

# THE LONDON ADVOCATE

The newsletter of the London Criminal Courts Solicitors' Association

NUMBER 83

SEPTEMBER 2017

In this month's newsletter:



**President's Report**



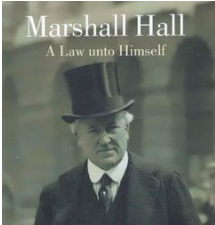
**LCCSA Notices and News**



**Sexual Offences Seminar 20/9/17**



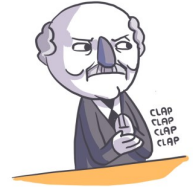
**LCCSA European Conference**



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A Law unto Himself**



**The Lammy Review**



**Extended Hours at Camberwell Green**

## President's Report



It has been a very busy Summer for the LCCSA President, Greg Powell. On 12<sup>th</sup> July he attended the Jubilee Room in Parliament to speak at the inaugural meeting of the All Parliamentary Committee on Legal Aid. The minutes of that meeting can be found here:

<https://www.lccsa.org.uk/minutes-from-the-appg-on-legal-aid/>

He spoke again in Committee Room 10, Parliament on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July for the Justice Gap meeting to launch their booklet.

Greg then attended a CPS Defence engagement meeting on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July at CPS HQ and the London Criminal Justice Board Committee (LCJB) meetings on 26<sup>th</sup> July and 24<sup>th</sup> August

On the 29<sup>th</sup> August he met the lawyer to the Justice Committee at Port Cullis House to explain some of the history and current landscape on Legal Aid. Greg is invited to a Ministry of Justice Open Justice round table meeting on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September details of which will be in the October newsletter.

## LCCSA Notices and News



### Committee Meetings:

Upcoming committee meetings are scheduled for 11 September 2017 and 9 October 2017. The venue is the offices of Kingsley Napley, meetings begin at 6.30pm and all members are welcome to attend.

### Consultations:

The Sentencing Council are currently consulting on Child Cruelty Offences and Manslaughter. Links to the consultation documents are here:

[https://www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Child-cruelty-consultation\\_FINAL\\_WEB.pdf](https://www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Child-cruelty-consultation_FINAL_WEB.pdf)

[https://www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Manslaughter\\_consultation\\_paper\\_Final-Web.pdf](https://www.sentencingcouncil.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/Manslaughter_consultation_paper_Final-Web.pdf)

### European Conference:

The 2017 conference will be held in Seville from 6—8 October 2017, more details can be found on page three of the newsletter .

### AGM:

The Association's 2017 annual general meeting will be held in November. All members are welcome to attend and details will be confirmed in the October newsletter.

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## **Training News:**

The LCCSA Training Officer, Diana Payne, has been busy organising a series of training events for the upcoming season.

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## **Sexual Offences Seminar: 20 September 2017**



The next training event will be a Sexual Offences Update presented by Aisling Byrnes of 25 Bedford Row. This will be a comprehensive update on the ever-evolving law and procedure relating to sexual offences presented with an emphasis on practical application.



Aisling is top ranked in the legal directories and widely regarded as an expert in serious crime, particularly sexual offences, and is instructed by the country's leading solicitors.

This seminar will be held at 6pm on 20 September 2017 and is kindly hosted by Hodge Jones & Allen at their offices at 180 North Gower Street, NW1 2NB.

To book a place please email [saraboxer@aol.com](mailto:saraboxer@aol.com)

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## **Gypsy, Traveller and Roma children in the Criminal Justice System: 17 October 2017**

The LCCSA have been contacted by the Traveller Movement via Doughty Street chambers to promote their recent work highlighting the experience of Gypsy, Traveller and Roma children in the CJS.

Many will have noticed in the new Sentencing Council guideline: *Sentencing Children & Young People* there is specific provision for the courts to consider the experiences of black and minority ethnic children and young people. The work of the Traveller's Movement is to ensure this progressive step is extended to assist children from these groups as well.

A training event is planned for the 17th of October with further details and booking information to be circulated to members soon.

Further information about the work of the Traveller Movement can be found here:

<http://travellermovement.org.uk/>



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## **LCCSA European Conference: Seville 6—8 October 2017**



There are still a few places remaining for what promises to be a fantastic conference in Seville this October. Join us for two days of training from Professor David Ormerod and Garden Court Chambers and a chance to enjoy sun, sangria and maybe even some flamenco in the Andalusian capital. There will also be plenty of free time to explore the city's art, architecture and tapas bars.

