



**FACT Spring Conference, Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2017**

at

**St Luke's Church and Conference Centre**

**Great Colmore Street, Lee Bank, Birmingham. B15 2AT**

Places at this conference must be booked in advance by either post or email

## The Continuing Impact of False Allegations

- 10.00 – 11.00 am Registration and Coffee/Tea Reception
- 11.00 am Welcome & Opening Remarks
- 11.10 – 12.00 am Morning Session. 'The Implications of the Henriques Report Recommendations' ( <http://news.met.police.uk/documents/report-independent-review-of-metropolitan-police-services-handling-of-non-recent-sexual-offence-investigations-61510> )  
Group discussions and sharing
- 12.00 – 12.50 pm Sandwich Lunch
- 12.50 pm Introduction
- 1.15 – 2.00 pm **Speakers: Dr. Denis Jones and Aideen Jones OBE**  
Investigations and the Police
- 2.15 – 3.00 pm **Speaker: Gurpal Viridi False Allegations**
- 3.00 -3.15 pm 15 minute refreshments break
- 3.15 – 4.15 pm Panel (The Speakers, Secretary & Other Invited Experts)  
Questions and Discussion

We have the venue booked for longer than the programme as we know the importance of the face to face contact time which our members value. We have left reasonable gaps in the day for exchanges of information and contact with each other, committee and speakers.

## **The Speakers**

**Denis and Aideen Jones** will be talking about their experiences following their arrest by Operation Pallial in August 2013 for false allegations of historic child abuse and child cruelty, through to their trial in March 2016 and the not guilty verdicts.

Both have spent their careers working with and campaigning and supporting children and vulnerable adults, Denis mainly in youth justice and Aideen in learning disability and mental health. At the time of their arrest Denis

was working as the national research officer for CAF/CASS, and Aideen was the Chief Executive of a special needs housing association. Denis has a Ph.D (ironically his thesis was on the history of residential child care and custody of young offenders) and Aideen was awarded the OBE for her work with adults with learning difficulties. As a result of their arrest and the 18 months they initially spent on uncharged bail, both lost their jobs and had to resign from a range of charity and voluntary work that they did. Since their acquittal they have both become active members of FACT and other campaign groups concerned with false allegations and their consequences.

**Gurpal Viridi** is currently an elected councillor for London Borough of Hounslow, he is however more famously known for his work in the police and even more for his stance on equality and fairness. Gurpal, whilst growing up in Southall noticed that ethnic minority people who were low in numbers were not being treated properly or fairly. He decided at a young age to join the police. He was the first Asian from Hounslow to join the Metropolitan police force. Most of his police service has been in the CID and uniform, he had worked throughout London on national and international assignments. Still challenging how ethnic minority communities were being mistreated he was very vocal in making change within the police service. Despite facing several obstacles, Gurpal completed thirty years of unblemished service. He has been praised for his balanced judgements, thorough investigations and integrity. When not fighting inequality Gurpal has given a great deal of his time to voluntary and charity work as he believes in making a difference to the quality of other people's daily lives and prospects. In 2012, after leaving the police Gurpal carried the Olympic Torch from Richmond to Hounslow on Kew Bridge. He is a trained tutor for Adult Education. In 2014, whilst he was campaigning to become a councillor, Gurpal and his family had to endure further difficult times with the police making false and malicious historical allegations against him. This led to him facing bad publicity, being suspended from the Labour Party and losing his employment both paid and voluntary.

In July 2015, Gurpal was cleared at Southwark Crown court of any wrongdoing.

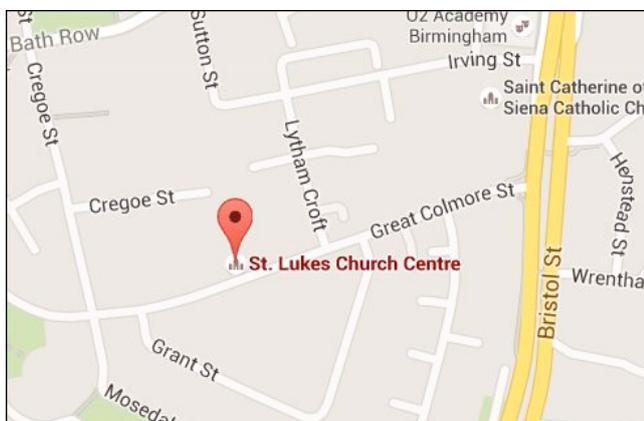
Gurpal has been recognised for his police service by being awarded with commendations and medals. The communities have also recognised him. His work has been exceptional not only in London but nationally as a direct result of his tenacity and sustained actions because he believes in the principle of natural justice, equalities and Human Rights.

For further information, contact;

FACT Secretary: 83 Ducie Street, Manchester. M1 2JQ Email: [sec@factuk.org](mailto:sec@factuk.org) or book via the dedicated mobile number for the conference 074640436496

## NOTES

St Luke's has some parking and is easy to find using Sat Nav with input **B15 2AT**.



It is ten to fifteen minutes walk from new street station

Bus 63 along Bristol Street. Please alight by Bristol Street Motors, cross road and walk to St Catherines. Turn left and walk up Great Colmore Stree. The church is on the right.