



Black and Asian Police Association

Greater Manchester

Newsletter: Issue 5

Autumn 2013.

"So good"



Sislin Fay Allen

Sislin Fay Allen was an inspiration for many when she became the Metropolitan Police's first black female police officer. Jamaican-born, Sislin joined the force in 1968 being deployed to Croydon.

Sislin Fay Allen was flicking through a newspaper in 1968 when she saw an advert for male and female police officers to which she replied.

At the time there were no black female officers so the mum-of-two sat down and wrote an application.

Within a few weeks Sislin had made it to the interview stage, shocking her husband and family when she was accepted.

In 1972 Sislin left the Metropolitan Police because of family commitments, returning to Jamaica. She joined the Jamaican police force receiving a welcoming letter from the then Prime Minister Michael Manley.

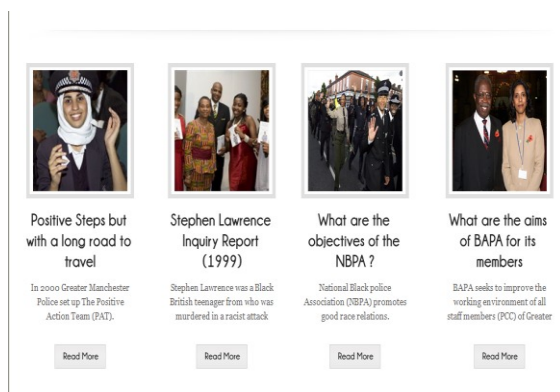
Sislin was also featured in the Metropolitan Black Police Association's 10th anniversary celebrations in 2004, coinciding with October's Black History Month.

Source: Metropolitan Black Police Association.

The Black and Asian Police Association re-launch website.

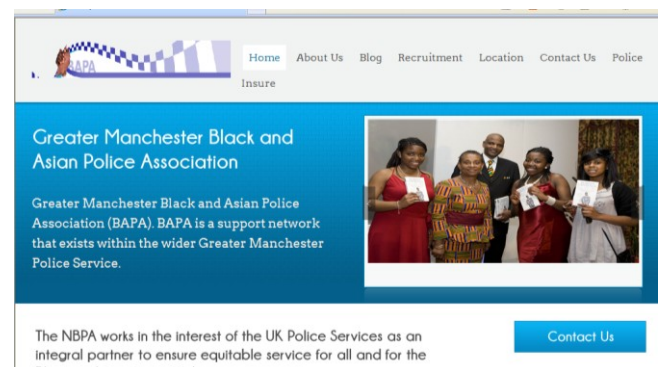
The re-launch of the Greater Manchester website marks a new era for the association. Being visible inside of GMP and outside is crucial to meeting the association's aims and objectives. The new website includes BAPA's history and development. There are also pages relating to recruitment, stop and search and community initiatives that BAPA is involved in. All of BAPA's newsletters are now available online.

bapagm.co.uk



The screenshot shows a grid of four article cards on the BAPA website. Each card features a small image, a title, a short summary, and a 'Read More' button.

- Card 1:** Image of a woman in a police uniform. Title: "Positive Steps but with a long road to travel". Summary: "In 2000 Greater Manchester Police set up The Positive Action Team (PAT)".
- Card 2:** Image of a group of people. Title: "Stephen Lawrence Inquiry Report (1999)". Summary: "Stephen Lawrence was a Black British teenager from who was murdered in a racist attack".
- Card 3:** Image of a group of police officers. Title: "What are the objectives of the NBPA?". Summary: "National Black Police Association (NBPA) promotes good race relations".
- Card 4:** Image of a man in a suit. Title: "What are the aims of BAPA for its members". Summary: "BAPA seeks to improve the working environment of all staff members (PC) of Greater".



The screenshot shows the top section of the BAPA website. It includes a navigation menu with links for Home, About Us, Blog, Recruitment, Location, Contact Us, and Police. Below the menu is a blue banner with the BAPA logo and a photograph of a group of people. The banner text reads: "Greater Manchester Black and Asian Police Association. Greater Manchester Black and Asian Police Association (BAPA). BAPA is a support network that exists within the wider Greater Manchester Police Service." A "Contact Us" button is visible in the bottom right corner.

Schedule 7 debate continues

Schedule 7 of Terrorism Act 2000 is a power that authorises an immigration official, a customs officer or a police officer at any point of entry or exit from the United Kingdom to stop, question,

search and examine any person for a maximum period of 9 hours in order to determine whether they are a terrorist or not. The State has the power to ask an individual a series of questions to see if that person is a terrorist.

BAPA has uncovered racial profiling at the Ports Unit and Manchester Airport. A formal GMP Response is keenly awaited.

The Stephen Lawrence Inquiry. GMP involved in the smear campaign?

Victim of a racist murder.

