed, coke, e's, crack, girl....
  
- ting
- Ting= West Indian/Carribbean way of saying thing and its also a carbonated grapefruit drink..
  
- tings
- Jamaican way of pronouncing "things"
  
- tings
- Jamaican term used for any erotic act which falls short of sex it self.
  
- ting
- a pretty girl
  
- ting
- a word that can replace a object, action or question