The highlight of a break in Seville must be the city's fortified palace, the Real Alcazar. Originally built as a Moorish fort, its warren of tranquil courtyards and lush gardens may also be familiar to any Game of Thrones fans amongst us. After this meander through the cobbled streets of the old town to reach the largest wooden structure in the world, the Metropol Parasol or as locals know it 'Las Setas' (the mushrooms). If you've got an appetite for even more, the Bellas Artes Museum hosts works by Murillo, Velazquez, El Greco and Goya.

For those with epicurean appetites, Seville is also known for its 3000+ bars in which you can indulge in traditional Sevilliano tapas, craft beer & wine.

Flights are available with British Airways or Easyjet from London Gatwick and with Ryanair from London Stansted.

The conference price includes two nights bed & breakfast at the Hotel Melia Los Lebreros; pre-dinner drinks on the Friday evening followed by dinner at El Balcon, the restaurant of the famed Lonja del Barranco Market which highlights the best of Andalusian cuisine. This has been kindly sponsored by Forensic Equity Ltd.

On the Saturday evening we are set to enjoy a drinks party kindly sponsored by Garden Court Chambers.

To book a place please visit <https://www.lccsa.org.uk/events/european-conference-in-seville-on-friday-6th-october-sunday-8th-october-2017/>

**Forensic Equity**   
Safe in the knowledge



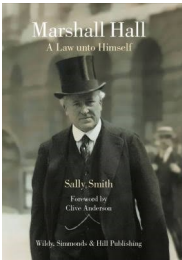
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## **Book Review: Marshall Hall: A Law unto Himself by Sally Smith QC**



In this recently published biography, Edward Marshall Hall is portrayed as both an expert orator, an expert in self-promotion and a tireless defender of the underdog. His dramatic style in court in some truly sensational trials led to him becoming an "A-lister" who was feted all over London society at the turn of the last century. Sally Smith, the author, was able to track down a number of private papers and correspondence from an estate sale along the 40 or so volumes of press cuttings kept by the man himself which provides an insightful and enjoyable read and a fascinating account of the criminal justice system and one of the most extraordinary characters within it.

Although Marshall Hall was in practice between 1882 and 1927, a slightly dispiriting theme running through the book is the parallels that can be drawn with the state of affairs of today's criminal justice system – descriptions of the accommodation at Court for defence lawyers and defendants alike being squalid; a paucity of defence funds meaning that the most disadvantaged in society had little chance standing up to a system weighted against them; the best and the brightest leaving criminal defence for more remunerative avenues of employment and their being little incentive for change in a system in which criminals and those tasked to defend were treated with contempt.

As observed by Clive Anderson writing the foreword to the book, Marshall Hall's was a fascinating life and career and there is much enjoyment to be had in this well-researched account of a bygone style of advocate and advocacy.

**Publisher: Wildy, Simmonds and Hill Publishing      Price: £25.00**

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## **The Lammy Review**



The LCCSA welcomes publication of the report by David Lammy MP into the treatment of, and outcomes for, Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic individuals in the Criminal Justice System

The Association had made submissions during the research process-see here:-

<https://www.lccsa.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Lammy-Review.pdf>

Our submission gave examples of Institutional Racism and we also highlighted the importance of a properly funded Legal Aid system to help tackle discrimination in the CJS.

We stand by our concluding submission *"The coherence of society depends on a general acceptance of fairness and trials justice applies to all. At this point The Lammy Review is an important step but it is our view that real resources need to be devoted to statistical analysis and a review of rights. That public expenditure in community resources needs rebalancing post-austerity to restore resources to the most disadvantaged communities. That concrete steps need to be taken to address diversity throughout the CJS and education and training re IR are priorities and IR should be addressed through sentencing guidelines"*

The LCCSA supports the recommendations within the Lammy report, and our members will continue the fight to try and ensure that the Justice system is fair to all.