Stephen Lawrence



The Independent Police Complaints Commission has decided not to investigate GMP after the force referred itself to them in June 2013. The GMP self referral came after a complaint, raised by NBPA President Charles Crichlow in 1998 and 2004, that GMP Special Branch had tasked officers to gather intelligence on individuals or groups attending the Stephen Lawrence Inquiry hearing held in Manchester resurfaced in the aftermath of the Peter Francis allegations. Mr Francis alleged that the Metropolitan Police Service deliberately tasked him to gather information and intelligence to 'smear' the Stephen Lawrence Campaign that had begun after Stephen's racist murder in 1993.

The IPCC have cited a report written by a former GMP Chief Superintendent as evidence that GMP dealt with Mr Crichlow's complaint appropriately. The truth is that the central issue raised in the original complaint, that of the lawfulness and appropriateness of the instruction had not been addressed by GMP. BAPA has made representation to the Deputy Chair of the IPCC, Deborah Glass, to re-consider her decision.

Cronyism within GMP: A problem affecting all of our communities.

Cronyism: cro'ny'ism (noun) - special treatment and preference given to friends or colleagues, especially in politics

Nepotism: nep'o'tism (noun) - favouritism shown by somebody in power to relatives and friends, especially in appointing them to good positions.

The affects of 'Cronyism' relates not only to individuals, who feel that they have been overlooked for advancement or promotion despite being fully qualified to complete the role, but to the communities of Greater Manchester. This is how it works. Cronyism, sometimes referred to as 'Nepotism,' allows the appointment of people in positions that is beyond that individual's ability or competence. The police service cannot allow this to happen because before long a beneficiary of cronyism will find themselves out of their depth in a high profile investigation or public order situation where lives are at stake. On 1st May 2013 BAPA raised the issue of Cronyism with the Police and Crime Commissioner Tony Lloyd. On 11th June 2013 BAPA supported these allegations in a report to the PCC. BAPA is awaiting an outcome to this complaint.

We are, therefore, be concerned with the developing row relating to the appointment of the new Deputy PCC Jim Battle.

The Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg has waded into the cronyism row surrounding Greater Manchester's police commissioner. Mr Clegg accused Tony Lloyd of creating an 'old boys' network' by making a long-time political ally his £55,000-a-year deputy.
Source: MEN.

This issue continues to be of concern to BAPA who want to see the introduction of an independent body to oversee the promotion of staff to senior grades.

Stop and Search

After a number of community and campaign groups raised concerns that the Home Office stop search consultation period was too short it has been extended by six weeks and will now run to the **24th September**. This is excellent news as it gives people at schools, colleges, youth groups and other networks more time to ensure that people's experiences are heard.

A Federal judge in New York has just ruled that the US Stop and Frisk is discriminatory and asked for a review – this is a huge issue on both sides of the water as well as elsewhere in Europe.

Paste the following link into your browser for more:
<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-23672901>.

Watch: The "Viewed with Suspicion" film by pasting this link into your browser http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Tx7sK54y2Y&feature=player_embedded. In just over 4 minutes it gets to the heart of the issue of stop and search, examining the human stories behind every police stop encounter.

Complete: The Home Office's consultation on stop and search which you can access directly by visiting the following site [Http://www.homeofficesurveys.homeoffice.gov.uk/s/84302GDEVE](http://www.homeofficesurveys.homeoffice.gov.uk/s/84302GDEVE). It consists of 16 questions and will take 10-20 minutes to complete and it gives you the chance to give details of your experiences. The consultation expires on the 24th September 2013.

Regulatory Activity (Section 31) Data Protection Act:

There have been cases where GMP has relied on Section 31 of the Data Protection Act to withhold information from those requesting that information. Guidance from the Information Commissioner's Office is clear in this regard. The following section has been taken from; Regulatory Activity - Section 31 DPA 20120312. [Version: Final]

Section 31 provides an exemption from the subject information provisions for the processing of personal data in connection with regulatory activities. The exemption is not available to all organisations. It applies only to information processed for the core regulatory activities of appropriate organisations.

Even where the exemption is to be used by an appropriate organisation in relation to information processed for core regulatory functions, it may not be used in a blanket manner. The exemption applies only to the extent that the application of the subject information provisions to the information in question would be likely to prejudice the proper discharge of the regulatory functions.

Organisations that may rely on section 31

The exemption is not available to all organisations and only applies to the core regulatory activities of bodies which perform appropriate public regulatory functions, primarily watchdogs.

Regulatory functions

Subsection 31(2) provides an overview of the types of functions the exemption applies to. It only applies to data processed to discharge regulatory functions concerning:

- the protection of members of the public (from dishonesty, malpractice, incompetence or seriously improper conduct or in connection with health and safety matters);
- the protection of charities; or
- fair competition in business.

Know your rights.

If you need any more information about this or any other aspect of freedom of information or data protection visit: [website www.ico.gov.uk](http://www.ico.gov.uk).