

Lithuanians In London

By **Alexander Baron** - May 29, 2015



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Over the past few years there has been a veritable exodus from Lithuania, with most of them apparently coming to the UK, where their population is probably in excess of a hundred thousand, with a large concentration in the London area. Although estimates of this nature are notoriously unreliable, one source claims there are now 200,000 Lithuanians in the UK, half in and around the capital. This is staggering considering the population of the country, less than 3 million in 2013.

In spite of the propaganda we are constantly fed about the wonders of diversity, not all immigrants to this country have been beneficial, but unlike some groups, Lithuanians do not come here to sell drugs, perpetrate the **419 scam** or plant bombs.



Food store selling Lithuanian and other Eastern European foods

Shops selling Lithuanian and other Eastern European foods have sprung up all over the place, like this one in Sydenham, South East London. Lithuanian culture is also very much alive in the South East; on Sunday, May 24, the annual *Sekmines* festival was held at Barking Park in London's East End where a good time was had by all. In spite of this recent influx, the Lithuanian presence in the UK is far from new. There have been **Lithuanians in Scotland** since at least the Nineteenth Century.

Sadly, unlike the *Sekmines*, not all news about Lithuanians in the capital is good news. Earlier this month, three men were given life sentences for the murder of a Lithuanian national in the East End; Zydrunas Laurinavicius was 38 years old. A builder by trade, he had been working on a house with his father – who is past retirement age. In July of last year the two were attacked by a gang in North London who had just burgled a house. Mr Laurinavicius was stabbed to death; the gang stole an empty bag and his watch. At the Central Criminal Court, Terngu Agera and Stephen Lansana were given **thirty year tariffs** for the murder, having in effect thrown away their own lives as well.