The full review can be found here: [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/643001/lammy-review-final-report.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/643001/lammy-review-final-report.pdf)

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/643001/lammy-review-final-report.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/643001/lammy-review-final-report.pdf)

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## **Extended Hours at Camberwell Green by Bruce Reid**

**DJ Cutiepossum - Pass the Red Bull, someone? Please? How many more hours of this dross?**

**Marty Mole (List Caller) 15 more remands and there's a 2 hour trial starting at 7.00**

**DJC - That's your case isn't it Felix? I am giving an indication of sentence. Tell him it's unpaid work whatever the offence is, that's if it's a plea, but it's 4 months if I have to listen to him.....Felix? Felix?**

**Felix Mansfield - Sorry, dropped off a minute, it's Harold Hare, if he ever turns up I'll tell him.**

**DJC - He should do, most Defendants are nocturnal. I can always prove in absence - even quicker, but he will have to take his chances with DJ Cuddles when he surrenders.**

**Squirrel Nutkin - (yawning and shivering) No wonder I am cold, Tabitha Turtle has pinched the duvet again.....**

**FM - Makes a change from pinching your clients.....**

**SN - Shush Felix! if she's awake she's touting. Wait, who's that sitting over there with a messianic gleam in his eye?**

**FM - Some Meth-head from the Ministry of Truth - consulting with us on the forthcoming success of his reforms.**

**Oswald Orc - Let me introduce myself - Oswald Orc - I am looking forward to going forward....timely service delivery Partner engagement.....stakeholders.....teething troubles.....digital file-sharing on a cross agency basis.....utilisation of Court estate.....**

**Felix and Squirrel struggle through the gibberish for a couple of minutes but then unusually bother to take some instructions from their clients.**

**Enter Wilhelmina Weasel, holding twins clamped to each nipple and a laptop clenched between her teeth.**

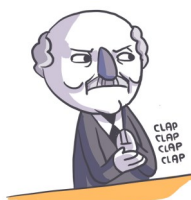
**OO - Can I help you Ma'am? HCMTS will always foster good relations between persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not, this includes tackling prejudice and promoting understanding. I can see that you have a protected characteristic of maternity. \*\*\***

**A pleasure to see that the Courts can accommodate those with caring responsibilities! We celebrate diversity!**

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**\*\*\* Anyone who doubts the realism of this dialogue is directed to here:**

**<https://insidehmcts.blog.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/171/2017/08/Flexible-Operating-Hours-Pilot-Equality-Statement-1.2.pdf>**





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## Extended Hours at Camberwell Green by Bruce Reid

**Felix gallantly removes the laptop from Wilhelmina's jaws so she can speak.**

**WW - (Removing a now squalling twin and giving her to Oswald ) Glad to hear it, you can start by changing the nappy on this one - she's a Lesbian. I've got Larry Lizard's Bad character application to oppose.**

**Selina Stoot (Prosecuting) Larry Lizard's PNC is in the wheelbarrow to the Court's right, Sir. The Crown say the 44 pages of it demonstrate propensity....**

**DJC - What's the charge?**

**SS - Inter Alia keeping a grubby kebab shop - Health and Safety.....**

**DJC - I can recite Larry's form better than the Lord's Prayer, that the one offence he's never been convicted of. Dismissed!**

**WW - Thank you Sir. (Takes the twin back from the queasy Oswald) Sorry about the tie! Should never have tried to wean her on apricot purée - funny, it didn't have that effect on the other one.....Reapplying the nipples she opens her mouth for Felix to jam the laptop back in and exits.**

**Larry barges past Oswald shoving him aside**

**LL - Sorry mate, didn't mean any harm, in a rush.**

**OO - (Figuring that a desperate dash to the dry cleaner's might save the Gieves and Hawkes) Good Lord! That's enough insight into frontline problems, It's 5.30 already, must dash!**

**SN - Miserable git - he's home by 6.00!**

**FM - Probably not....**

**SN - Why?**

**FM - We had a whip round, for his customary one-er Larry has just dropped 20 rocks and a hot mobile with the number of every crack-head in Brixton on it; right into Oswald's pocket. Nahid Nightingale is going to do a random pat down ostensibly in search of battery acid and when she finds the rocks Sgt Ferret will be luckily just passing by.....**

**(Noises off)**

**OO.....But I have never seen those things in my life....!**

**Fergus Ferret - .....anything you do say will be etc.....**

**DJC - (Cupping his hand to his ear ) Objections to bail, Ms Stoot?**

**SS - Obvious from the facts, Sir.....**

**FM - That should save us from a flying visit from Lord Justice Fulford**

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### The Last Word:

**If any members would like to suggest content for the newsletter or submit articles for publication please contact Laura Porteous by email to: [laura.porteous@sgk-solicitors.co.uk](mailto:laura.porteous@sgk-solicitors.co.uk)**